



Bois Forte

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

March 5, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

The Bois Forte Tribal Government strongly supports the Northeast Service Cooperative's (NESC) grant application to the Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENTRF) to renew, restore and revitalize the Laurentian Environmental Center (LEC) in Britt, Minnesota. NESC serves and supports over 100 schools, townships, cities, counties, colleges, state agencies, health care providers, telcos, tribal governments and others. With a long history of developing and sustaining regional and statewide projects and initiatives, NESC is well-positioned to resurrect the Laurentian Environmental Center (LEC).

After 80 years of serving Minnesota's children and adults mostly under the stewardship of Mounds View Public Schools, in 2020, the LEC succumbed to the Pandemic and shuttered its doors. Surrounded by state and federal land on an 11-acre campus on Arrowhead Lake, the LEC has been an education and outdoor hub for the community, the region, and the state. NESC plans to rehabilitate and reopen LEC's campus including its trails, woods, lakeshore, and infrastructure, renewing a legacy of natural habitat education and experiential learning.

In addition to this legacy, the LEC's core mission will be leveraged to serve new partners, learners, and leaders beyond education including mental health, social connectedness, health care, safety, history, indigenous communities, digital ecosystems, and workforce and business development.

The Bois Forte Tribal Government is committed to partnering with NESC to restore and revitalize the LEC, confident in the positive impact a revived and revitalized Laurentian Environmental Center will have on the community, the region, and the state.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shane Drift".
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Shane Drift
Vice-Chairperson
Bois Forte Tribal Government

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