Indigenous Tribes of Minnesota

Academic and Research Library Division (ARLD) Land Acknowledgement and Resources
https://tinyurl.com/ARLDLandAcknowledgement21

Mni Sota Makoce (Minnesota) is Dakota land. All libraries in this place are occupying the ancestral and contemporary homelands of the Dakota and Anishinaabe peoples. As we set forth to learn and reflect on our work, we are mindful that libraries are part of the present and past colonial violence in North America and that there is much work ahead to decolonize libraries. We’d like you to take a moment to reflect on what you can do at your own institutions to further this work.

We recognize the Native tribes in what is currently known as the state of Minnesota. There are 11 federally recognized tribes throughout Minnesota:

- **Bois Forte Band of Chippewa**
- **Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa**
- **Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe**
- **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe**
- **Lower Sioux Indian Community**
- **Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe**
- **Prairie Island Indian Community**
- **Red Lake Nation**
- **Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community**
- **Upper Sioux Community**
- **White Earth Nation**
Learn More:

Take some time to learn more--we have links to a variety of resources and organizations below. In addition, here are some questions to consider:

- How long have humans lived here?
- On whose treaty land do you live? You can use this [interactive map](#) developed by Native Land Digital to learn more.
- Who are your contemporary tribal neighbors today?

**American Indians in Children's Literature (AICL):** Provides critical perspectives and analysis of indigenous peoples in children's and young adult books, the school curriculum, popular culture, and society.

**Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC):** Formed in 1984, GLIFWC represents eleven Ojibwe tribes in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan who reserved hunting, fishing and gathering rights in the 1837, 1842, and 1854 Treaties with the United States government.

**Honor the Earth:** A local organization whose mission is to “create awareness and support for Native environmental issues and to develop needed financial and political resources for the survival of sustainable Native communities. Honor the Earth develops these resources by using music, the arts, the media, and Indigenous wisdom to ask people to recognize our joint dependency on the Earth and be a voice for those not heard.” (from the website)

**Minneapolis American Indian Center:** Provides educational and social services and preserves and supports American Indian cultural traditions through art, youth and inter-generational programs.

**Minnesota Department of Education:** Includes information about Tribal Consultation Guidance, Curriculum, etc.

**Minnesota Indian Affairs Council** website: Includes information about MN Tribal Nations, Educational Resources, MN Statutes, etc.

**Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center:** A non-profit social and educational services organization committed to the holistic growth and development of American Indian women and their families.
**Ojibwe People's Dictionary**: A searchable, talking Ojibwe-English dictionary that features the voices of Ojibwe speakers. It is also a gateway into the Ojibwe collections at the Minnesota Historical Society.

**Why Treaties Matter**: Travelling and virtual exhibit

**College and University Resources:**

- **American Indian Studies Department**, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities: The first American Indian Studies department in the United States, established in 1969
- **American Indian Learning Resource Center**, University of Minnesota - Duluth
- **American Indian Center**, St. Cloud State University

**Prominent Native Businesses, Artists, Public Figures, and News:**

- **Bde Maka Ska**: The largest lake in Minneapolis recently reclaimed its original Dakota name. For more information, also see the history tab on the **Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board website**.
- **Birchbark Books**: Independent bookstore supporting Native artists, owned by Louise Erdrich
- **The Circle: Native American News and Arts**: Minneapolis-based newspaper established in 1980
- **Dawn Quigley**: Local young adult/children’s author and enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe.
- **Debbie Reese**: Critical reviewer of books about Native issues and featuring Native characters by Indigenous and non-Indigenous authors.
- **Heid E Erdrich** (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians): award winning poet and memoirist.
- **Indian Country Today**: A non-profit and news outlet that covers the Indigenous world, including American Indians and Alaska Natives.
Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan (White Earth Nation of Ojibwe): the first American Indian Lieutenant Governor in the United States

Louise Erdrich (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians): award-winning author of novels, poetry, and children’s books with Native American characters and settings

Marcie Rendon: Author, playwright, poet, and community arts activist. Enrolled member of the White Earth Nation and author of the Cash Blackbear mystery series.

Marlena Myles: A local Native American (Spirit Lake Dakota, Mohegan, Muscogee) artist and creator of Dakota land maps.

Minnesota Indigenous Business Alliance’s Biz Directory: Find local Native businesses, artists, and nonprofits

The Sioux Chef: A team of Anishinaabe, Mdewakanton Dakota, Navajo, Northern Cheyenne, Oglala Lakota, Wahpeton-Sisseton Dakota chefs, ethnobotanists, food preservationists, adventurers, foragers, caterers, event planners, artists, musicians, food truckers and food lovers.

Winona LaDuke: Anishinaabe environmental activist and writer. Founder and Executive Director of Honor the Earth.

Sources:

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- Image from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council website.
- Questions to consider are from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education’s Why Act 31 website.
- Information about the resources and organizations are from their respective websites.