MnDOT
Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Forum

Tribal Government Consultation

Linda Aitken
Tribal Liaison – Government Affairs Office
MnDOT
Legal Consultation Requirements

ØNHPA
ØNEPA
ØAR
ØNAGPRA
ØExecutive Order 12875 - Tribal Governance
ØExecutive Order 12898 - Environmental Justice
ØExecutive Order 13007 - Sacred Sites
ØExecutive Order 13084 - Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments
ØExecutive Order 13175 - Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments
ØPresidential Memorandum-November 5, 2009
Recognize Tribal Expertise

- Traditional Knowledge
- Proper Care and Treatment of Resources
- Maintains more complete inventories
- Recognizing the financial obligations
The Missing Piece?

American Indian &
Tribal Government Education
American Indians

“It is impossible to understand American Indians in their contemporary setting without first gaining some knowledge of their history as it has been formed and shaped by the Indian experience with Western civilization.”

Vine Deloria, Jr, 1984
"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view - until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

spoken by Atticus Finch, To Kill a Mockingbird.
“Standing vrs Walking”

*Standing in someone's shoes* is perspective taking.

*Walking a mile* gives you the weariness, joys, dangers of another’s journey, or empathy.
Indian removal

**Began** with pressure of white settlements by the late 1700s
- **Voluntary** to escape conflict with white settlers and government agents

**Continued** with the 1830 act of Congress
- government agents carried out **forced removals**.
Americanization Policy – 1860s

- Centralizing Indians on Reservations
- Separate Indians from their traditional lands and communal living
- Eradicate Native cultures
- Civilize the Indian by
  - Going to School
  - Joining the Christian church
  - Learning to Farm
How did Government attempt to “Americanized” or “Civilized” Indians?

The Children
Granddaughters of Mary Lyons
Leech Lake Ojibwe
Boarding Schools

• Some were forcibly taken from parents

• Mandatory laws – through coercion

• Quotas from Reservations

• Persuade parents – “Best Interest”
Boarding School Babies
Civilization Process

- Received Haircuts
- School uniforms
- English names
- Forbidden to speak native language
- Forbidden to practice native religion
- Forbidden to practice culture
- Military discipline – strict routine
“Kill the Indian – Save the Man”  

Capt. Richard Pratt, Carlisle’s Founder
I AM NATIVE AMERICAN

Carlisle Indian Industrial School, ca. 1890

THEY COULDN'T CHANGE IT
“I have always said that the Native American Indian is so ingenious and inventive, Making use of what nature offered them and I think that is why we are still here.”

Mel Losh, Anishinaabe
Leech Lake Reservation
What’s Missing?

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Education for MN State Agencies

- State & American Indians Educators partnering to create education on:
  - Context & History, Legal, Culture,
  - Current Day Reality, Agency Specific Training

- State Agencies will have a better understanding of the history & relationships with American Indians

- Better prepared for Tribal Consultation with Tribes
Consult: seek advice from

Maintaining our individual dignity while pursuing harmony with our brother takes an eagle's strength, but great are the rewards for all who are willing to walk a mile in another's moccasins.

Lisa Danielle

fgfgfgfgfg
THANK YOU!
MiiGwetch (Ojibwe)
Pidamaya (Dakota)

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