

WAGANAKISING ODAWAK STATUTE 2010-008
GIJIGOWI BIBSKAABIIMI DEPARTMENT

SECTION I. PURPOSE

This Statute is hereby enacted to establish Gijigowi Bibskaabiimi (meaning Victor Simon Kishigo-*Coming Back To*) an educational and cultural learning department to promote education and cultural learning and revitalize Anishinaabemowin. This Statute is in honor of Gijigowi, Victor Simon Kishigo, for his dedication and work to revitalize Anishinaabe Culture and Anishinaabemowin. This Statute repeals “Gijigowi Anishinaabemowin Language Department” WOS 2009-010.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Anishinaabemowin” means the language spoken by the Odawa people.
- B. “Cultural” means aspects of the Odawa history, spirituality, traditions, arts and crafts, values and mannerisms.
- C. “Cultural Proficiency” means the knowledge, skills, and attitudes/beliefs that enable a person to work well with, respond effectively to, and be supportive of the Odawa Citizens.
- D. “Department” means Gijigowi Bibskaabiimi Department.
- E. “Tribe” means the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.

SECTION III. CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

A. Pursuant to Article VII (D) (22) of the Tribal Constitution the Tribal Council shall have the power to: “Approve the creation or dissolution of Executive divisions or departments to promote and protect the peace, health, safety, education, and general welfare, including but not limited to cultural and natural resources, of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and Gijigowi Bibskaabiimi Department

its members”.

B. The Tribal Council hereby approves the creation of the Gijigowi Bibskaabiimi Department within the Executive Branch of government.

SECTION IV. AUTHORITY AND DUTIES

A. The Department shall have the following duties:

- 1.** Promote, design and implement cultural training programs for each facet of our Tribal community and Tribal government.
- 2.** Strive to improve and enhance the understanding of Tribal culture within our community and in the greater community.
- 3.** Collaborate with other LTBB departments to infuse culture and spirituality into their programs and activities.
- 4.** Assist with annual community events that incorporate Odawa traditions and culture.
- 5.** Provide services and programs that increase accessibility to two kinds of "traditional" education in tandem: formal, mainstream schooling and culturally-based, spiritual teachings.
- 6.** Administer education-based programs, grants and projects that assist our people to reach their personal and educational goals with an awareness of the unique needs of our Tribal Citizens.
- 7.** Utilize the cultural knowledge of our ancestors and our elders to pursue and provide programs, activities, initiatives and grant-supported projects for our youth that work to instill pride in our children in being Odawa.
- 8.** Establish more interactive resources for Tribal Citizens that utilize the most

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current and feasible technologies.

9. Collect, preserve and manage any and all information about the Odawa people, both historical and contemporary, utilizing the most current methods of archival preservation and digitization in order to create a seamless process for internal creation of educational materials, programs, classes and resources.

10. Serve as a clearing house and storage facility for all government documents and products created through government processes and functions.

11. Continue to pursue the return of human remains and artifacts as one more vital aspect of learning from our past and revitalizing our culture and spirituality by ensuring respectful and effective methods of sharing with our contemporary community.

12. Administer all BIA education-related programs and funding received by the Tribe.

13. Administer all funds and grants to the Tribe related to Anishinaabemowin, culture, spirituality, history and education.

14. Develop and provide Anishinaabemowin resources, including curriculum, training aids, video and audio products.

15. Establish appropriate programs such as Head Start, Kindergarten through Twelfth grade, Adult Education, and General Educational Development (GED) programs, Adult Vocational Training (AVT), Higher Education, Educational Grants and Cultural Learning Programs and any other applicable learning opportunities.

16. Establish an educational center that enables Tribal Citizens and the greater community members to access historical information and data.

SECTION V. STAFFING

A. The Department shall begin operations with current staff of the Language, Education and Gijigowi Bibskaabiimi Department

Archives and Records Departments as appropriate and Executive may restructure as necessary.

- B.** All research, academic, and work products produced by the Department shall belong to the Tribe and be considered public documents.
- C.** Credits may be given for program and/or individual contributions to materials produced by the Department.
- D.** Copies may be used in educational promotion of Anishinaabemowin; all copies shall include all original credits.
- E.** Copy for profit shall be prohibited.
- F.** Only persons who possess cultural proficiency shall be eligible for hire in this Department with the exception of hiring persons that provide technical expertise outside of the Odawa culture or Anishinaabemowin.

SECTION VI. REGULATIONS REQUIRED

Any regulations shall be developed by the Executive Branch and presented to Tribal Council for approval in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act.

SECTION VII. APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED

Any current appropriations for the Language, Education and Archives and Records Departments, as appropriate, shall be used to implement this Statute and the Executive shall present Tribal Council with future annual budgets necessary to implement this Statute.

SECTION VIII. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, phrase or portion of this Statute is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion

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