



# Bois Forte

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

## RESOLUTION NO. 75-2020

**WHEREAS,** the Bois Forte Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (the “Band”) is a federally-recognized Indian tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and operating under the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the lawful governing body of the Band is the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council and it is authorized to take action to protect the health, well-being, and general welfare of the Band and its members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Coronavirus or COVID-19, a serious respiratory illness that spreads from person-to person, has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization and multiple active cases of the virus have been identified in Minnesota and surrounding states; and

**WHEREAS,** the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its person-to-person transmission throughout the United States, Minnesota, and the Band’s territory, poses a significant threat to the safety, health, and security of Band members and the Reservation community, as well as public facilities, including, but not limited to workplaces, nursing homes, and hospitals; and

**WHEREAS,** the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council has declared a State of Emergency to address the ongoing COVID-19 threat that applies to all who live, work on, and do business within Band’s territory; and

**WHEREAS,** the Band retains the inherent sovereign authority to exclude people from its territory, whether Indian or non-Indian, who present a threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the Band, *see Merrion v. Jicarilla Apache Tribe*, 455 U.S. 130, 141 (1982); *Montana v. United States*, 450 U.S. 544, 564-65 (1981); *Lower Brule Sioux Tribe v. State of S.D.*, 104 F.3d 1017, 1022 (8th Cir. 1997); and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council declares that, effective immediately and until such time that the Reservation Tribal Council directs otherwise, individuals may not enter the Band’s Reservation if they have (1) travelled in areas affected by COVID-19 within 14 days prior to the time they seek to enter the Reservation or (2) if they are displaying any symptoms associated with COVID-19. For the purposes of this Resolution, “areas affected by COVID-19” means any county, parish,


municipality, tribal territory, or foreign country, where the governing authority in that jurisdiction has publicly confirmed the existence of a COVID-19 diagnosis; and

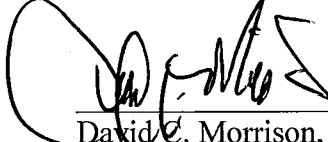
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the exclusion policy set forth in this Resolution shall not apply to first responders, medical professionals, individuals delivering essential goods or services, individuals entering the Reservation subject to a lawful order or legal authorization, or other essential Band employees, unless such individuals are displaying any symptoms associated with COVID-19, in which case such individuals shall not enter the Reservation; and

**BE IT FURTHER FINALLY RESOLVED** the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council declares that individuals who have travelled in areas affected by COVID-19 within the last 14 days, but who are already on the Bois Forte Reservation, shall follow the Center for Disease Control guidance for self-isolation, including staying at home, avoiding contact with others, avoiding crowds or public transportation, practicing social distancing if other are present, and monitoring for fever and cough.

#### Certification

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon by a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at a meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council, a quorum being present, held on March 17, 2020 at Nett Lake, Minnesota.

  
Cathy Chavers  
Chairwoman

  
David C. Morrison, Sr.  
Secretary-Treasurer