Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

Application
to the
North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund
to construct the

TMBCI Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge

March 31, 2015

Turtle Mountain Chippewa Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge
March 31, 2015
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Organization</th>
<th>Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Tax ID#</td>
<td>45-0223071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Person/Title</td>
<td>Bruce Nadeau, Director, Historic Preservation Officer /Sky Chief Park Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>PO Box 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Belcourt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip Code</td>
<td>58316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brucefnadeau@gmail.com">brucefnadeau@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Site Address</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tmbci.net">www.tmbci.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>701 477-2640</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRIMARY DIRECTIVE**

The Primary Directive addressed by this application to construct the ‘TMBCI Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge’ is **Directive D**: Conserve Natural Areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and recreation areas.

**TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:** Tribal Entity

**PROJECT NAME** TMBCI Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge
ABSTRACT/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (the Tribe) proposes to construct a Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge that will be situated on the Belcourt Lake and serve as the administrative headquarters for assessing and developing the Belcourt Lake and promoting educational stewardship activities.

The Stewardship Lodge will greatly enhance the capacity of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa government, community, and youth to understand, protect, conserve, restore, manage, share and sustain our natural heritage—the diverse and dynamic ecosystems which are the foundation of our Turtle Mountain Chippewa culture, history and sustainable future.

- Short term outcomes and benefits:
  - Initiate relationships with tribal, state and national representatives
  - Conduct coursework in Land Management @ Fish and Wildlife (TMCC)
  - Promote Recreational activities: fishing, hiking, winter sports, etc.

- Primary long term outcomes and benefits will include:
  - Rejuvenation of Belcourt Lake Park Area.
  - Advocate for changes to jurisdictional laws and ordinances of the Belcourt Watershed
  - Promotion of Educational Stewardship.

AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUEST: $ 120,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS $ 150,000
AMOUNT OF MATCHING FUNDS $ 30,000
SOURCE(S) OF MATCHING FUNDS Historic Preservation – Annual Allocations
TMBCI Sky Chief Park – Equipment/Manpower
TMBCI Pathways to Prosperity – Cash Match

CERTIFICATIONS

- I certify that this application has been made with the support of the governing body and chief executive of my organization.

- I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted on Page 1 of this application.
NARRATIVE

TRIBAL Demographics

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (the Tribe) -- the applicant organization in this request -- is a federally recognized Indian tribe with some 25,000 enrolled members, 8,497 of whom live on or adjacent to the Tribe's 86,989 acres of tribal and individual allotted trust lands in the center of Rolette County, North Dakota. Although the Chippewa, Cree and Michif peoples comprising the Tribe have lived, hunted and gathered in the Miikinock Kijews (Turtle Mountains) region for centuries, their present reservation was only established in 1884, after a painful and protracted process of successive forced cessions of land to the federal government during the 19th century.

Tribal Government

The Tribe is governed by an eight-member elected Tribal Council and elected Chairman of the Tribal Council, under the guidance of the Tribe’s Constitution. The Tribal Council and Chairman oversee and lead the operations of several dozen departments and programs, which are funded through grants, contracts and cooperative agreements with private, state and federal agencies. The Tribe’s Mission is to be a sovereign community in the heart of North America, comprised of a people in harmony with our unique traditions and culture; and to achieve self-sufficiency, financial independence and a healthy lifestyle through the knowledge and education of our most important asset – our people. Our specific primary Goal is to strengthen the interdependent wholeness and health of our youth, families, community, lands and natural resources.

Description of Turtle Mountain Chippewa Lands, Waters, Plants and Wildlife

Turtle Mountain Chippewa tribal lands on and off-reservation in Rolette County include about 84,500 acres of some the most beautiful and unique natural landscapes and diverse environments on the northern plains. The climate is semi-arid continental, characterized by long cold winters; short, warm summers; large annual and daily temperature changes; erratic distribution of precipitation; and nearly continuous air movement. The Turtle Mountain region is covered by remnants of the Wisconsin glaciations, which melted at the end of the last Ice Age some 12,000 years ago. The receding glaciers created an elevated terrain of rolling “turtle back” hills and scooped-out lakes, resulting in an area of scenic beauty unequaled in the state or region.

Wildlife habitat diversity on Tribal lands is enhanced by the numerous wetlands, ponds and lakes that serve many birds, migratory waterfowl, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fishes including: gray partridge, ruffled grouse, mourning doves, white pelicans; herons and grebes; hawks (marsh, red-tailed); red-wing blackbirds; swallows; loons, and many species of ducks (coots, teal, canvas-back, mallards, northern shoveler, merganser, and ruddy) and wild geese; red fox, lynx, weasels, moose, white-tailed deer, elk, muskrat, mink, raccoon, badger, cottontail rabbit, white-tailed jack-rabbit – as well as occasional sightings of wolves, bears and mountain lions; garter snakes and wood frogs; and also, northern pike, walleye, blue gill, smallmouth bass, crappie, trout, bullhead and perch.
TMBCI Natural Resources Department

The Department of Natural Resources of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa (http://tmdnr.webs.com/) manages the wildlife and fish, bison, parks and recreation, agricultural, and other natural and cultural resources on Turtle Mountain tribal lands. The Department maintains a full-time staff of 10 individuals; and partners with local training programs such as Summer Youth, Adult Workforce Training, and Experience Works to assist with projects during the summer months.

Organizational Information – TMBCI Historic Preservation Office

The TMBCI Historic Preservation Office is situated within the tribal Natural Resources Department. The Office advises federal and state agencies on the management of tribal historic properties and strives to preserve their tribe’s cultural and preservation programs.

Belcourt Lake Park Area

The Belcourt Lake has traditionally been a hub for recreational activities and once hosted a beachfront park with a fishing pier, roundhouse community arbor, and a playground. All amenities have since been removed due to age and dilapidation, and lack of community sponsorship due to limited resources. The Tribal Historic Preservation office has been an advocate for renewing interest in reviving the Belcourt Lake front property, which is owned and managed by the Tribe.

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Government fully supports the development of the Historic Preservation Office’s attempts to secure funding for the Stewardship Lodge (see attachments). The Belcourt Lake will include opportunities for fishing, walking and nature trails, swimming and water sports, individual and group picnic facilities, and wildlife viewing opportunities -- as these may be developed carefully within the context of an integrated stewardship and management plan.

Purpose of Grant

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (the Tribe) proposes construct a tribal Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge. The Lodge will facilitate, guide, leverage and manage critically-needed targeted investments in the Belcourt Lake watershed area. This will include the development of the Belcourt Park Area, water quality assessment, and initiating Natural Resource and Fish & Wildlife Educational programming.

The Lodge Kit will be purchased from Lazarus Log Homes (www.lazarusloghomes.com) based in Montana. The Tribe purchased a larger kit that is used as the Dunseith Cultural Center. The building will accommodate an administrative as well as a classroom setting.

The Natural Resources employs several maintenance/grounds keeper(s) who have the capacity to do site work including brushing, bulldozing, and filling.
The Turtle Mountain Tribe does not charge an entrance fee into the Belcourt Lake Park area. Fishing is free to tribal members and non-members can fish at a $10.00 daily fee.

### 2015 Timetable – Construction Phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Public Awareness Campaign</td>
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<td>Site Development</td>
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<td>Log Kit Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical/Plumbing/Heating Installation</td>
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</table>

The Educational Stewardship Lodge will afford the tribe the following programmatic educational activities:

- **Educational Stewardship**: the Lodge will provide a unique environment to a continuum of related topics such as water, ecology, native plants, agricultural related disciplines, environmental science, and Chippewa tribal culture.
- **Fish and Wildlife Habitation and Instruction**: Seminars and presentations to the community, youth conservation efforts, hunter safety courses, etc.
- **Cultural Revitalization and Enhancement**: located adjacent to the community pavilion and future Pow Wow Arbor, the Lodge will host cultural events and seminars that evolve around taking care of Mother Earth teachings.

### Management of Project

The TMBCI Historic Preservation Lodge will be managed and sustained by the tribal Historic Preservation Office. The Department is overseen by the TMBCI Natural Resources Board who are established by the Tribal Council to provide leadership and policy direction to all natural resources initiatives. The Natural Resources Board is headed by Lyle Morin, who has thirty years
of experience managing the Bureau of Indian Affairs Natural Resources Branch at Turtle Mountain.

**Evaluation**

The TMBCI Historic Preservation Officer will compile monthly progress reports and present them to the Natural Resources Board on behalf of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribal Council. Copies of these monthly reports will be submitted to the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund as part of final reporting requirements.

Major performance measures will include timely completion of construction schedule, partnership leveraging capacity, and the finalization of the project into a turn-key administrative office.

**Financial Information**

- **0** I certify that a project budget will be sent to the Commission.

**Sustainability**

Our Turtle Mountain Chippewa community and government share common goals, strategies and responsibilities to protect, preserve, restore and enhance our lands, waters, plants, wildlife, and natural resources vital to our traditional cultural values and lifeways. We are fully committed to planning, developing, and implementing appropriate projects, programs, policies, and ordinances that provide for the full protection, stewardship and maintenance of all our scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

In partnership with the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, and local partners and allies, we will be able to strengthen our community and tribal government education, participation, and capacities to identify and integrate conservation design, creative planning, supportive zoning, and other resource management and use strategies that will provide four-season outdoor parks and recreational opportunities for community members and visitors alike.

The tribal Historic Preservation Program will maintain the Tribal Historic Preservation Lodge with organizational funds that is allocated to the Natural Resources Department from various tribal, state and federal resources.

**Partial Funding –**

The tribe’s development of a Master Tourism Plan and Scenic Byway Plan will enhance opportunities to leverage funds from local (Pathways to Prosperity) and State (Federal Highway Program) resources. If partially funded, the tribal Historic Preservation Office will conduct an aggressive fundraising campaign to finance the project within a one year time-frame.
Partnership Recognition

The TMBCI Historic Preservation Office has access to all local media such as the Turtle Mountain Times, Turtle Mountain Star, and KEYA-FM radio. The tribal government encourages the promotion of community driven projects that are beneficial to the tribe at large. This project will take advantage of this opportunity and will assure that the ND Outdoor Heritage Fund will receive recognition and promotional coverage in these media streams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Expense</th>
<th>OHF Request</th>
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</table>
March 26, 2015

North Dakota Industrial Commission
Attn: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program
State Capital – Fourteenth Floor
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505

Ms. Karlene Fine:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Turtle Mountain Agency serves approximately 20,000 tribal members and manages approximately 45,000 acres of individual Trust and Tribal Trust properties on the Turtle Mountain Reservation and Rolette County. I offer our full support to Sky Chief Park’s Educational Stewardship Lodge Project.

Over the years our agency has routinely assisted in the development of other projects similar to this. The Lodge will serve as a focal point of educational and cultural programming that is focused around educating our youth in outdoor recreation, management of our fish and wildlife, recreational parks, and natural resources.

The concept which the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa has taken with Sky Chief Park is admirable. I believe it is an ideal locale to host events and activities around educating our youth in outdoor recreation, which will also promote activities relevant to sustaining and enhancing our heritage and natural resources. We are committing our assistance to ensure that all project goals and objectives will be accomplished in conjunction with the direct oversight of our tribal government.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David M. Keplin
Superintendent
It is with pleasure that I write this letter of support for the heritage project being proposed. My reasons are twofold. As an educator of fifty-seven years in education I see the need for this knowledge and wisdom to be shared with our present and future generations. Our young are so ignorant of their past. My second reason is that I am an elder of this Tribe and definitely want to have my people benefit from the past. We have managed to preserve our art, crafts, music and dance but have neglected the rest of our heritage.

As a child I learned so much from my grandparents, parents and older relatives such things as how to plant a garden, gather and preserve wild berries and nuts, cook wild meat to name a few and appreciate everything I learned. We were taught home remedies and so many lifeways that our children or grandchildren do not know today.

All this valuable knowledge and wisdom is being lost when an elder slips away from us. Soon it will be lost forever. We need to start now to keep all this for our children's children and the generations to come. Such priceless information is vital to help our Tribe continue to maintain all these aspects of our culture. Our future generations must maintain their identity as Turtle Mountain Chippewa/Michif people.

Therefore I strongly urge you to support this endeavor.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mrs. Zelma Peltier
Educator and Former Tribal Council Representative
March 31, 2015

Letter of Financial Commitment

ND Outdoor Heritage Fund
Bismarck, ND

Outdoor Heritage Fund:

On behalf of the TMBCI Pathways to Prosperity Program, I offer my support and financial commitment of the tribe’s proposed Tribal Historic Preservation Stewardship Lodge. After a formal presentation by the Historic Preservation Office personnel on March 26, 2015, the P2P Board of Directors offered a match contribution of $20,000 toward the construction of the Lodge.

The project fits within two specific strategies that falls within the P2P Strategic Plan:

- Strategy 2.5 – “the Pathways Organization will work with the tribe, our local hospitality industry and the surrounding communities to increase Cultural, Recreational, and Environmental Tourism on our Reservation and throughout the Turtle Mountain Region.”
- Strategy 3.1 – “the Pathways Organization will organize our membership to support the adoption of a Comprehensive Land Use Plan to guide future development and protect the natural resources of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.”

The tribal Stewardship Lodge project is of the utmost importance and will serve as a “hub” for the preservation of our critical natural resources. If you have any questions or would like additional comments please call me at the 701-477-2600 or 701-550-9257 (cell).

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Mr. Darrell Charette, Chairman
Pathways to Prosperity Board of Directors

cc: Joe Eltobgi, P2P Director
March 30, 2015

Ms. Karlene Fine
North Dakota Industrial Commission
Outdoor Heritage Fund
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Dear Ms. Fine:

I write today to offer my support for the Historic Preservation Office of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chipewa Indians (TMBCI) and their application for funding through the Outdoor Heritage Fund. With receipt of these funds, TMBCI’s Historic Preservation Office plans to implement a project aimed at engaging tribal youth with good stewardship of the land.

Receipt of these funds would allow TMBCI to develop a strategic plan for the next 1-3 years with immediate implementation strategies. Proposed ideas for the project include educational and cultural programming, youth conservation camps, fish and wildlife clubs along with water safety and swimming lessons, among many other wonderful ideas. Having spent a significant amount of time on the Turtle Mountain Reservation, I have had the privilege to see, first-hand, how much members of the community value their land and their environment.

Funding of this project would allow TMBCI community members to bring that deep appreciation for our environment to the next generation through meaningful, hands-on education and activities. There is no better place for youth to learn about preservation than on land that is so deeply cared for by its residents.

It is my hope that you will give Turtle Mountain Band of Chipewa Indians and their application every consideration. Please feel free to contact my office if I can provide any additional information about my support of these proposed projects.

Sincerely,

Heidi Heitkamp
UNITED STATES SENATE
RESOLUTION NUMBER TMBC119-03-15 OF THE DULY ELECTED AND CERTIFIED GOVERNING BODY OF THE TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

WHEREAS, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, hereinafter referred to as the Tribe is an unincorporated Band of Indians acting under a revised Constitution and By-laws approved by the Secretary of the Interior on June 16, 1959, and amendments thereto approved; and

WHEREAS, Article IX (a) Section 1 of the Turtle Mountain Constitution and Bylaws empowers the Tribal Council with the authority to represent the Band and to negotiate with the Federal, State and local governments and with private persons; and

WHEREAS, the TMBC1 Historical Preservation has the expertise and resources necessary to plan and implement programming in the area of Park and Watershed Management; and

WHEREAS, the Belcourt Lake was traditionally a hub for lakefront activities such as fishing, swimming, boating, water activities, wildlife observation, hiking etc., and hosted a children’s playground, round hall for gatherings, restroom facilities and a food/concession stand; and

WHEREAS, the Belcourt Lake and surrounding watershed area is in need of infrastructure improvement to host a diverse range social, educational and cultural activities; and

WHEREAS, the Belcourt Lake rejuvenation effort will involve working collaboratively with multiple local, regional, state and national partners to assure effective administrative management and solvency; and

WHEREAS, the tribe has developed preliminary planning to initiate a funding campaign for an Educational Stewardship Lodge which will serve as the Tribal Historic Preservation Office to be located on the Belcourt Lakefront; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Government directs the Tribal Historical Preservation Office, led by Mr. Bruce Nadeau to oversee the development of the Belcourt Lake Rejuvenation project using his department’s expertise and resources; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Government supports the tribal Historical Preservation’s Office endeavors to secure funding for an Educational Stewardship Lodge in the amount up to $150,000 that will serve as the Administrative headquarters for the Historic Preservation Office.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned Tribal Secretary of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of nine (9) members of whom seven (7) constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called, convened and held on the 24th day of March, 2015 that the foregoing resolution was adopted by an affirmative vote of six (6) in favor – Representatives Lorne Jay, Lynn Gourneau, Elmer Davis, Jr., Patrick J. Marcellais, Carson Belgarde and Charlie Bercier; one (1) absent-Rep. Jim Baker and Ted Henry; with the Chairman not voting.

Jolean A. Morin, Tribal Secretary 3/27/15

( ) SIGNED INTO LAW/Dated this 27th day of March, 2015

( ) VETOED/Dated this _______ day of ___________, 2015

Richard W. McCloud, Tribal Chairman