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Gift from Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

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Gift from Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Summary: The gift affirms the campus's strengths for serving Native students.

(December 20, 2011)-The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa understands the challenges facing American Indian college students. The band's gift to the University of Minnesota, Morris made possible the newly created American Indian Legacy Scholarship and a matching gift from the American Indian Education Foundation. The gift acknowledges the need for support of Native students and affirms the campus's strengths for serving Native students.

Each year, the American Indian Education Foundation (AIEF), offers a Challenge Grant to donors who wish to support Native students at selected colleges, including Morris. Karen Diver, Fond du Lac Band chairwoman, says that the AIEF match was an opportunity to leverage the band's philanthropic giving to serve more Native students.

"Morris has a tradition and legacy for encouraging Native students," says Diver. "The campus provides cultural and academic support, which increases student success. Our sincere wish is that our gift removes barriers to higher education for Native Americans and their descendants."

The American Indian Legacy Scholarship provides support for education-related expenses other than tuition for Morris American Indian students enrolled or eligible for tribal membership. For example, the scholarship may be used for room, board, books, research, or conference travel.

Morris is the only university in the upper Midwest qualifying for designation as an American Indian Serving Non-Tribal Institution. American Indian students comprise more than 12 percent of the Morris student body and graduate at a rate higher than the national average for four-year colleges.

Photo below: Karen Diver, chairwoman, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.