



# Minnesota Wild Rice Task Force – Overview of Minnesota Tribes October 11, 2018

Dennis Olson, Jr. | Executive Director

Minnesota Indian Affairs Council

# Indian Affairs Council Background

- Established in 1963 as the first council of its type in the nation.
- Authority under MN Stat. 3.922
- Official liaison between eleven Tribal Nations and State of Minnesota
- Work closely with state agency Tribal liaisons to assist agencies
- Plays a central role in the development of state legislation
- Plan and facilitate annual Governor/Tribal Leader Summit

# Indian Affairs Council Executive Board

- Voting members – Tribal Elected Officials (Chair/President/Chief Executive)
  - Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
  - Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
  - Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
  - Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
  - Red Lake Nation
  - Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
  - White Earth Nation
  - Lower Sioux Indian Community
  - Prairie Island Indian Community
  - Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

# Board Member Agencies, Legislature, Governor's Office

- Executive Branch Agencies (12)

- Education
- Corrections
- Health
- Human Rights
- Human Services
- Natural Resources
- Employment and Economic Development
- IRRRB
- Housing Finance Agency
- Veterans Affairs
- Transportation
- Administration

- Governor's Office Representative (1)

- Tribal Affairs Liaison

- Senate (2)

- Two members, appointed by its Subcommittee on Committees

- House of Representatives (2)

- Two members, appointed by the Speaker

# Eleven Tribal Nations in Minnesota

- Ojibwe Reservations

- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- White Earth Nation
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Red Lake Nation
- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
- Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe

- Dakota Communities

- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Upper Sioux Community
- Lower Sioux Indian Community



# Where are Minnesota's Tribal Nations Located?

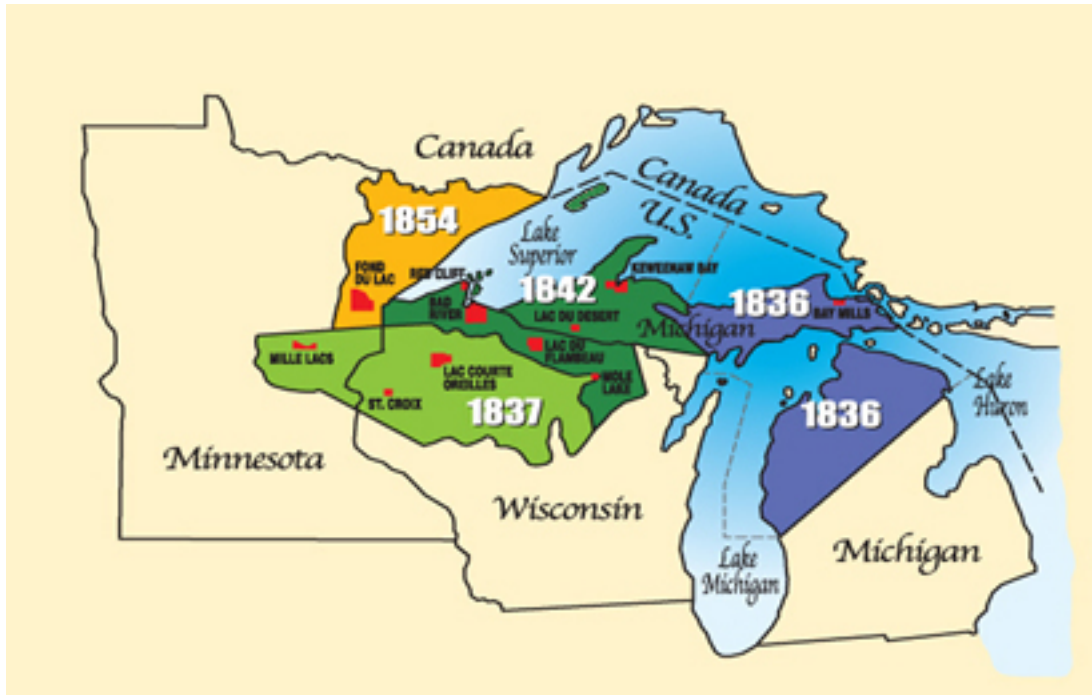




# 1837 Ceded Territory

- Treaty with the Chippewa July 29, 1837 - Articles of a treaty made and concluded at St. Peters (the confluence of the St. Peters and Mississippi rivers) in the Territory of Wisconsin, between the United States of America...and the Chippewa nation of Indians, by their chiefs and headmen.
- **Article 1.** The said Chippewa nation cede to the United States all the tract of country included within the following boundaries:
  - Beginning at the junction of the Crow Wing and Mississippi rivers, between twenty and thirty miles above where the Mississippi is crossed by the forty-sixth parallel of north latitude, and running thence to the north point of Lake St. Croix, one of the sources of the St. Croix river; thence to and along the dividing ridge between the waters of Lake Superior and those of the Mississippi, to the sources of the Ocha-suasepe a tributary of the Chippewa river; thence to a point on the Chippewa river, twenty miles below the outlet of Lake De Flambeau; thence to the junction of the Wisconsin and Pelican rivers; thence on an east course twenty-five miles; thence southerly, on a course parallel with that of the Wisconsin river, to the line dividing the territories of the Chippewas and Menominies; thence to the Plover Portage; thence along the southern boundary of the Chippewa country, to the commencement of the boundary line dividing it from that of the Sioux, half a days march below the falls on the Chippewa river; thence with said boundary line to the mouth of Wah-tap river; at its junction with the Mississippi; and thence up the Mississippi to the place of beginning.
- **Article 5.** The privilege of hunting, fishing, and gathering the wild rice, upon the lands, the rivers and the lakes included in the territory ceded, is guaranteed to the Indians, during the pleasure of the President of the United States.

# 1837 Ceded Territory Map



Courtesy of Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)

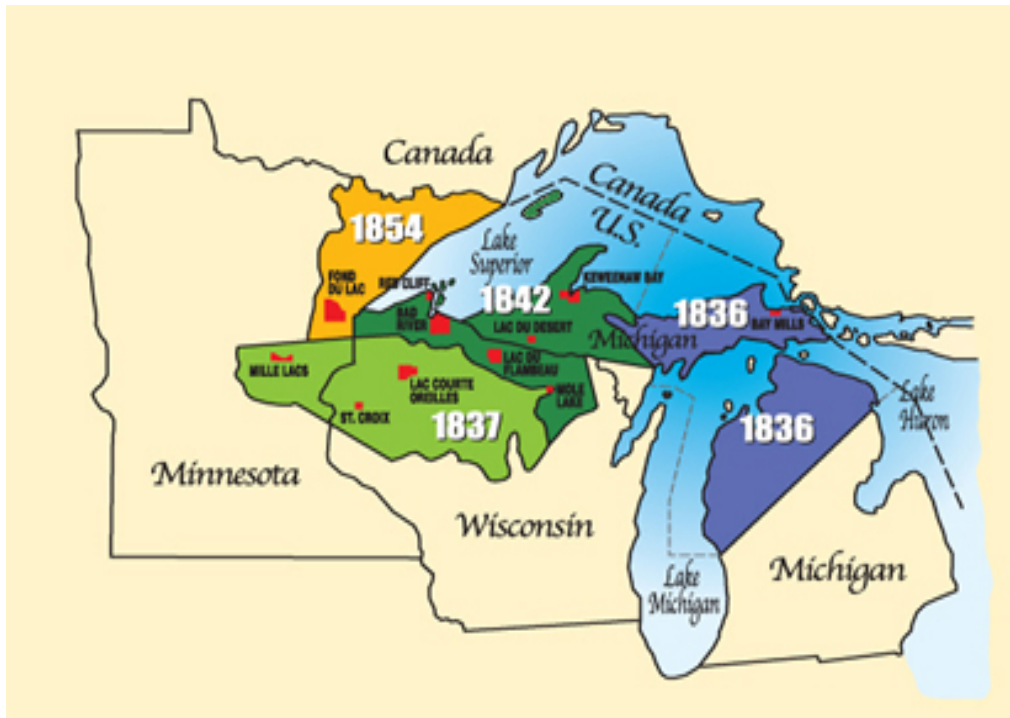




# 1854 Ceded Territory

- In 1854, the Chippewa of Lake Superior entered into a treaty with the United States whereby the Chippewa ceded to the United States ownership of their lands in northeastern Minnesota.
- These lands are called "1854 ceded territory." Article 11 of the 1854 Treaty provides:  
*"...And such of them as reside in the territory hereby ceded, shall have the right to hunt and fish therein, until otherwise ordered by the President."*
- The Chippewa of Lake Superior who reside in the ceded territory are the Fond du Lac, Grand Portage and Bois Forte Bands.

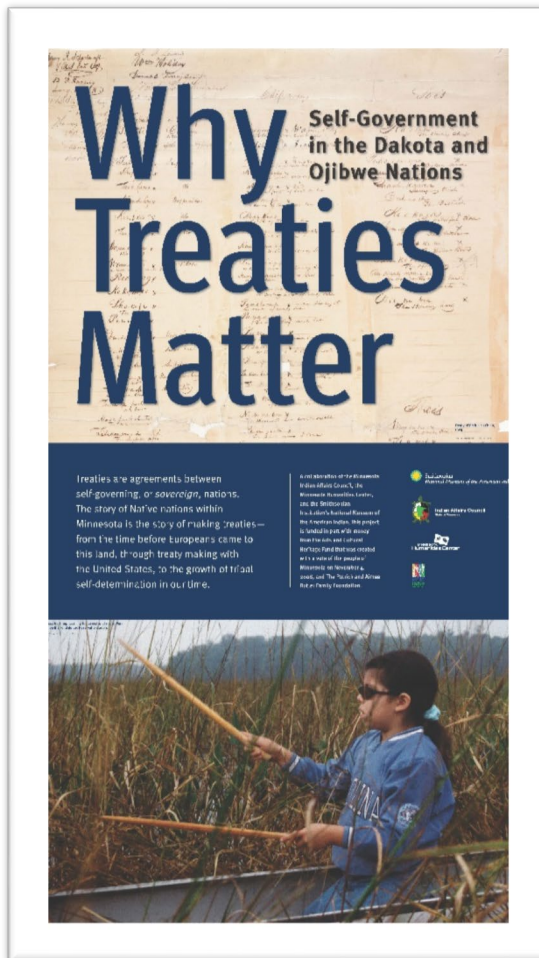
# 1854 Ceded Territory Map



Courtesy of Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)



# Why Treaties Matter Exhibit



- Partnership with Minnesota Humanities Center and Smithsonian *National Museum of the American Indian*
- Over **80,000** people have engaged with the exhibit from 2012 to 2018!
- The exhibit has been shared with over **110 sites** in **60 cities**
- Permanent exhibit in new public space at the Capitol
- Outcomes so far...
  - Broadened worldviews around treaties
  - Strengthened relationships with community
  - Supplemental Educator Guides aligned to 2011 MN Social Studies Standards
- [www.treatiesmatter.org](http://www.treatiesmatter.org)

# Why Treaties Matter Resources



Our sovereignty is not something that anyone gave to us, or can take away. It is inherent: something Indian tribes have by virtue of the fact that we existed long before there were places called the United States or Minnesota.

- [www.treatiesmatter.org](http://www.treatiesmatter.org)
- Videos and Photos
  - Connection to Land
  - Sovereignty, Culture, Environment
  - Traditional Cultural Places & Resources
  - Family and Kinship
- Treaty Text and Timeline
- Primary Sources
- [“A Day in the Life of Minnesota Tribal Nations” Video](#)

# Miigwech Pidamayado

**Dennis Olson, Jr.**

*Dennis.W.Olson@state.mn.us*

651-539-2202