

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians to Begin Issuing Citations for Trespassing on Tribal Roads**

**Lac du Flambeau, WI** – January 17, 2025 - The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Tribal Council announced its decision to begin issuing citations for trespassing to individuals over the unauthorized use of Annie Sun Lane, Center Sugarbush Lane, East Ross Allen Lake Lane, Else Lake Lane (the “Four Roads”). This action is being taken to uphold tribal sovereignty and to enforce applicable law, ensuring the protection of our Reservation.

For many years, tribal leaders have worked diligently to resolve access disputes over roads crossing tribal land. Despite many good-faith efforts to negotiate agreements with the Town of Lac du Flambeau, progress has been limited, leaving the Tribe with no choice but to enforce trespassing laws on its land.

“Our priority is the safety of our community, upholding our sovereignty, and ensuring the integrity of our land,” said Tribal President John Johnson Sr. “The Tribe is not just some private landowner complaining of unauthorized access over its lands. We are a sovereignty under the law and the Tribe intends to exercise its right under the law to cite for unauthorized trespass.”

Citations for trespassing will be issued starting January 17, 2025, and individuals found in violation will face legal consequences under applicable law.

The Lac du Flambeau Tribal Council emphasizes that the decision to enforce trespass laws was not made lightly. The Tribe remains open to dialogue with the Lac du Flambeau Town Board to find a mutually respectful and equitable solution, despite the Town's refusal to the Tribe's last offer for a meeting.

The Lac du Flambeau Tribe asks for understanding and cooperation from community members during this time. The Tribe remains committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the Reservation.

*\*If you are a homeowner affected by this issue on one of the specified roads, we encourage you to contact the LDF Town Board to discuss your questions and concerns\**

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### **About the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians**

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized sovereign Native American Tribe with a rich cultural heritage. The Tribe's reservation, established by the Treaty of 1854, serves as a permanent homeland and is the cornerstone of the Tribe's sovereign rights to self-governance and territorial integrity. The Tribe is committed to preserving its culture, protecting its lands, and advancing the well-being of its members.

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