



Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Communications

Kevin Smith, Director



Red Lake Nation



- Red Lake Ojibwa
- 826,000 acres
- 5,100 residents
- 40% of families below the poverty line



Red Lake Nation



“We have our own rules, our own way of doing things.”

Floyd “Buck” Jourdain, Tribal Chairman



Red Lake Nation

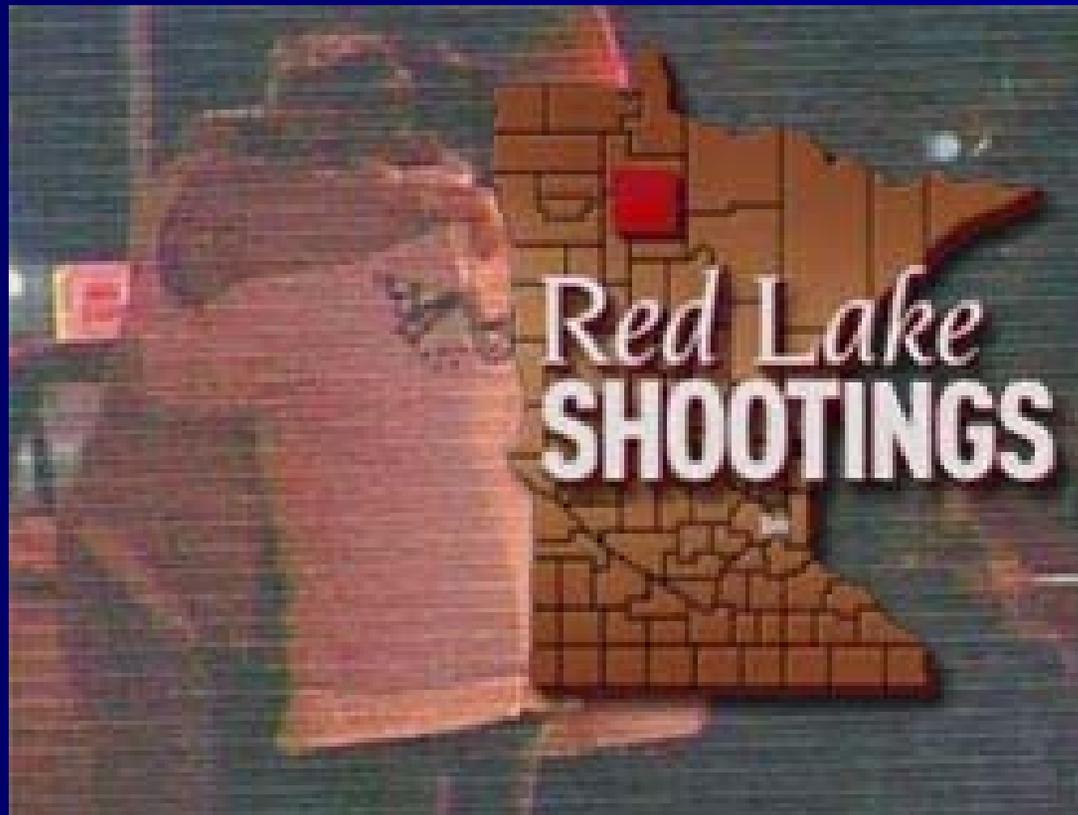


“Sovereignty is the foundation of everything here. Without that, we have no existence.”



Red Lake Nation

March 21, 2005 – Sovereignty tested





Red Lake Nation



Jeffery Weise, 17

- Killed grandfather and companion
- Killed security officer
- Killed teacher
- Killed 5 students
- Killed himself



Red Lake Nation

Clash of cultures



Paul McCabe – FBI media briefing



Red Lake Nation

Show of unity





Red Lake Nation

Show of unity



- Jourdain's son arrested and convicted
- Awaits sentencing



Red Lake Nation

Aftermath

- More trust or less?
- Traditions, elders strong
- Isolation, poverty are issues
- History



Red Lake Nation

1967 – Bemidji Chamber of Commerce official:

“Perhaps we should have let nature take her course, let disease and malnutrition disrupt the reproductive process and weed out those at the very bottom of the heap.”



Red Lake Nation

1967 – Bemidji Chamber of Commerce official:

“...are so low on the human scale that it is doubtful they will ever climb upward.”



Red Lake Nation

**1967 – Bemidji Chamber of Commerce
official:**

**“...help only those who are
salvageable.”**



Red Lake Nation

Lessons learned



- Know and respect tribal culture
- Do not overstep your boundaries
- Build coalitions and relationships

Red Lake Nation



Red Lake Nation



Red Lake Nation





Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Communications

Kevin Smith, Director