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Boozhoo Anishinaabeg'- Anishinaabe'Ojibwe MCT Members, Mayagi-Anishinaabeg'

Construed: what did the Anishinaabe'Ojibwe understand in 1963 when the IRA MCT Constitution was revised.

- **They understood: the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) was/is a creation of the Indian reorganization Act (48 Stat. 984). (IRA)**
- **They understood: the 1937 Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Corporate Charter "is hereby charted as a body politic and corporate of the United States of America under the corporate name Minnesota Chippewa Tribe."**
- **They Understood: The IRA MCT – was/is exercising quasi-authority granted through the IRA MCT Constitution.**
- **They Understood: allotments created heir-ship and treaty lands across Wisconsin and Minnesota territories: MCT Lands are held in common for Anishinaabe'Ojibwe MCT members.**
- **They Understood: in IRA elections those elected in to the MCT revised Constitutions Article V positions would . . . "Solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall preserve, support and protect the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, and execute my duties as a member of the Tribal Executive Committee to the best of my ability, so help me God." & Article VI. Position(s) would say a similar oath . . . "do hereby swear (or affirm) that I will support, honor and respect the Constitution of the**



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United States and the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, and will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of my office to the best of my judgement and ability, so help me God."

- **They Understood: the IRA MCT Revised Constitution would have 15 Articles and Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) would have Bylaws with an added 6 Articles.**
- **They Understood: THE REVISED IRA MCT Constitution created Article V., powers of the TEC and their roles and responsibility of those positions.**
- **They Understood: The REVISED IRA MCT Constitution created Article VI. Powers of each Reservation Business Committees roles and responsibilities of those positions.**
- **They Understood: there was no need for POLICE or JUDICIAL POWERS articulated in any of the enumerated MCT Constitution's Articles.**
- **They Understood: any changes, amendments, creations of new articles could be achieved through the IRA MCT Constitutions' Article XII – Amendment Process that requires (Article XIII) Rights of Members = informed participation and/or "Due Process of Law" Consent.**

The IRA MCT Constitution Article XII Process was utilized in the 1971-1972 and 2005-2006 Secretarial Election Process for IRA MCT Constitution Amendments 1-4. The IRA MCT TEC knows and understands how to change or amend the IRA MCT Constitution via Article XII's Amendment Process – requires the Anishinaabe'Ojibwe Informed and Participation and consent. However: there has



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been a usurping or bypassing the Article XII & XIII processes by creating IRA MCT-TEC Interpretations.

Daga-Please, remember: in the 15 Articles of the IRA MCT Constitution along with the TEC Bylaws there is no *Article*, for “INTERPRETATION POWERS” or MCT enumerated Authority for the TEC to be the sole interpreter of the constitution.

However, the MCT Constitution Article XII Amendment process provides for “*interpretation*” and amendments through the informed participation and consent of the Members.

Nor is there any reasonable enforcement mechanism – when the IRA MCT Constitution Article XII Amendment process and Article XIII – Rights of Members is not used or followed.

In 2017 - Anishinaabe’Ojibwe Members of the MCT – will understand the above-mentioned reasons on why we are meeting here today for the MCT Constitution Convention.

—Dale Green