



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Bradley M. Pfaff, Secretary

DATE: September 6, 2019

TO: Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

FROM: Brad Pfaff, Secretary-designee

SUBJECT: Wisconsin's State-Tribal Relations Initiative

PRESENTED BY: Ashley Andre, Policy Initiatives Advisor – Executive and designated agency tribal liaison

RECOMMENDATION: This is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

SUMMARY / BACKGROUND:

Wisconsin has eleven federally recognized Tribes in the state. Each Tribe is a sovereign nation with its own government and constitution. The Tribes are:

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Forest County Potawatomi Community
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Sokaogon Chippewa Community
- St. Croix Chippewa Community
- Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians

In April, Governor Tony Evers signed Executive Order #18, affirming the intergovernmental relationships among the State of Wisconsin and Tribal Nations located within the State. The Order emphasized that the State of Wisconsin and Tribal Governments both serve our citizens, and close collaboration is essential for productive, safe, sustainable, and wise decision-making and policy implementation.

On July 10, 2019, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection held its annual consultation in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources between Tribal Leaders and agency staff in Bowler. Annual consultations facilitate communication between state agencies and all of the federally recognized Tribes in Wisconsin. Topics included industrial hemp, food safety, and chronic wasting disease.

DATCP has a designated staff member to serve as a liaison between the department and the Tribal Nations. Secretary-designee Brad Pfaff and Assistant Deputy Secretary Angela James have visited nine of the eleven Tribal Nations to meet with Tribal Leaders and their staff to discuss topics of mutual importance. The department continues to work to strengthen our working relationships with the Tribal Nations and to increase education about Tribal Nations and sovereignty to DATCP's workforce.

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