

Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation Business Committee

1720 Big Lake Rd.
Cloquet, MN 55720
Phone (218) 879-4593
Fax (218) 879-4146



Chairman

Kevin R. Dupuis, Sr.

Secretary/Treasurer

Ferdinand Martineau, Jr.

Dist. I Representative

Wally J. Dupuis

Dist. II Representative

Bruce M. Savage

Dist. III Representative

Roger M. Smith, Sr.

Executive Director,
Tribal Programs

Miyah M. Danielson

Executive Director,
Tribal Enterprises

Terry Savage

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rita Karppinen, Communications Director

Phone: (218) 269-2379

Email: RitaKarppinen@fdlrez.com

Fond du Lac Honors Late Chief Conservation Officer

Fond du Lac (FDL) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, MN January 24, 2022 –
As FDL turned the page on 2021 and welcomed 2022, the Band lost cherished member and longtime advocate John A. Smith.

Smith served his community in many prominent capacities, including interim police chief for FDL and District III Reservation Business Committee (RBC) representative. However, being a conservation officer was his calling. Working for FDL for 47 years, he was the chief conservation officer protecting resources both on and off the reservation.

“John did what he had to do without expecting anything in return, he was one of the first conservation officers for the Band and was an integral part of Resource Management,” says Secretary Treasurer Ferdinand Martineau Jr. “He helped write most of the policies and code that still protect our natural resources today. There is not another person who loved their job more than he did.”

January 12th 2022, the FDL RBC executed two actions to celebrate Smith’s life and memorialize his passing. One resolution retired Smith’s badge designation of K810 and the other renamed the Fond du Lac Resource Management & Tribal Court building to the *John A. Smith Memorial Building*.”

“He was not only a pillar of his family, but a pillar of our community,” says District III Representative Roger Smith Sr. “He was a colleague, mentor, but most of all a great friend,”

<Attached photo one: Family, friends, and colleagues gather in front of the John A. Smith Memorial Building and photo two: Moose antler artwork dedicated to John Smith, artwork by: Joshua Whitebird>

About Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

The Fond du Lac Band (Nagaajiwanaang; where the water stops) is one of six Chippewa Indian Bands that make up the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. The Fond du

Lac Reservation was established by the La Pointe Treaty of 1854. Archaeologists, however, maintain that ancestors of the present-day Chippewa (Ojibwe) have resided in the Great Lakes areas since 800 A.D. The Band includes 4,200 members.

###