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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Felzkowski Response to Being Banned from LdF Reservation

Madison, WI – Sen. Felzkowski’s response to being banned from the Lac du Flambeau Reservation:

What an overly dramatic move by the Tribal Council. Considering that the tribe has been wholly unwilling to facilitate, attend, or even acknowledge attempts at mediation or negotiation- I currently have no scheduled trips to the reservation.

When I made that comment, I was advocating for my constituents who are, for all intents and purposes, *physically* trapped by this conflict. This prolonged dispute has led to emotional turmoil, financial uncertainty, and even exasperated medical issues brought on by stress for my constituents. I would have hoped that the Tribal Council could understand that we can all get emotional when we speak on behalf of our constituents who are in despair, given that several members of the Council had emotional outbursts directed at me when I met with them last December. Had I let those remarks get under my skin, I would not have been serving my constituents to the best of my ability.

I regret that I contributed to the narrative of division in this muddy conflict, but I do not regret speaking up for my constituents who the Council continues to dismiss.

I do find it laughable that Tribal President Johnson is insinuating that my comments are damaging to negotiations when there are no negotiations taking place to speak of- because the Tribe refuses to participate in good faith discussions or mediation with the other parties, including, most recently, declining to attend the public meeting at which I spoke. As always, I want to reiterate to President Johnson that he has my cell phone number, and if he is ever interested in a productive conversation instead of a splashy headline, I am available to discuss solutions.

P.S. I find it interesting that the Tribal Council has time to meet and pass resolutions like this, yet I hear from multiple homeowners that the tribe hasn’t responded to their letters and inquiries for **months**.

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