



# *Sokaogon Chippewa Community*

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## RESOLUTION NO. 03-21B-2020

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### DESIGNATING AND DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

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- WHEREAS,** the Sokaogon Chippewa Community is a duly organized and federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized under a Constitution adopted August 25, 1938 and approved on November 9, 1938 pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act; and
- WHEREAS,** the Sokaogon Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians in Mole Lake, Wisconsin did adopt a Constitution on November 9, 1938, as amended which confers certain sovereign powers upon the Tribal Governing Board by members of the Sokaogon Chippewa Community; and
- WHEREAS,** Article IV of the Constitution, as amended, establishes a Tribal Council as the governing body of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal council has the authority to take action to protect the health, well-being and general welfare of the Community and its members; and pursuant to that authority the Tribal Council declared a State of Emergency for the Mole Lake Reservation on March 13, 2020 and now wishes to formalize that declaration in this Resolution; and
- WHEREAS,** a novel strain of the coronavirus, named COVID-19 has spread through numerous countries including the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the World Health Organization has declared a Public Health Emergency in Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus; and
- WHEREAS,** as of March 13, 2020 there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS,** the CDC and other health authorities expect that widespread transmission of COVID-19 will occur in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** the spread of COVID-19 will translate into large numbers of people needing medical care, causing public health and healthcare systems to become overloaded, and affecting other critical infrastructure, such as law enforcement, emergency medical services, access to food and other necessities and transportation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Coronavirus or COVID-19, a serious respiratory illness spreads from person-to-person, and the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus, which also delays the spread of the virus and reduces the impact of the disease; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council declared a public health emergency and Declared via resolution a State of Emergency effective March 13, 2020 in Resolution 03-21A-2020; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council has activated the Incident Command System and Team delegating to it the required authority to respond and to take all necessary and appropriate measure to prevent and respond to the incidents of COVID-19 in the public health emergency; and further the SCC Clinic is a part of the Incident Command System; and

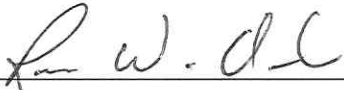
**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council must designate a Public Health Authority to collect and receive information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability (45 CFR § 164.512) including for the purpose of emergency preparedness to protect the Community from the virus and all actions necessary to protect the Community. .

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** designates its Health Clinic and Incident Command System as the Public Health Authority as that term is defined in HIPAA to collect and receive information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability (45 CFR § 164.512) including for the purpose of emergency preparedness to protect the community from the virus and all actions necessary to protect and respond to the incidents of COVID-19.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Tribal Council suspends the provision of any administrative rule, if the Secretary of the Department of Health Services determines that the compliance with the rule would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions to respond to the emergency and increase the health threat.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Ronald W. Quade, as Tribal Secretary, hereby certify that Resolution 03-21-2020B was duly adopted by the Sokaogon Chippewa Tribal Council, composed of 6 members of whom 6 were present, which constitutes a quorum, held on the March 21, 2020 by a vote of 6 member(s) for: and 0 member(s) against; and 0 member(s) abstaining; and 0 member(s) absent.

  
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Secretary,  
Ronald W. Quade