



Practical Vision

Everyone owns the vision of the future. We each hold it in our imagination. In this workshop, participants are invited to bring their imagination and optimism to the table and help weave a complete picture of how strategic governance should support, advance or positively impact the Ojibwe Nations of Minnesota and all of their constituents. The workshop moved the conversation to a broader scope, with participants talking about the motivating image of the future that compels action.

Participants were asked to discuss and describe the desired future that would be achieved through the work of the Team to reframe the structures under which the Nations are organized as sovereign entities. It is this image of the long-range future that inspires and motivates progress over time.

The focus question before the group was:

***What Is In Place in 2026
That Tells Us We Have Established Desirable, Appropriate & Accountable
Systems of Governance?***



Vision 2026

Consensus Vision Statements

The following statements represent the group's consensus after discussing the individual elements of the vision for tribal governance. The following Vision Elements capture the group's insight on their collective intent in each arena.

Towards Applying Our Knowledge & Values to Secure The Future for the Next 7 Generations & Beyond		Towards Wholeness in Spirit & Mind And In Balance With the Universe - Minobimaadiziwin		Towards Sovereignty, Freedom & True Nationhood		
Our Constitution Creates a Governing Structure That Is Culturally Relevant, Ethical, Fair and Responsive to the People	Our Children Are Thriving In a Culturally-Based Environment That Includes All Aspects of Mind, Body & Spirit Created by Our Anishinabe Experts & Knowledge Holders	Language, Culture & Our Values Are Modeled & Integrated Into Our Governing Systems & Individual Lives	We, the Ojibwe People, Are Empowered to Participate in Government Openly & Freely	Exercise Our Sovereign Authority & Responsibility to Assure Mother Earth's Rights to Be Nurtured and Protected From Desecration	Our Population Is Thriving, We Have Fair Distribution of Wealth & Program Services Promote Community Re- Investment	Thriving Economy Where Everyone Contributes & Benefits, Driven By Traditional Values of Self- Sufficiency

Vision Brainstorm Data

This is the brainstorm data that was the result of the first round of vision discussions. It represents the ideas of many people. The brainstorm data itself does not represent the consensus of the group but it is an important link to what people were thinking about as they discussed each of these vision clusters. The groupings emerged from this seed data. Some ideas are specific, others are more general. They all help us imagine the future 10 years from now.

OUR CONSTITUTION CREATES A GOVERNING STRUCTURE THAT IS CULTURALLY RELEVANT, ETHICAL, FAIR AND RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE

- Tribal sovereignty is strong & respected
- Separation of powers
- We have a new constitution
- Restorative justice
- Strategic Plan in place
- Leaders accountable for decisions & behavior

OUR CHILDREN ARE THRIVING IN A CULTURALLY BASED ENVIRONMENT THAT INCLUDES ALL ASPECTS OF MIND, BODY & SPIRIT CREATED BY OUR ANISHINAABE EXPERTS & KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS

- 100% graduation rates
- Fluent Ojibwe children
- Students learn traditions along with western science
- Our people are viewed as experts

LANGUAGE, CULTURE & OUR VALUES ARE MODELED & INTEGRATED INTO OUR GOVERNING SYSTEMS & INDIVIDUAL LIVES

- More tribal government support/ consideration of culture and language
- Mandated language classes for all employees and members
- Practice the good life
- Our people are living our values
- Minobimaadiziwin

WE, THE OJIBWE PEOPLE, ARE EMPOWERED TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT OPENLY AND FREELY

- Broader citizen participation in general government (committees, elections, etc)
- People openly participate in government
- Freedom of speech
- Safer communities
- People have more faith in government “We”, not “Me”
- Off-reservation members are recognized
- Happy consensus of residents
- Freedom of the press

WE EXERCISE OUR SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY & RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSURE MOTHER EARTH’S RIGHTS TO BE NURTURED & PROTECTED FROM DESECRATION

- Policies for Mother Earth
- Restored land base
- Intergovernmental meetings to discuss/decide how resources are shared
- Inter-Tribal unity on resource protection
- Tribal authority recognized and exercises on entire Treaty area
- We manage our natural resources on Anishinaabe values

OUR POPULATION IS THRIVING, WE HAVE FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH & PROGRAM SERVICES PROMOTE COMMUNITY RE-INVESTMENT

- Fair distribution of resources and wealth
- We share resources – on and off the reservation
- Culturally competent healing, wellness and recovery center
- Our population is growing
- Program services are reciprocal

THRIVING ECONOMY WHERE EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES & BENEFITS, DRIVEN BY TRADITIONAL VALUES OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY

- Sustainable without federal government; truly free
- Self-sustaining & our economies are thriving
- More Federal money allocate to higher population
- Anishinaabe employment structured
- Separate government from Gaming Board