Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

Omakatob Wowapi Four Year Report

The Business Council’s four-year term in office, 2008 to 2011, and a look back at the SMSC’s 42 years as a federally recognized Indian Tribe.
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“VISIONARY”
Norman M. Crooks
(Mdewakanton Dakotah)
May 28, 1917 — October 20, 1989

Norman M. Crooks, the first elected Chairman of the Sakpe Dakotah Oyate or Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community was instrumental in the Tribe’s quest for sovereignty and self-determination.

Through his vision and persistence, the Community was Federally recognized as an Indian Tribe in 1969 and Indian gaming (high stakes bingo) was introduced for the benefit of all Native American and non-Native American people in Minnesota. Changing the lives of the SMSC Members forever.
Welcome to Omakotob Wowapi

It’s impossible to talk about the last four years without taking a look back at the beginning days of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Although our ancestors have lived on these lands for hundreds of years, we were not federally recognized as an Indian Tribe until November 28, 1969. For the 13 charter members, times were hard, jobs were scarce, and it was a struggle to meet basic subsistence needs. The first Tribal Chairman, Norman M. Crooks, worked tirelessly to bring economic stability to the SMSC. Various economic development ideas came and went and although the most basic needs of the SMSC members were being met, living conditions remained difficult. Then, in the early 1980s, Chairman Crooks learned about the Seminole Indian Tribe in Florida and its success in establishing bingo as an economic enterprise.

After seeing the Seminole operation with his own eyes, he made the decision, along with the members of the SMSC, that bingo was going to be the key to the future growth and stability of the SMSC. Through the commitment and determination of this visionary tribal leader, the SMSC found a way to build its first bingo hall, opening the doors to Little Six Bingo on October 16, 1982. Its virtual overnight success led to unprecedented economic opportunity for the Community, changing the lives of the SMSC members forever. Since the early days of Indian Gaming, the SMSC has made an unwavering commitment to meeting the needs of its members.

As members of the Business Council for these past four years, we are proud to have had the opportunity to work with the General Council to protect and promote the health, safety, and future well-being of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community members. Chairman Stanley R. Crooks is completing his fifth consecutive four-year term as Chairman, following in the footsteps of his visionary father, Norman M. Crooks, the first elected Chairman of the Sakpe Dakotah Oyate. Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks is completing his fourth consecutive term in office, following in the footsteps of his father Amos L. Crooks who served as the tribe’s first Vice-Chairman. Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson is completing his second consecutive term in office, after serving as Chairman of the Board of Directors at the SMSC-Gaming Enterprise for a number of years.

Today, Indian Gaming continues to be the economic engine that this tribe and all tribes in Minnesota rely on to provide for their members. Indian Gaming has sparked the environmentally sound practices that now permeate Community lands, facilities, and infrastructures. This report will provide an overview of the specific successes driven by the current Business Council with the support and guidance of the members of the General Council. This report will also look back over the 42 years since the SMSC gained federal recognition as an Indian Tribe. Forty-two years devoted to finding the best ways to protect and nourish the next Seven Generations. Thank you for your interest in our Community.

Sincerely,

Stanley R. Crooks  
Chairman

Glynn A. Crooks  
Vice-Chairman

Keith B. Anderson  
Secretary/Treasurer

Federally Recognized Indian Tribe 1969-2011
Every four years voting members of the Shakopee Mdeewakanton Sioux Community elect a new Business Council as is mandated by the Tribal Constitution. The role of the Business Council is to promote the health, education, and welfare of community members and their families now and for generations to come. The three member Business Council consists of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary/Treasurer. Together they are responsible for running the day-to-day operations of the Tribe and for implementing the decisions of the General Council, the governing body which is composed of all enrolled members ages 18 and older qualified to vote in Community elections.

Entire Business Council Re-Elected

For the first time in the Tribe’s history all three incumbents were re-elected to a new four-year term when the General Council members voted in the primary election held on December 11, 2007. With 88.46% of voters participating, each of the three incumbents received more than 51% of the vote. According to the Tribe’s Election Law, receiving 50% plus one vote negates the need for a general election. SMSC Business Council members inaugurated on January 31, 2008, are: Chairman Stanley R. Crooks, Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks, and Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson.
The stability set by multiple terms in office has led to clear priorities for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Recent years have been characterized by a commitment to caring for tribal members, caring for the environment, caring for our neighbors, and maintaining government to government relations. Initiatives included:

- Establishing a secure home for future generations of tribal members by adding to the land base and protecting that land forever by working diligently to have it placed into trust.
- Providing services for members.
- Protecting tribal sovereignty and self-sustainability.
- Operating enterprises to support tribal programs and infrastructure.
- Continuing the Dakota tradition of caring for the earth.
- Being a good neighbor by working with other governments on a government to government basis and through a strong charitable giving program.
SMSC Business Council
Tribal Government Operations

The Business Council oversees the day-to-day operations of the tribal government and the non-gaming enterprises: Mazopiya, The Meadows at Mystic Lake, the Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores, Dakotah! Sport and Fitness, Playworks, Playworks Link Event Center, Dakota Mall, Dakotah Meadows RV Park & Mini Storage, the Mystic Lake Store at Mall of America, and for the Tribal Government.

Business Council members are also deeply involved in the Gaming Enterprise, sitting on the Board of Directors where they provide direction in terms of policy and oversight of the thousands of team members employed there.

Over the past four years, the Business Council initiated the consolidation of services between the Tribal Government and the SMSC Gaming Operations to decrease costs and increase efficiency. The Human Resources, Property Operations, Public Works, Purchasing, Finance, and Information Technology departments all have been consolidated during this term of office.

The use of websites and social media has become an important tool for increasing brand awareness and the distribution of information. Websites have been developed for each non-gaming enterprise as well as for the organic garden, Mdeewakanton Emergency Services, the mobile unit, the Wellness Department, and the Land and Natural Resources Department. A password protected Community member only website was also developed to provide news and information exclusively for tribal members. A newsroom feature on the www.shakopeedakota.org website provides image galleries, fact sheets, and press releases about SMSC events, activities, community involvement, and charitable giving. A collaboration with Bringmethenews.com has further increased the flow of positive information about the SMSC to the public through the website and the associated news sponsorships on radio stations throughout Minnesota.

A systematic study of tribal operations has been undertaken to create projects to implement the Business Council’s vision of a self-sustaining, sovereign nation for generations to come. Energy projects have been put into practice, infrastructure developed, best practices developed and implemented, and investments have been made in technology upgrades throughout the reservation. Some of these projects are further described in upcoming sections.
The Business Council’s work has been recognized by a number of outside entities, including:

On March 10, 2009, the SMSC was awarded the Tribal Gaming Visionary Business Empowerment Award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

The National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome recognized the SMSC for outstanding contributions to FASD prevention, education, and advocacy in June 2009.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community was honored with the Philanthropist of the Year award by the Potlatch Fund of Seattle, Washington, on November 21, 2009.

On May 14, 2010, the SMSC was awarded the Chief Standing Bear Humanitarian Award by the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs for the SMSC’s ongoing commitment to sharing financial assistance with other tribes and organizations through its charitable giving program.

On September 13, 2010, the SMSC was honored with the Spirit of Eagles Award by the Mayo Clinic for the use of its Mobile Unit to help others.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community was honored with a regional Jefferson Award for Philanthropy December 1, 2010. The Jefferson Awards were established in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr., and Sam Beard as a ‘Nobel Prize’ for public community service. The Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal, the local media partner for the Jefferson Awards, nominated the SMSC for the honor.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Gaming Enterprise was named one of the Top Workplaces in the State of Minnesota based on employee surveys completed and submitted in response to a Star Tribune project. Top Workplaces recognizes the most progressive companies in the State based on employee opinions about company leadership, career opportunities, workplace flexibility, compensation, and benefits.

On May 4, 2010, the SMSC was awarded the Tribal Gaming Visionary Business Empowerment Award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

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In August 2010 the SMSC was honored by the Rotary Club with a Certificate of Appreciation by former City of Prior Lake Mayor Jack Haugen.

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CHAIRMAN STANLEY R. CROOKS
Chairman Stanley R. Crooks, a U.S. Navy veteran, has served as Tribal Chairman since 1992. His fifth consecutive four-year term as tribal chairman has provided leadership for investing hundreds of millions of dollars into infrastructure and facilities on Community lands. With a goal of attaining meaningful self-sufficiency, Chairman Crooks has committed resources to the development of sustainable energy, water, and land.

Chairman Crooks’ long tenure has been at the forefront of SMSC’s legal defense of its enrollment, law, and practices. As a defender of the tribe’s sovereignty, Chairman Crooks has not capitulated to federal, state, and local government attempts to erode sovereignty. As an advocate for enhancing the tribe’s regulatory authority over tribal government operations, such as its ambulance service and pharmacy, under his leadership the SMSC has entered into agreements with state and local governments over a number of issues, including workplace safety. Through aggressive land purchase efforts, along with the other Business Council members, he has worked to grow the tribe’s land base and have land taken into trust by the federal government, protecting it for future generations.

A staunch supporter of a diversified approach to economic development in Indian Country, Chairman Crooks has been an inspiration to other tribal governments. He has mentored tribal leaders from other tribal nations and led the way for a tribal loan program which has been responsible for more than $396 million in loans to other tribes for economic development projects in recent years.

Chairman Crooks was the driving force behind the development of the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza at the University of Minnesota and the $14.5 million gift to the University for scholarships, the Plaza, and the new football stadium.

His interest in energy self-sufficiency led to the development of many energy initiatives including a wind turbine and Koda Energy, a biomass facility which burns environmentally friendly agricultural by-products to generate both heat and energy. He serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Koda Energy, a joint venture with partner Rahr Malting of Shakopee, Minnesota.

Chairman Crooks serves as the Chairman of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association and is the SMSC representative to the National Indian Gaming Association, as well as to the National Congress of American Indians. He is also the Business Council representative to the SMSC Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors. As the SMSC Chairman, Chairman Stanley R. Crooks meets annually with Minnesota’s Governors, including former Governors Arne Carlson, Jesse Ventura, Tim Pawlenty, and current Governor Mark Dayton.

HONORINGS FOR CHAIRMAN STANLEY R. CROOKS
Chairman Crooks has been bestowed with honors from across the country including the National Indian Gaming Association Leadership Award presented on April 7, 2010, and NIGA Chairman’s Leadership Award of Excellence: Going Green for Mother Earth on October 20, 2010. Chairman Crooks was named to Global Gaming Business magazine’s “25 People to Watch” list in January 2011 and he was named Tribal Leader of the Year by the Native American Finance Officers Association on March 23, 2011.
**Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks**

SMSC Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks, a U.S. Navy veteran, has served as Vice-Chairman since 1996, having previously served as Tribal Chairman. Vice-Chairman Crooks is the public face of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, proudly representing the SMSC at local, state, and national events. Examples of the Vice-Chairman’s activities include:

On March 3, 2008, he represented the SMSC at a ceremony held at the White House in Washington D.C. when the Medal of Honor was presented to Woodrow W. Keeble, the first Sioux Indian ever to receive the Medal of Honor. This medal was presented posthumously by President of the United States George W. Bush.

On May 4, 2008, he participated in a ceremony dedicating new lights and other improvements at Thomas Ryan Memorial Park in the City of Prior Lake. The SMSC helped fund the project with a $450,000 grant.

The Vice-Chairman represented the SMSC at the dedication of the SCALE Regional Public Safety Training Facility on July 16, 2008, in Jordan, Minnesota.

On January 2009 he represented the SMSC at the inauguration of President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C. He also attended the White House Holiday Party and Tribal Nations Conference hosted by President Obama on December 16, 2010.

The Vice-Chairman sang at the Minnesota Honors Vietnam Veterans ceremony hosted by former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty on June 13, 2009.

He attended the swearing in ceremony of Larry EchoHawk as Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior (Indian Affairs) on June 26, 2009, as well as the National Indian Gaming Mid-Year Energy Summit in July 2009 in Washington, D.C. He also represented the SMSC at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian 20th Anniversary Gala October 7, 2009.

As the Chairman of the SMSC Pow Wow Committee for the past 20 years, the Vice-Chairman has been responsible for overseeing the three-day Wacipi (Pow Wow) which draws upwards of 600 dancers and as many as 10,000 visitors. He proudly carries the eagle feather staff in each Grand Entry. He also carried the eagle feather staff during Grand Entry at the National Museum of the American Indian Pow Wow in Washington, D.C., and at the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Vice-Chairman donates the use of his home, inspired by designs found in the White House, to host important events involving visiting state and federal elected officials, including fundraisers and pre-legislative sessions. During his years in office, he has handled the welcomes for tribal and public events including the annual Twin Cities Retired Military event each September. On June 21, 2011, the Vice-Chairman accepted the prestigious Jefferson Award in Washington D.C. on behalf of the SMSC. Co-founded by Jacqueline Onassis, this award is known as the “Nobel Prize” for public service and philanthropy.

As an example of his involvement with the United States government, Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks is shown here with the President of the United States Barack Obama.

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**Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson**

Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson has held his position since 2004, having previously served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the SMSC Gaming Enterprise. During his second consecutive four-year term as Secretary/Treasurer, he continued his duties overseeing the annual budgeting process and the tribe’s investment and savings portfolio along with the Finance Department.

He is responsible for keeping Community records and is in the process of overseeing a project to digitize the records. He also travels to meet with government and congressional officials to discuss issues of concern to the SMSC such as with the Environmental Protection Agency on Clean Air Act permitting issues related to emergency generators in April 2011. In May 2011 he met with government officials and congressional leaders in Washington, D.C., to continue developing relationships and engage in government to government discussions with federal agency officials on various matters of concern to the SMSC. He represents the SMSC at national gaming functions, where he casts the tribe’s vote in NIGA elections and presents checks for charitable donations.

On August 31, 2009, the Secretary/Treasurer attended a White House Listening Session on tribal consultation where he was the first speaker of the afternoon session. He discussed the importance of tribal consultation and how the nation-to-nation relationship should be respected and that tribes are sovereign nations as recognized in the U.S. Constitution. On November 5, 2009, he attended President Barack Obama’s first historic Tribal Leaders Summit in Washington, D.C. SMSC Secretary/Treasurer Anderson also attended the NAFOA conference in March 2011 where he accepted a national award on behalf of Chairman Stanley R. Crooks. On May 25, 2011 he attended a Senate briefing.
CHAPTER 2: PROTECTING TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

Long before the Europeans came, more than 600 tribal nations, which make their home in the United States, had their own forms of government. For millennia the tribes governed their people and managed their own affairs. These sovereign nations honored their relatives, the world around them, and all life as sacred. Tribal leaders made decisions based on what was best for the people, always looking ahead to be sure that resources would be available to sustain life for future generations. They each had, and continue to have, their own unique culture, language, history, and traditions.
Chapter 2     Protecting Tribal Sovereignty

The Dakota way is to plan for the Seventh Generation, to make sure that resources will be available in the future for seven generations to come. Tribal leaders are planning not just for their children and grandchildren but for the great-great-grandchildren of their grandchildren. Conserving and protecting the earth today ensures that there will be food, trees, natural areas, traditional wild foods and medicines, cultural resources, and open spaces for coming generations to thrive.

Federal policies destroyed tribal economies and took millions of lives and hundreds of millions of acres of Indian lands. The federal government made thousands of treaty obligations with American Indian Nations when establishing a land base for the United States. Tribal nations gave up land in exchange for promises from the federal government but they retained their sovereignty, their powers of self-government over their lands and members. The United States Constitution established that Indian Tribes are sovereign nations.

Sovereignty is not a gift, it’s a right we always had as a tribal nation, long before European settlers came to this continent. The treaties established a nation-to-nation relationship between Indian tribes and the federal government with Congress having exclusive power to regulate Indian affairs. (A state, by contrast, only has the power over Indian affairs within tribal territory that Congress has specifically given it.)

Mdewakanton Wazupi was first planted in the spring of 2010. The certified organic garden provides an abundance of fruits and vegetables available at a weekly Farmer’s Markets, through a Tribally Supported Agriculture program, and for sale at Mazopiya, the tribe’s natural food market.
The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a government responsible for the safety and well being of its members. Today the SMSC tribal government utilizes its financial resources from gaming and non-gaming enterprises to first and foremost meet those responsibilities to its tribal membership. The SMSC is the responsible governmental unit for regulating land use on the reservation and is required to comply with all federal environmental standards. As a government, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community pays for and develops all internal infrastructure. Just like other governments, the tribal government develops housing, roads, water, wastewater, and sewer systems, and provides essential services to members regarding education, health, and welfare on tribal lands.

The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, the Indian Self-Determination Act, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and the United States Constitution define the federal United States Indian Policy as one of self-determination, self-sufficiency, and self-governance in which Tribes maintain all appropriate governmental and legal authority to regulate their land and activities on them. After more than 150 years of intense dependence on the federal government, the SMSC and other Indian tribes are beginning to take care of themselves and their members once again, experiencing true self-sufficiency.

Over the past four years the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has conducted a number of activities to support and encourage Tribal Sovereignty.

- Enactment of various laws asserting tribal authority over the internal affairs of the SMSC, such as the Conservatorship Ordinance and amendments to the Consolidated Land Management Ordinance.

- Negotiated numerous intergovernmental agreements in which the SMSC’s authority to govern and regulate various activities is recognized. Notable is the agreement for the reconstruction and development of County Road 83 to a four lane divided highway.

- Worked proactively to have its land placed into trust status whereby the SMSC will be able to regulate land use and all activities on those lands.

- Strongly asserted its legal interests in lawsuits that were filed in attempts to diminish the Tribe’s sovereignty. The Tribe’s position prevailed in the Wolfchild vs. United States lawsuit so that the Tribe was not brought in as a party to the lawsuit and the Tribe’s resources and property were protected from the plaintiffs’ claims.

- Initiated numerous construction projects for essential infrastructure bringing the SMSC closer to being self-sufficient such as improvements to the water system, installation of a wind turbine, establishment of a biodiesel facility, and continued operation of Koda Energy and other infrastructure. By establishing Mdewakanton Wozupi, the tribe’s organic garden, and Mazopiya, a natural food market, the SMSC is growing closer to food sovereignty. By implementing an Organics Recycling Facility, the SMSC has taken control of a large portion of its waste stream, thus reducing costs and returning food waste to the earth in a natural process.
Chapter 3: Caring for Tribal Members

Ancestors of present-day Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community members have resided in the Minnesota River Valley and surrounding areas since time immemorial, centuries before the arrival of Europeans. By entering into a series of treaties with the United States, the Mdewakanton and other Dakota tribes relinquished possession of more than 24,000,000 acres of land allowing for European-American settlement of most of central and southern Minnesota.

On October 19, 2010, Community members, guests, and staff gathered to support efforts to fight breast cancer at the Pilates for Pink event at the SMSC Wellness Center. During the event a low-impact Pilates class was held, and funds were raised for breast cancer research.
As a steward of the earth, the SMSC engages in activities to protect the land and natural habitats.
LAND TRUST ISSUE

CURRENT RESERVATION LANDS OF THE SHAKOPEE MDewakanton Sioux Community are situated near the prominent Dakota village site active into the late 1850s called Sakpe’s Village, for which the town of Shakopee was named. Sakpe [Shock-pay] means the number six in the Dakota language and refers to a historic Dakota tribal leader. This area is our home. Throughout history our leaders have sought to retain these ancestral lands because of the cultural significance they hold for us and for the specific purpose of providing a place for Mdewakanton Dakota people to live.

THOUGH DAKOTA have lived here for centuries, it was not until 1969 that the SMSC was formally organized under federal law as a government possessing wide ranging governmental authority over its membership and lands. At that time, the reservation consisted of a total of 258 acres, land that was returned to us in the 1880s and 1890s.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND TRUST LAND

Self-sufficiency and self-governance is only possible if tribally owned land is in trust. Since 1934 the United States Congress has allowed the Secretary of the Interior to “acquire . . . any interest in lands . . . for the purpose of providing lands for Indians” to restore lost lands to Indian tribes and to encourage the development of tribal communities. When the land is taken into trust, title to the land is with the United States for the benefit of the particular tribe. Tribes are required to comply with all federal laws, but trust land is generally no longer subject to the civil authority of state, county, or city government. The tribe becomes the responsible governmental unit to regulate land uses and becomes responsible for providing any services to that land.

When land is put in trust status for a tribe, it cannot be taxed or sold or lost. This is a protection that is written into the law due to the tremendous loss of land that tribes have experienced at the hands of state and local governments. Tribes cannot have a standing army to protect their land. This is one of the agreements we made long ago: that the United States government would protect our land and our people.

The act of the United States placing land into trust is viewed as the solemn promise of the American people to restore a very small portion of Dakota ancestral land to the Dakota people.

Land in trust promotes sovereignty and self-determination. We provide all the services and infrastructure for these lands and for the tribal members who reside on these lands. Paramount and primary to tribal sovereignty is to be able to govern, control, and determine the use of land. We need land for housing, parks, recreation, green space, and government infrastructure such as health care and education.

The history of Indian lands is a history of lost land largely through bad faith dealings by government agents and opportunistic traders. Taking land into trust, to be protected under the responsibility of the United States government, provides a level of protection from future loss that is very effective. It guarantees that the tribe will not lose the land by theft, swindle, their own mistake, or by the acts of unscrupulous local governments.

It is an overriding goal of the tribe to build a strong and united community where the Dakota history and culture is preserved. One way to accomplish this goal is to maintain a tight knit community where tribal members live near each other and participate in tribal governmental affairs and cultural events.

By the end of 2007, the SMSC owned 3,003 acres, of which only 830 acres were held in trust. Seven different parcels totaling 358 acres were purchased in 2008 and 2009. After an arduous process and court battle lasting nearly a decade, the Business Council completed paperwork to transfer 752.41 acres of land into trust on January 14, 2009. On November 6, 2009, an additional 80 acres were taken into trust. Total land holdings have grown to 3,361 acres contiguous to or in very close proximity to the original 258 acres. Of that amount, less than half (1,685.62 acres), was in trust by the end of 2011.
SERVICES

As the government responsible for caring for its members, the Shakopee MdeWakanton Sioux Community utilizes its financial resources from gaming and non-gaming enterprises to pay for direct services for its members in the areas of health, education, safety, and general wellbeing. With a goal of self-sustainability, the SMSC directly provides these services as an expression of tribal sovereignty.
COMMITMENT TO HEALTH
The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has made a commitment to the health and wellbeing not only of its members, but also for its more than 4,130 employees. In addition, the SMSC provides services for Native Americans living in Scott County who are enrolled in a federally recognized Indian tribe. The success of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community’s enterprises has allowed the Community to create and operate numerous health programs to enhance and encourage physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing using modern best practices while being mindful of traditional cultural values. Some of those services are described below.

MEDICAL CLINICS
At the Shakopee Dakota Clinic, located in the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Center, medical staff provide a wide variety of services including preventive screenings, physical examinations, x-rays, urgent care, lab and blood work, vaccinations, and many common medical procedures. Doctors, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, nurses, and technicians serve the SMSC members, staff, and their family members with state-of-the-art equipment. Urgent care services became available at a dedicated facility in late 2007 for team members who work at the SMSC Gaming Enterprise at the Mystic Clinic, located at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel.

DENTAL CLINIC
Patients at the Shakopee Dakota Dental Clinic, located in the lower level of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Center, are cared for by dental professionals. Dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants work to meet the needs of SMSC members, staff, and their family members. Examinations, cleanings, extractions, fillings, and many dental services are available in this well-equipped dental facility. Orthodontic and endodontic services are also available.

SMSC PHARMACY
Since April 2007, the SMSC has owned and operated the SMSC Pharmacy, dedicated to serving its members, staff, Native Americans who live in Scott County, and their family members. SMSC Pharmacy Staff dispense low-co-pay prescriptions, sells over-the-counter medications, counsels patients, and provide information on medications for patients and medical professionals. Dispensing more than 3,000 prescriptions a month, the success of the SMSC Pharmacy led to growth and resulted in a move to a new, larger location with drive-through service in February 2010.

Wellness Center
In October 2007 the SMSC opened a Wellness Center on the reservation in order to better provide services for Community members, employees, and their families. A number of health and wellness services and support staff are housed in the Wellness Center. The Wellness Department offers classes and programs to improve the health and wellbeing of participants through speakers, classes, and various activities.

Physical Therapy/Chiropractic Clinic
A Physical Therapy/Chiropractic Clinic which opened in 2007 is one of the centerpieces of the SMSC’s new Wellness Center. Chiropractors, physical therapists, an occupational therapist, and support staff provide treatment, preventive care, and rehabilitation of injuries, arthritis, sprains, strains, and other disorders. A 14 foot by 10 foot warm water hydrotherapy pool augments treatment for many physical therapy and chiropractic patients. Acupuncture is also offered by certified staff.

Vision Clinic
A Vision Clinic joined the SMSC family of clinics in the summer of 2008. Here, optometrists care for the vision of SMSC members, staff, and their families by conducting vision screenings for glasses and contact lenses, screening for diabetic retinopathy, cataracts, and glaucoma. Opticians fit glasses and assist patients with contact lenses.
**Hearing Clinic**

In an effort to provide complete care for SMSC members, staff, and their families, the SMSC opened a Hearing Clinic inside the Wellness Center in 2008. Trained staff test hearing in a soundproof booth, identifying and treating hearing loss.

**Mental Health Care**

The SMSC NETWORKS Employee Assistance and Mental health programs provide mental health care, smoking cessation classes, support groups, counseling, referrals, and chemical dependency treatment services for employees and SMSC members. NETWORKS also provides similar employee assistance to employees of the City of Prior Lake. These services are also available to Native Americans who reside in Scott County.

**Education**

The SMSC Education Department offers a number of initiatives designed to enrich the educational experience of Community students. Fully licensed Student Support Teachers work closely with the schools to bring additional academic support in and outside of the classroom setting for Community students. Homework help is offered daily in the department as are after school activities. During the summer, students can participate in Culture Camp, the Significant Sites Tour, and field trips. An Artist in Residence program introduces students to new art forms through hands on learning.

The SMSC Home School Program has grown from five students in 2006 to 20 in the spring of 2011. Guidance and information is available on home schools, private schools, public schools, alternative schools, tutoring services, GED preparation, technical schools, and colleges. ACT and SAT test preparations classes, including pre-test, are also offered.

**Building/Construction Services**

SMSC building inspectors and staff in the SMSC Land and Natural Resources Department review building plans for code compliance, performing inspections, issuing permits, and monitoring construction for all residential and commercial projects on the reservation. More than 20 years ago the SMSC General Council adopted the First Tribal Building Code. It was updated in March 2003 to adopt international building standards, including the International Residential Code, International Building Code, mechanical codes, and fire codes. The Minnesota State Building Code was adopted by reference. The Uniform Building Code is used as a reference for existing structures. Not only was the SMSC the first tribe in the state to have its own building code and inspection program, but it is also one of the few nationwide that have its own adopted code and program. The SMSC also has a Fire Code, a Zoning Code, and erosion control requirements which are enforced on the reservation. These programs ensure high quality residential and commercial construction that provides a safe and comfortable environment for our members and guests.
Chapter 3    Caring for Tribal Members

Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store #1 was remodeled inside and out in 2009.

Children and Family Services

This SMSC department provides general support related to parenting for Community members and Native Americans living in Scott County. Services include general information, family advocacy, referrals, case management, parenting education, support groups, home visits, prenatal and new baby information packets, a safety seat loaner program, emergency support, activities, a holiday donation program, and more.

A Conservator of Person position was created in 2010 to help Community members with medical, legal, health, mental health, and other important issues, such as chemical dependency and alcoholism treatment.

Mdewakanton Wozupi (Garden)

Mdewakanton Wozupi, an organic garden and orchard, was planted in the spring of 2010 as a project of the SMSC Health and Wellness Department and the SMSC Department of Land and Natural Resources. It is planted and maintained by staff, Community members, and volunteers. Its bounty is offered for sale during a small Farmer's Market as well as at Mazopiya, the SMSC's natural food market. Tribal members and employees have the opportunity to participate in Tribally Supported Agriculture (TSA) by purchasing shares in the garden in exchange for 18 weeks of produce, classes, and special events.

Children from Playworks Pod 5 and the Playworks School Age and PreKindergarten program have small gardens at Mdewakanton Wozupi where they plant, weed, and harvest as well as sample the fruits of their labor.

Financial Services

Starting in 2007, the SMSC began offering a Conservator of Estate Program for Community members who desire assistance with their financial matters. The department has now grown to four individuals within the Finance Department and is housed on the second floor of the Community Center. These staff members help Community members and their families with financial issues to develop a budget, pay bills, deal with creditors, and plan for the future.
**Home Loans**  
Because of the unique conditions applicable to building a home on trust land, home loans are available for Community members for on-reservation houses.

**South Metro Federal Credit Union**  
Though not an SMSC enterprise, South Metro Federal Credit Union has its roots deep within the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Started by an initial capital contribution from the SMSC in 1993, South Metro leases space on the reservation in a LEED-certified building constructed by the SMSC. South Metro Federal Credit Union is a community-chartered, federal credit union, providing a wide range of financial products and services for everyone living, working, worshipping, or attending school in Scott County, Minnesota.

**Community Events**  
To foster community and continue important cultural traditions, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community holds events throughout the year. On the third weekend of August the Annual Contest Wacipi (Pow Wow) brings together hundreds of dancers, a dozen invited drum groups, friends, relatives, guests, and the general public to celebrate American Indian culture. The day before the Wacipi, the SMSC holds a dance exhibition in the Rotunda at the Mall of America with dancers, drum groups, and a Master of Ceremony who educates the crowd about the dance styles. In conjunction with the dance exhibition, a special Veterans Program began in 2009 to honor and thank veterans of all races for their military service. Thousands of visitors are introduced to the Dakota culture at these events each year.

Each May a Memorial Day Ceremony honors those who have served their country in the Armed Services and Community members who have passed away. A Mother Daughter Banquet honors and celebrates the relationships between women in the Community. Playworks Pod 5 graduation acknowledges the completion of pre-school and the beginning of a new phase in the lives of the young graduates as they prepare to enter kindergarten. A Graduation Banquet each June honors Community members with a dinner and a satin star quilt in recognition of their graduation from high school, college, or technical school.

The Kinship Dinner held each November honors families of Playworks children by bringing them together for a meal and a performance by the children. Special events are also held such as a celebration November 14, 2009, of 40 years as a Community (federally recognized tribe) and the dedication of new enterprises such as Mazopiya in August 2011.

**Oicimani Media Center**  
Oicimani Media Center, the Community’s library, has more than 10,409 items in its collection, which is mostly dedicated to Native American materials. The collection includes books on the Dakota, history, biography, geography, government, sociology, anthropology, religion, science, health, literature (fiction, poetry, drama, and journals), art, music, dance, arts and crafts, and education (including curricula). There is also a juvenile section and an extensive audio/video section. Indian newspapers and magazines are also available. The library is open to tribal members and staff on a drop-in basis as well as researchers and educators by appointment only.

**Community Member Employment and Training Program (CmETP)**  
Adult Community members are invited to learn more about the SMSC and its enterprises through the SMSC CmETP. Based on their personal interest and skills, Community members are placed in staff positions within the various departments of the tribal government and Community enterprises. Dozens of Community members have participating in the CmETP since it started, working in many SMSC departments and enterprises.
Cultural Resources
Cultural Preservation

To honor our ancestors and preserve our past for this generation and seven generations to come, the SMSC engages in a variety of cultural activities. Here are examples from 2008-2011, with many having been in place for generations.

Our annual Wacipi, Young Native Pride, and the presence of dancers and the drum at important Community events are done to demonstrate our traditional life-ways, to tell our stories, and to instill a sense of self and self-worth.

Observing traditional funeral practices, name giving ceremonies, and our Memorial Day Ceremony are examples of efforts to follow traditional protocols.

Culture Camp immerses Community youth in learning the historical ways of being Indian and teaches the ways we are persevering as a sovereign nation in this modern world.

The Community is working to preserve cultural sites like Shakopee Memorial Park and the Mdewakanton burial mounds located within the park.

We are actively involved in the protection of Maka Yusota, a federally designated and protected Traditional Cultural Property, located on Eagle Creek in Savage, Minnesota.

The Dakota Language is heard in welcomes to Community events and in prayers and ceremonies. It is also heard in conversations between tribal elders and younger members anxious to learn. Revitalizing our first language is a priority.

The SMSC is involved in activities related to the Native American Graves Protection Act and the Historic Preservation Act.

A traditional sweat lodge is maintained on tribal lands.

A new Records Department was created to archive tribal documents and records.

Galleries featuring culturally themed displays are located in the Community Center and in the Mystic Lake hotel lobby area.

Members of the SMSC Education Department speak to students in area classrooms, sharing knowledge about the culture and traditions of our tribe.
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The SMSC utilizes its financial resources from gaming and non-gaming enterprises to pay for the internal infrastructure of the Tribe, including but not limited to roads, water and sewer systems, emergency services, and essential services to its Tribal members in education, health, and welfare. Over the four year period, the SMSC spent millions on infrastructure development and construction.

RESERVATION ROADS

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has paid more than $16.7 million for road construction projects on the reservation since 1996. The SMSC built not only Dakotah Parkway which runs between County Roads 42 and 83, but also streets within its housing areas. The SMSC maintains all streets, trails, and sidewalks on the reservation. More than $14.5 million was spent during the four year period for construction projects related to roads on the reservation.

In 2010 construction of a permanent roundabout was completed at the intersection of Dakotah Parkway and Mystic Lake Drive. A pedestrian bridge was built over wetlands to allow easy access for team members needing to walk from a dedicated parking lot to their place of employment. Dakotah Parkway was re-routed, and several parking lots were constructed as well. Roads were also built in the East Village subdivision.
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WATER

The SMSC takes pride in providing its members, employees, and visitors with a plentiful and safe supply of water. Community drinking water is monitored very closely because water is a very valuable resource. The Community’s drinking water system is comprised of two water treatment facilities, two reverse osmosis facilities, three water towers, (including a one million gallon water tower), water mains, and four production wells.

Water is pumped from the ground via the wells, filtered, treated, softened through the RO process, and then piped to the tower for storage before use at Community member homes and tribal enterprises.

During the period 2008-2011, the SMSC spent $6.3 million on water projects on the reservation. Reverse Osmosis Facilities were built in 2009 and 2010 on Sioux Trail and on McKenna Road so that water softeners were no longer needed by residents and enterprises. Water softeners add salt and other minerals to the waste water which can harm wildlife and impact surface water quality. The RO Facilities resulted in cleaner water and less salt contamination downstream.

In March 2010 a new well was dug at the rear of the Little Six Casino parking lot to provide redundancy for the existing wells. The water main in front of Mystic Lake Casino Hotel was replaced in 2011. Funds were also expended for operations, maintenance, and repair of the existing facilities.

WASTEWATER/SEWER

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community operates a sanitary Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) on trust lands to treat wastewater from residences and Community enterprises located south of County Road 42. This facility, which collects and treats all of the wastewater from the Sioux Trail Water System, began operations on August 18, 2006. The WRF discharges effluent (treated water flowing out of a facility) through wetlands within the Community. From there it flows into a large irrigation pond at the golf course. Rigorous standards for effluent water quality continue to be met. Biosolids produced by the facility are used for compost.

A project to extend sanitary sewer lines to the northern residential areas near McKenna Road to connect with the Water Reclamation Facility was implemented in 2011. When complete, virtually all residences on the reservation will be connected to the WRF.

More than $8.56 million was spent on wastewater and sewer construction projects from 2008-2011. Two new Xenon filters were also installed at the WRF in preparation for the capacity required due to the addition of the RO at the Water Bottling Facility and adding the Northern Residential area to the WRF. A major project was the construction of a new lift station in 2011 to handle wastewater from Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. Improvements to the storm sewer at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel were also made.

A pilot study of an underground discharge system using Deep Subsurface Injection and Recharge DSIR methodology began in May 2009, researching the possibility of injecting highly treated effluent into the groundwater to recharge the aquifer. An Advisory Group of staff from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Department of health, the Metropolitan Council, the SMSC, the City of Prior Lake, Shakopee, and Scott County meet periodically to discuss the project. Currently the focus is on removing what are termed emerging contaminants from the effluent. Emerging contaminants include pharmaceuticals, perfumes, plasticizers and estrogenic compounds. If this project ultimately goes forward and is successful in injecting reclaimed wastewater into the groundwater, it would be the first time this technology has been used in the Midwest. Limited reuse of highly treated effluent is already underway in Orange County, California, and in Arizona.
Mdewakanton Emergency Services

Mdewakanton Emergency Services is a full-time, professional fire and ambulance department staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As an exercise of governmental authority, Mdewakanton Emergency Services serves Community members, guests of the Community, and residents of nearby communities by request through mutual aid agreements. Each month the department responds to an average of 140 calls with 60 medical transports.

One notable mutual aid response was on April 15, 2009, to an out of control grass fire at Dean’s Lake in Shakopee, Minnesota. Along with seven area fire departments, 21 SMSC staff members helped fight the fire which necessitated the evacuations of nearby neighborhoods and the Dean’s Lake Nature Preserve. The fire burned 144 acres of marsh surrounding Dean’s Lake near Highway 169. SMSC staff joined firefighters from Shakopee, Savage, Prior Lake, Chaska, Jordan, Eden Prairie, and Chanhassen, as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Fish and Wildlife, the Scott County Sheriff’s Department, Allina, and Shakopee Police Department who all responded to the call.

On the reservation, Mdewakanton Emergency Services handled fires at the Water Reclamation Facility (2009), the firing range at Dakotah! Sport and Fitness (2008), and Mystic Lake Casino Hotel (2011) with the assistance of area departments.

Several times a year Mdewakanton Emergency Services conducts trainings to enhance readiness. During mock crashes held each spring at area high schools, staff from Mdewakanton Emergency Services participate along with the Minnesota State Patrol, Shakopee or Prior Lake Police and Fire Departments, Allina, and North Memorial Medical Center’s Air Care helicopter.

In 2008 the Saint Paul Fire Department traveled to the Community to conduct a joint training at the burning of an SMSC-owned structure. Together the two departments worked on various burn scenarios, which were taped by a film crew for use in training videos. The SMSC has also trained with the Tri-City Response (SWAT) Team and the Scott County Sheriff’s Reserve.

Mdewakanton Emergency Services also provides customized training for police and fire departments, including EMT, First Responder, Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and CPR training for lay persons and health professionals. MES provided EMT and First Responder Training for the White Earth Reservation in both 2010 and 2011.

License Plate Recognition

In 2010, the SMSC Gaming Enterprise implemented a new License Plate Recognition System, interfacing with and adding exceptional abilities to the well-respected surveillance system active in the casinos and at SMSC non-gaming enterprises. The world-class nature of the LPR has impressed local and state law enforcement officials with its ability to scan license plates and identify vehicle owners. The system has proven effective in solving crimes, bringing down a burglary ring in Prior Lake for example, and is instrumental in improving safety for casino guests and area residents.

Police Liaison Officer

Back in 1997 the City of Prior Lake and the SMSC reached an agreement, the first of its kind in the nation, where the SMSC voluntarily agreed to annually fund a City of Prior Lake police officer position. Now housed at the SMSC’s Mdewakanton Emergency Services Department, the Police Liaison Officer serves residents of both the SMSC and the City of Prior Lake. The SMSC makes a voluntary contribution of $380,000 each year to the City of Prior Lake for these police services and other services.

Public Works Department

During the past four years, the SMSC Public Works Department has continued to maintain and operate the Community’s water and wastewater systems, parks, all Community streets and parking lots, as well as organized special events such as presenting fireworks on the 4th of July and at the annual Wacipi (Pow Wow). In addition to routine maintenance of water and wastewater systems, the department is responsible for street sweeping, plowing, mowing, clean up weeks, hydrant flushes, the trail system, and maintenance of four parks on the reservation: Norman Crooks Memorial Park, Big Eagle Village Park, West Woodland Trail Park, and East Village Park.

Other Infrastructure Projects

Other infrastructure development projects undertaken in recent years include the remodeling of several areas inside the SMSC Community Center, the installation of a new roof on the Community Center, new signage on roads entering the SMSC, additional upgrades to the Gaming Enterprise, and fiber optics and information technology projects.
MOBILE UNIT

The Mobile Unit is a combined project of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community’s Health Department and Mdewakanton Emergency Services. It is both a mobile medical clinic, used to provide health screenings, mammograms, prevention and educational activities, and treatment services, and a mobile incident command center.

MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC

A total of 3,382 mammograms have been performed aboard the Mobile Unit since operations began in 2007. Dental services were added to the Mobile Clinic in November 2008 with additional services added in 2009. In addition, 119 well child/lead health screenings, dental services for 309 patients, 165 vision exams, and diabetes management clinics for 65 patients have been held since the Mobile Unit became operational. The Mobile Unit has provided services at reservations across the state, inner city health and homeless clinics, community events, marathons, triathlons, walk/runs, and bicycling events.

The Mobile Unit also provides services to SMSC Community members, Native Americans who live in Scott County, and employees during monthly health screening events. Since 2009 the SMSC has used the Mobile Unit in collaboration with Scott County to provide free health services to uninsured and underinsured county residents at three locations. Hundreds of local residents have received services through this initiative.

Over the past four years, the Mobile Unit has provided services at the following locations: Indian Health Board, the Shakopee Women’s Prison, the Native American Community Clinic, United Family Clinic, Susan G. Komen event in Brainerd, Homeless Connect Program at the Minneapolis Convention Center, St. Paul Public Health, Dodge Center, CAIR Clinic, Fremont Clinic System’s Sheridan Clinic, American Indian Health Fair, Riverwood Foundation, and the Brainerd Dispatch Think Pink Campaign.

Tribal communities visited by the SMSC Mobile Unit include Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Upper Sioux Community, Lower Sioux Indian Community, Red Lake Nation, Grand Portage Band of Chippewa Indians, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

INCIDENT COMMAND

In June 2010 the SMSC Mobile Unit and staff spent 10 days in Wadena, Minnesota, assisting with the recovery efforts from a tornado which devastated the area and caused millions of dollars in damages.

On Saturday June 4, 2011, the SMSC Mobile Unit deployed to Minnehaha Park to provide support for the Tour de Cure fundraising and awareness event held by the American Diabetes Association.

On June 5, 2011, the SMSC Mobile Unit provided services at the Minneapolis Half-Marathon. Mdewakanton Emergency Services staff provided first aid and advanced life support services as needed at seven posts along the race and in the medical tent.

Other Incident Command deployments include the Scott County Fair, Twin Cities Marathon, Stillwater Marathon, Minneapolis Marathon, Lower Sioux Pow Wow, Lakefront Blues and Jazz Festival, the St Paul Fire Department Fire Station 1 grand opening, Twin Cities Marathon, and American Diabetes Association Walk for the Cure.

A board the Mobile Unit a dentist and hygienist provide dental care on deployments, helping to alleviate long waits at local Indian Health Service and other dental care providers due to too many patients and not enough providers.
ENTERPRISES AS ECONOMIC ENGINE SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

ENTERPRISES

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has developed enterprises which provide services not only to community members but also to the larger community. These enterprises generate revenues to support services for members as well as tribal government programs such as charitable giving, infrastructure, education, and health.

A Water Bottling Facility opened in July 2008 to provide water for retail sale and for tribal and enterprise use.
SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY GAMING ENTERPRISE

Mystic Lake Casino Hotel and Little Six Casino make up the SMSC Gaming Enterprise. Mystic Lake Casino, which opened in 1992, has undergone significant improvements and development from 2008 through 2011. Upgrades and maintenance to the facility include a new vendor entrance; a new team member cafeteria - the Mystic Express; a remodel of Hotel Towers 1, 2, and the suites; and a warehouse/office project. A casino interior remodel included the Promenade restaurants, Sweet Temptation, back of the house operational areas, and gaming areas featuring a High Limit Table Games area, High Limit Slots, Blackjack Pit, four slot sections, main entrance, Promenade stage, Club Mystic, coat check, restrooms, Buffet entrance, carpeting, and signage. The most prominent feature added to the casino floor is an undulating ceiling and Soffit lighting feature called “The River” which twists and turns throughout the casino to give a cohesive, dramatic look. Made up of more than 30,000 electronic LED lights, it can produce any shade on the color wheel and is changed to meet casino needs.

The Community’s newest restaurant opened August 18, 2010, at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. Il Premio, an Italian bistro, features upscale Italian food and steak. Il Premio, pronounced [eel-PRAY-me-oh], means “the jackpot” in Italian.

Entertainment continues to be a big draw with artists of yesterday and today performing. In May 2010 Mystic experienced their fastest concert sell out ever when the Adam Lambert concert sold out in less than one minute. In July 2010 Mystic hosted a free outdoor concert with The Oak Ridge Boys, attracting nearly 10,000 guests. In both July 2010 and 2011 Mystic Lake Casino Hotel and the SMSC were the presenting sponsor of the Lakefront Jazz and Blues Festival in Prior Lake.

In the fall of 2010, at the direction of Chairman Stanley R. Crooks, construction began on an outdoor amphitheater next to Mystic Lake Casino. The site, which opened July 3, 2011, hosts audiences of up to 8,350. Concerts were held throughout the summer in the amphitheater to the delight of crowds.

The new Little Six Casino opened in late 2007 with great fanfare. Guest acceptance has been exceptionally strong since opening despite the economic challenges in recent years.

In 2010 the SMSC Gaming Enterprise was named one of the Star Tribune’s Top Workplaces in the Twin Cities area based on a survey of employees. Then in 2011, it was similarly honored as a Top Workplace in the state of Minnesota.

Other Gaming Enterprise highlights include its Cosmic Bingo theme being replicated in more than 16 bingo halls in 11 different states and three different countries. Mystic Lake has also been nominated twice for the Casino of the Year award by the Academy of Country Music.
Mystic Lake Store at the Mall of America

The SMSC is the owner of the Mystic Lake Store at Mall of America which distributes information about Indian gaming and Minnesota’s Indian tribes, books hotel rooms, puts guests on free shuttles to and from Mystic Lake, sells gift cards and holiday gift packages, and sells tickets to events. One of the biggest changes in the past four years has been an increase in the number of daily shuttle departures from the MOA to the SMSC Gaming Enterprise. In 2008 shuttle departures increased from five shuttles per day during the summer months and weekends (and two shuttles per day during the week) to seven shuttles out and seven shuttles back every day of the year. The rider count has more than doubled, and in 2011 the average was 160 passengers a day. More than 130,000 visitors have been put on buses from the Mall of America to Mystic Lake during the four year period.

Mystic Lake concert ticket sales and Ticketmaster sales remain a big part of the store. A second ticket terminal was added to help expedite tickets sales, particularly on busy “On-Sale” days. Over the past four years, the store had more than $1.2 million in ticket sales.

The Mystic Lake Store at Mall of America has enjoyed four years since its remodel was completed at the end of 2007. SMSC displays rotate and have included displays about Pow Wows, the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza at the University of Minnesota, and the SMSC’s environmental initiatives.

Mazopiya

In November 2010 Mazopiya, a natural food market, opened as the Community’s newest enterprise. A full service natural food store, Mazopiya features a large variety of organic items, dairy products, frozen foods, health and wellness products, and bulk foods. Open to the public daily, Mazopiya also offers a deli with daily hot and cold specials, a salad and soup bar, and beverage bar. Mazopiya also features fresh produce from Mdewakanton Wozupi, the tribe’s organic garden, and a Farmer’s Market during the summer and early fall.

The mission of Mazopiya is to support the health and wellbeing of Community members as well as the larger community. As a part of that mission, Mazopiya offers a wide variety of free classes every month in the Community Room located at Mazopiya, which is outfitted with a demonstration kitchen.

The Mazopiya building was constructed in accord with standards set by the United States Green Building Council. An application for LEED certification for the Mazopiya building was submitted in mid-2011.

Dakotah! Sport and Fitness

Thousands of local residents enjoy increased good health by training at Dakotah!’s 305,331 square foot facility which includes a double gymnasium, an aquatic center, an indoor track, a rock climbing wall, a fitness floor, group fitness facilities, a cycling studio, circuit training equipment, and more than 10,000 pounds in free weights. Dakotah! also sponsors a 5K Turkey Trot, an indoor triathlon, and the DSF Lakefront Days Triathlon.

On December 19, 2008, local dignitaries and residents gathered along with SMSC Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks, and SMSC Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson to dedicate the new Dakotah! Ice Center, adding a second sheet of ice to the facility. Then-Mayor of Prior Lake Jack Haugen talked about how the facility is of benefit to the local area and promotes good will and understanding between the SMSC and local residents.
Dakotah! Ice Center with its two sheets of ice hosts youth hockey tournaments, junior hockey try-out camps, high school sectional playoffs, adult hockey tournaments, and is the home ice for Prior Lake High School hockey teams and the Prior Lake Savage Hockey Association.

The Dakotah! Ice Center was honored with the Eagle Award at the Associated Builders and Contractors Excellence in Construction Awards for Minnesota as well as at the National Convention in 2010.

**Dakotah Meadows RV Park**

Dakotah Meadows RV Park and Campground has 122 paved RV sites with electric, water, and sewer hook ups. Dakotah Meadows also has six tipis painted with Dakota designs available for overnight rental during the warmer months. The campground features showers, laundry facilities, a pavilion for group gatherings, picnic tables, barbeque grills, a storm shelter, free shuttle service to Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, a fuel center, and a Self-Serve RV Wash.

**Dakotah Meadows Mini Storage**

Dakotah Meadows Mini Storage features ground level, indoor concrete block units with extra wide driveways as well as open air storage. To better accommodate Community members and customers, a project initiated in 2011 will add 29 heated units, eight unheated units, and 18 outdoor spaces, along with approximately 8,560 square feet of open storage for tribal use. Additional storage units are currently under construction.

**Playworks**

Playworks is a one-of-a-kind, world-class facility for children, open to the general public for Educare, Contract Child Care, Summer Camp, Birthday Parties, PW’s Playtime (hourly drop-off care), Family Play, and Group Trips. Offering a multicultural program, Playworks teachers honor diversity in their daily curriculum while creating fun, engaging learning and play with the children in their care.

In 2008 Playworks unveiled a remodeled Atrium featuring a new bigger, taller playstructure with an incredible number of twists, turns, webs, bridges, climbs, and slides. An eight-foot square interactive floor gives parents and children an opportunity to play games and dance together. As part of the renovation, the Arcade moved to a different area inside the Atrium and features a variety of interactive movement and ticket redemption games. The remodel to the Playworks building also included updates to lighting, security cameras, fire alarms, and sprinklers.

**Playworks LINK Event Center**

Playworks LINK Event Center is a 9,000 square full-service banquet facility designed with flexible space to accommodate small and large events, banquets, receptions, meetings, and all manner of group gatherings. The LINK accommodates up to 300 guests in classroom or theater style seating. A full-service kitchen provides everything from beverages, appetizers, buffet style meals, and entrees to fabulous desserts. Banquet rooms also function as birthday party rooms.
The Meadows at Mystic Lake

The Meadows at Mystic Lake provides recreational opportunities on one of the best golf courses in the country, offering first class service, a driving range, putting greens, and a clubhouse, restaurant, outdoor patio, and Pro Shop. Holes are named after animals and themes important to the Dakota people, and prairie plantings make up the rough. The importance of caring for the environment is typified in a tree inventory in place to track the health of each large tree on the golf course. In addition, water conservation practices are utilized with the use of reclaimed water for irrigation.

Two holes have been redesigned in recent years to add to the challenge of the course. Hole #3 “Prairie” debuted in 2011 with an island green in the midst of a water feature and framed by a basswood tree just left of the green. One of the more dramatic holes on the course, a redesigned Hole #7 “Eagle,” debuted in 2009 featuring a dramatic waterfall as a backdrop to its left side and a cascading stream spilling into a pond in front of the green, further defined by a limestone rock wall. In 2011 a 40-foot tall netting system was installed to allow golfers to use all club types on the driving range.

The Meadows at Mystic Lake is highly regarded, having been selected as the eleventh “Best Casino Golf Course in the Country” and one of the “Best Courses You Can Play” by Golfweek magazine in 2010. It has also won Reader’s Choice Awards for “Best Casino Golf Course” from Midwest Gaming & Travel magazine for four years and ranked as one of the top new golf courses in the country by Golf Digest in their January 2007 issue.

Water Bottling Facility

In July 2008 the SMSC opened a water bottling facility on the reservation. Water is bottled under several labels including SMSC labels and labels for outside companies.

A blow molder is used to create plastic bottles in various sizes on site. Automated systems rinse, fill, label, and cap the various sized water bottles before packing them into cases and shrink wrapping them for delivery. The first major production run was for 5,000 cases of 12-ounce bottles for the annual SMSC Wacipi in 2008.

More than 50 water coolers are now in operation throughout the SMSC gaming and tribal government enterprises. A pilot program for Community member home delivery began in January 2010. A Vapor Compression Distiller, which produces 800 gallons of distilled water per day, was added in 2011 to allow for the bottling of distilled water for the SMSC Gaming Enterprise and for retail sale at the Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores. Custom label bottling was added in 2011 for organizations such as high school sports team booster clubs and special events.

Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores

The SMSC owns and operates two Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores on County Road 83 in Prior Lake. SDCS #1 is in the Dakota Mall, located across the street from Mystic Lake Casino Hotel while SDCS #2 is about ¾ mile north at 14160 Wilds Path NW.

A remodel of both store interiors took place in 2008 and 2009. Cashiers’ podiums at both stores were relocated in front of the windows in the center of the stores. A dining area with booths and tables, new offices, and storage areas were added to both stores. A new security system was also installed in SDCS #1, and exterior work included the addition of a new, scrolling LED gas sign and a new fuel pump alignment. At SDCS #2 a new store layout was designed to improve customer flow with the addition of a second set of doors. A new, lighted sign to the back of the building increased visibility from County Roads 42 and 83.

Mazopiya is a full-service natural food market specializing in organic, natural, and local produce, meats, dairy, frozen, and bulk foods. Organic hot and cold deli items, including an organic salad and soup bar, and a coffee, smoothie, and juice bar can be enjoyed on the outdoor patio during nice weather.

The two Shakopee Dakota Convenience Stores sell fuel, food, beverages, and convenience items.
The Meadows at Mystic Lake has been named one of the top golf courses in the country.

The Dakotah! Ice Center features a number of environmentally friendly features such as skylights, solar panels, and heated floors in the seating areas using heat generated by the ice making equipment.

Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store #1, which opened February 14, 1994, in the Dakota Mall is open around the clock to serve customers.

A remodeled Atrium at Playworks offers climbs, slides, webs, and bridges for children to play and have fun while improving their large motor skills.

The Water Bottling Facility bottles water under several labels. They also produce their own bottles using a blow molder.
The Dakota way is to plan for the Seventh Generation to make sure that resources will be available in the future to sustain life for seven generations to come. Conserving and protecting the earth today ensures that there will be food, trees, natural areas, traditional wild foods and medicines, cultural resources, and open spaces for future generations to not only survive but also to thrive. Ina Maka is the Dakota expression for “Mother Earth.” This indicates a kinship relationship between the Dakota and the earth; Dakota people are morally obligated to take care of the earth, just as they would their mother.
Caring for Ina Maka (Mother Earth)

The SMSC government is responsible for the care of its people, land, and resources. Conservation efforts are a response to subsistence needs, cultural imperatives, and a desire for self-sufficiency. Because of the leadership and guidance of the SMSC Business Council, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has emerged as a leader in water, energy, and land conservation. As a steward of the earth, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is dedicated to protecting and preserving the earth’s environment. Consciously choosing sustainable options for resource needs is an exercise of sovereignty. Sustainable options not only ensure future resources but also fuel self-sufficiency. The success of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community efforts has been evident in the restoration of prairies and wetlands, improved water quality, increasing faunal diversity, increased availability of culturally important plants, and sovereignty associated with wastewater treatment and energy production.

Prescribed burns are a tool used by trained staff to manage prairies by reducing invasive species, replicating natural conditions, and encouraging native species.
PRAIRIE RESTORATION
Within Scott County where the SMSC is located, agricultural development has been the single largest source of local habitat removal. Farmers and land developers have plowed under the entire original prairie in the county and cut down more than 90% of its forests.

In 2008 with guidance from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the University of Minnesota, the SMSC worked to convert former farmland to native prairie. In total, 500 acres of former farmlands have been converted to native prairie, and 35 acres have been restored to natural wetlands. The SMSC used standard restoration techniques to return these lands back to their pre-European settlement status.

Wetland restoration is a complex process that involves filling and draining to retain the wetlands characteristic soil and hydrology, allowing natural functions and vital ecosystem to be reclaimed. Restoring lost wetlands to their natural state is essential to the health of America’s watershed which provides water for drinking and other uses.

The SMSC is exploring the suitability of using diverse prairie grasses as a source of energy for use in the Community’s joint venture Koda Energy. Various seed mixes are being tested using half a dozen grasses and three dozen flower species which are native to this area.

PRESCRIBED BURNS
Prescribed burns are held on reservation lands each spring after the snow melts and each fall when top foliage has turned brown. Burns are conducted as a prairie management tool to help reduce invasive species, replicate natural conditions, and encourage native species growth. A secondary benefit is preventing uncontrolled fires which can damage homes and businesses. Prescribed burns help rejuvenate native prairie grasses and forbs which have evolved with frequent fire. These burns replicate natural processes which help some prairie species that need the high temperatures only a fire can provide in order to propagate. Prescribed burns benefit natural communities by removing dead biomass, adding nutrients to the soil, releasing native seed banks, and killing non-native species.

Staff from SMSC Land and Natural Resources and Mdewakanton Emergency Services trained in wildland firefighting conduct the burns along with staff from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. SMSC staff have conducted prescribed burns on tribal lands since 2004. SMSC staff also assist other reservations and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service with prescribed burns.

ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITY
SMSC began composting leaves, grass, brush, straw, and sod years ago on a small scale. The Community greenhouses, organic garden, landscaping departments, and The Meadows at Mystic Lake generate tons of materials suitable for organics recycling. In a unique collaboration, the compost site created by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community was opened for joint use by residents of neighboring Prior Lake in May 2008 at no charge. In exchange the SMSC was able to use the City of Prior Lake’s tree range to grow native trees and shrubs for planting on the reservation.

In 2011 the SMSC opened an Organics Recycling Facility. The 25-acre site accepts commercial food waste, something not common in the local area. The site is open to commercial and residential customers including landscapers, homeowners, and commercial haulers for a small fee based on the weight of the load. The Prior Lake Savage Schools began composting commercial food waste from school cafeterias when school started in the fall of 2011. Local governments also use the site.

Composting provides important environmental benefits. Space for landfills is limited, and any diversion of waste from landfills to other processes like composting prolongs the life of landfills. Furthermore, organic materials generate methane, a greenhouse gas, when they are buried in landfills. Composting organic materials, however, produces a good organic product essential for plant growth.

Potential future developments at the Organics Recycling Facility include the use of anaerobic digestion to draw off the methane gas to generate power which could be sold to the grid or used for the SMSC directly. Bagging compost to sell commercially and biomass processing in the form of chipping wood and drying it for use as fuel for Koda Energy are also possible future developments of the site.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE
When products can no longer be used or upgraded, they are recycled. Recycling efforts reduce costs for landfills. As a steward of the earth, the Community encourages the reduction, reuse, and recycling of materials to lessen solid waste in landfills and has even produced a booklet on the subject.

Community enterprises actively recycle bottles and cans, using 139 recycling containers throughout the tribal government and enterprise properties. In just one year, approximately 200 tons of paper and 14 tons of cans/bottles/glass are collected and recycled. Boxes, newspapers, and office paper are recycled through the use of 112 collection boxes around the reservation.

Tires, metal, appliances, mattresses, soap, and electronics are also recycled. Leftover soap from hotel rooms is collected for a non-profit organization which recycles it for use around the world in refugee camps. Metal and steel from computer equipment is shredded and recycled. Nearly one ton of batteries has been recycled.
Mdewakanton Wozupi

Mdewakanton Wozupi, the SMSC’s organic garden, was initially planted in the spring of 2010. In 2011 the vegetable garden, planted and maintained by staff, Community members, and volunteers, tripled in size. Produce from the garden is offered for sale during weekly Farmer’s Markets held outside of Mazopiya, the SMSC’s natural food market. Mazopiya sells produce from the garden during the growing season. In addition to standard fruits and vegetables, traditional Dakota medicines and foods were also planted in the garden, including the Three Sisters: heirloom squash, beans, and corn.

A three-acre orchard was also planted at the garden site and features a variety of traditional Dakota foods: juneberries, elderberries, wild plum, hazelnuts, black cherry, and hickory. In 2011 conventional fruits were planted including apples, pears, apricots, and cherries along with raspberry and strawberry plants.

A root cellar was constructed in 2010 to store vegetables after harvest for preservation year-round. A greenhouse was installed in the spring of 2011 to extend the growing season.

In 2011 a Tribally Supported Agriculture (TSA) project was initiated for Community members and staff to purchase shares in the garden in exchange for 18 weeks of produce deliveries, cooking classes, and a weekly newsletter.

Importance of Natural Areas

In many areas of the Community, prairie grasses and wildflowers now grow as they once did. These prairies, wetlands, and remnant forests provide wildlife habitat not readily available elsewhere in the county. Maintaining or restoring native plant communities helps to counteract many of the problems created by agriculture and urban land use. Native plant communities filter phosphorous and nitrogen from the soil, improve water quality, reduce or eliminate erosion, provide habitat for nesting birds, increase species diversity, and add an unmatched aesthetic value. They also attract a variety of butterflies and insects, are hunting grounds for many natural predators, and alternatively provide cover for prey. It is the cultural value of the prairies, however, that is most important to the Shakopee Mdewakanton.

The reasons for restoring native plants are varied, but all support tribal sovereignty. One of the first restoration projects involved a portion of Shakopee Memorial Park in Shakopee, Minnesota. The park contains multiple burial mounds, which, like the rest of the park, the City had covered in turf. City staff mowed over the mounds on a weekly basis. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community stepped in and re-established savannah plants, and now maintains this important area in a more culturally appropriate manner.

Surveying Wildlife

SMSC staff conduct surveys to monitor the breeding birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles that call the Community home, yielding much valuable information. Six different types of frogs; 107 types of breeding birds; and 31 species of breeding mammals are some of the fauna which live on Community lands. Five years of data gathered by SMSC biologists will be published in the upcoming Faunal Atlas of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. The atlas will contain illustrations and descriptions of birds and animals that make their home on Community lands. Staff also erect and monitor bluebird and duck houses. One hundred twenty-seven bluebird-nesting boxes provide nesting habitat for tree
swallow, eastern bluebird, house wrens, and black-capped chickadees. Twenty wood duck houses are home to hooded mergansers and wood ducks.

A similar floral survey is currently underway to document all the plant life which flourishes on Community lands. The restored wetlands contain the largest population of the newest addition to Minnesota’s flora, the buttercup pennywort, Hydrocotyle Ranunculoides. Staff biologists conducting fauna and flora surveys of the Community’s land made these discoveries. Data from these surveys indicate that SMSC restoration efforts within the last 10 years have been successful in bringing back several species to reservation lands.

**Honey Program**

More than 3 million honeybees in 50 hives maintained by the SMSC produce 140-300 gallons of excess honey each year. The 40,000-60,000 honeybees in each hive feed on local wildflowers and other plants and flowers in native prairie areas of the Community. Each year staff bottle the honey which is available for sale commercially at several locations.

**Maple Syrup**

The SMSC makes maple syrup using sap from Community trees. Each year staff members place and monitor 300 taps on 200 trees on the two Sugar Bush sites on Community land. The term “Sugar Bush” refers to the entire process of making maple syrup: tapping trees, gathering sap, boiling, and bottling. In a good year, about 400 gallons of finished, filtered, and bottled syrup are produced. In 2011 a new collection system for sap was introduced which will increase production in future years.

**Natural Foods and Medicines**

The SMSC maintains the natural habitat for wild foods found on the reservation. Morel mushrooms, puffball mushrooms, blackberries, raspberries, chokecherries, wild plums, currants, and cattails grow abundantly. Plum trees and chokeberry bushes, cultivated species of two traditional Dakota foods, have also been planted in areas of the Community including the orchard at Mdewakanton Wozupi and native prairies. Sage, ceremonial tobacco, sweet grass, and more have also been planted.

**Educational Activities**

SMSC staff conduct a number of environmental educational activities throughout the year. The Community honors the earth with a weeklong celebration of Earth Day each year, which includes a variety of activities. Staff members also work with children from Playworks Summer Camp each year to teach conservation and other environmental educational principles. Children from the SMSC Education Department and Playworks help plant and maintain Mdewakanton Wozupi.

**The Meadows at Mystic Lake**

The SMSC practices environmental stewardship not just in its undeveloped areas but also in its enterprises. The Meadows at Mystic Lake contains more than six acres of prairie and 18 different species of native plants. Native prairie plantings fill “the rough” with acres of traditional grasses and wildflowers. More than 500 acres of wetlands adjacent to the course provide habitat for wildlife. An inventory is kept of the 2,200 major trees on the golf course and other areas of the reservation to better manage the health and well-being of each tree.
COMMITMENT TO WATER RESOURCES FOR SELF-SUSTAINABILITY

Lakes and wetlands were historically an important source of food and resources for Dakota people. Today, water on tribal lands provides community members with a link to their cultural heritage. The community’s commitment to its water resources is evident in ordinances, water supply treatment, and water quality and quantity monitoring.

A floral survey is currently underway to document all the plant life which flourishes on Community lands.
Rain Gardens
Bioretention areas, also called rain gardens, collect and infiltrate rainwater and snow melt that fall on impervious surfaces, such as parking lots and streets. Swales direct water to areas which contain deep-rooted plants and trees that can withstand being inundated with water for a few days and can also go without water during drought conditions. Rain gardens contain a porous soil mix and are planted with native grasses and forbs that flourish in a cycle of wet and dry conditions and help to infiltrate water through their deep root systems. In the past four years rain gardens were constructed near the entrance of the Dakotah! Ice Center as well as outside the Fire Station to capture, treat, and infiltrate runoff from the rooftops and impervious surfaces.

Green Roofs
During the design phase of the SMSC’s Water Reclamation Facility, the SMSC found that it did not have available land to accommodate the necessary size of the facility and sufficient storm water ponding to handle the project’s runoff. So an innovative solution was sought, resulting in a 30,200 square foot, vegetated roof installed in 2006. A second green roof was later installed in 2008 atop the Dakotah! Ice Center, resulting in the SMSC having two of the largest green roofs in the Midwest.

Vegetated green roofs treat storm water and reduce land impacts, erosion, and pollution by dispersing significant amounts of water back into the atmosphere through evaporation and transpiration. Protection from ultraviolet radiation results in an extended roof life from about 12 years for a typical roof to 50 years for a green roof. Temperature management is simplified in a building which has a green roof because it reduces temperature fluctuations inside the facility. By efficiently managing heating and cooling, energy usage, and, therefore, cost is reduced. In addition, green roofs host thousands of plants which have become habitat for pollinators, grasshoppers, spiders, and other insects.

Dakotah! Ice Center’s green roof allows for the absorption and filtering of about 580,000 gallons of storm water per year while the green roof on the Water Reclamation Facility treats about 520,000 gallons per year.

Perivious Parking Lot
Approximately 17,000 square feet of pervious pavement were installed in 2009 outside the Shakopee Mdewakanton Community Center to increase the quality of the storm and melt water and decrease the quantity of storm water going into the adjacent wetland. The pervious (or permeable) pavement uses a paste-like substance to bind particles of aggregate (gravel/stone) together and allow for the transmission of water through the pavement to the ground beneath it. The use of pervious pavement recharges groundwater and the aquifer while reducing runoff. Pervious pavements absorb less heat thus reducing the solar island effect common to urban areas. Safety is also improved by the elimination of ponding, the effects of hydroplaning, water refreeze, and glare at night.

Reverse Osmosis
In 2010 the Community water supply system added a second reverse osmosis system as part of its water treatment for the Northern Residential area. This system reduced the need for residential and enterprise water softening. In turn, this reduced the amount of salt put into the environment through water softeners. Reducing salt output benefits the Community’s resources and those downstream.
STORM WATER TREATMENT
The Community’s preferred treatment methods for storm water discharges are those that most closely approximate the natural drainage system. This has resulted in created distributed ponds, vegetated swales, and created wetland areas. The SMSC has also adopted novel storm water approaches, with two vegetated green roofs and several rain gardens.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING
The SMSC Land and Natural Resources Department has a long-term water quality and quantity monitoring program in various lakes, streams, and wetlands on and near the Community as well as the Maka Yusota (Boiling Springs) Dakota Traditional Cultural Property.

Long term monitoring of surface water bodies over time helps determine if there are human-made pollution problems in which best management practices can be applied. In response to identified problems and implemented solutions, the Community has documented improvement of local surface water quality. This improvement can be attributed to natural methods of storm water treatment, land restoration projects, and a reduction in the use of salt associated with snow removal.

A hydrodynamic device and three bioretention areas were retrofitted in the Big Eagles Water Quality Improvement Project, an urban and commercial site adjacent to a housing area. This was done in order to treat polluted urban runoff containing sediment, excess nutrients, and metals, and provide rate and quantity control before the runoff impacts wetlands, lakes, and streams.

The Community participates, along with other tribes and the state, in water quality discussions on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of contaminants like mercury in Minnesota’s waters. The Community’s values have become part of mutual projects like shared management responsibility for a major storm water channel in Scott County with two local cities and the local watershed district.

Informing others about water quality issues has been important over the years. The Community has hosted salt applicator training courses, a green roof seminar, Playworks summer camp outdoor activities, several environmental plays for kids, and rain garden classes open to the public.

Staff implement the Community’s Wellhead Protection Program to protect the area around the four Community public water supply wells. Erosion control efforts are used to keep sediment from entering tribal water bodies. Residential and commercial plans are reviewed, sites inspected, and development permit applications evaluated.

Water resource staff also maintain a weather station to collect atmospheric data useful in developing water budgets to estimate how much water, both storm water and groundwater, the Community currently has and how much is used.

WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY
The SMSC’s Water Reclamation Facility provides the nearly 24 million gallons of water which are needed annually to irrigate The Meadows at Mystic Lake. Effluent, treated water flowing out of the facility, travels underground to the wetlands west of Dakotah Meadows RV Park. From there it flows into a large irrigation pond at the golf course. Additionally, in the summer about 200 gallons a minute are pumped through a water feature at the Water Reclamation Facility into adjoining wetlands. Effluent is also pumped directly from the WRF to large pumper trucks used to irrigate landscaping in other areas of the reservation. Rigorous standards for effluent water quality continue to be met, exemplified by the quantity of minnows which flourish in the wetlands throughout the year where the effluent is discharged, a sign of the purity of the water.

In 2011 an irrigation system was installed at Mystic Lake Casino to use effluent from the Water Reclamation Facility for landscaping via the pond at the golf course. This eliminated the use of drinking water for that purpose, reserving the high quality water for human consumption.
OTHER NOTABLE WATER RELATED PROJECTS 2008-2011

- The Environmental Protection Agency requested the SMSC monitor three water bodies continuously until 2014 as part of a national study. The results of this study have already shown several positive trends in water quality for these three SMSC water bodies.

- The water quality assessment report prepared by staff describes the results from the SMSC water quality sampling program carried out during the years 1999-2009. The objective of the program is to develop relationships between land use and water quality conditions and to mitigate water quality concerns.

- The Winter Salt Management Plan has proven successful at reducing salt loading of water bodies and provided measurable improvement while providing safe passage for vehicles and pedestrians.

- A Ground Water Management Plan was developed that addresses ground water related resources that build upon the Wellhead Protection Plan to extend ground water protection measures to the entire SMSC.

- In 2011 low-flow toilets and motion activated light switches were installed in bathrooms in the SMSC Community Center and West Wing to conserve water and electricity.
Energy Solutions for Self-Sustainability

Like many governments across the country, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and its members are faced with growing energy demand, dependence on outside sources for that energy, and known environmental impacts associated with conventional energy sources. In response, the SMSC has embarked on a plan to increase its energy independence through the development of alternative forms of energy. Each of these projects has already been realized and is busy generating energy for the Community.
**Solar Energy**

Mdewakanton Emergency Services’ addition, completed in 2008, incorporates features that take advantage of solar energy. Four skylights with daylight harvesting sensors light a training room and equipment bay, reducing daytime energy usage. Six solar panels on the roof capture energy to heat water for showers and vehicle washing equipment, reducing the use of natural gas.

The Dakotah! Ice Center, which opened in late 2008, has 16 solar panels used to heat water used in ice resurfacing equipment and eight skylights with daylight harvesting sensors. Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays, the arena typically does not have a lot of use. By using skylights and daylight harvesting during these non-peak hours, energy consumption for lighting has been reduced by about 50%.

**Waste Oil Recycling**

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community recycles waste oil on site. The Community’s restaurants generate 19,000 gallons of waste vegetable oil each year. Now, waste vegetable oil is used to produce biodiesel for use in 29 Community owned vehicles as well as to operate other equipment. During the summer months, all of the waste vegetable oil is processed into biodiesel for use in vehicles. During the winter months, the biodiesel is blended with regular diesel fuel to keep it from gelling in the sub-zero temperatures common to a Minnesota winter. Any excess vegetable oil not needed for biodiesel is burned to heat portions of the SMSC Public Works Building, reducing the use of natural gas. Excess motor oil is also burned for heat.

**Wind Turbine**

A 1.5 megawatt wind turbine became operational in the fall of 2009 at the SMSC Pow Wow Grounds. This single turbine supplies enough energy for nearly all of the Community residential energy demand. The center hub stands 262.4 feet tall and is visible for miles around. The three blades are 123 feet in length. Energy created by the turbine is metered as it enters a nearby Minnesota Valley Electrical Cooperative substation that provides electricity to the SMSC and the surrounding area. The generated energy is sold and the profits offset against Community energy costs.

**Waste Heat**

Most heat produced by equipment is considered waste energy and is not utilized. The Community’s Dakotah! Ice Center, which opened in late 2008, captures waste heat from the refrigeration compressors used to cool the rink floor and uses it to heat the floor beneath the arena seats. By only heating the seating area, there is no need to heat the entire arena, thus reducing energy consumption significantly.

**Geothermal Temperature Control**

Two new energy-efficient and water-efficient buildings on the reservation that were completed in 2009 have a geothermal system for temperature control to capture heat and cooling from the ground. Geothermal wells drilled down 180 feet utilize the temperature of the earth, which maintains a constant 52 degrees, to help heat and cool the buildings. One of the two buildings houses the South Metro Federal Credit Union. The other houses Mazopiya, a Natural Food Market, which opened in late 2010.

**Koda Energy**

Koda Energy, a joint partnership of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and Rahr Malting, became fully operational in May 2009 as a combined heat and power plant which burns earth friendly biomass. It is the first biomass facility in the country that burns only natural, non-manmade materials. (Others burn manmade materials along with biomass.) All natural products like oat hulls, barley malt dust, wood chips, and dry grasses are burned and that heat is turned into steam. The steam turns a turbine to make electricity for Koda Energy and is sold on the open market. This renewable energy facility uses materials from within 60 miles of the plant. Koda Energy is highly efficient in terms of heat conversion compared to other types of energy, largely due to its suspension boiler. Excess heat is captured and used by Rahr Malting in their process to create malt.
Sharing is a cultural tradition which is deeply respected within the Shakopee MdeWakanton Sioux Community. When one has been blessed, it is a Dakota tradition to help others. Today, that tradition continues with a charitable giving program which has donated more than $229.5 million to charitable organizations, Native American organizations, education programs, and Indian Tribes over the past 16 years. Over the four year period from fiscal year 2008 through the end of fiscal year 2011, the SMSC donated $127,978,110.
DONATION TOTALS

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Over the same four year period, $253.8 million in loans was extended, with a total loan portfolio of $419.1 million.

TRIBAL GRANTS AND LOANS

Indian Country is filled with unmet needs. Economic development grants and loans provided by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community help stimulate tribal economies and create jobs on reservations where poverty and unemployment are often the norm.

SMSC grants are used by tribes to care for their members by building schools, clinics, sewer systems, tribal offices, housing for their elders, and to build enterprises that provide jobs for their members. Grants to fund economic development and community infrastructure for Indian tribes make up the majority of charitable giving for the SMSC. Over the past four years, $67,417,317 has been donated to 29 different tribes in nine states. In Minnesota, eight tribes have received SMSC funds.

Loans made to other Indian tribes fill an unmet need because the nature of Indian trust land makes it unavailable for use as collateral and complicates lending through traditional banking structures. SMSC loans are used to fund larger projects; funding things like buildings, government centers, and new casinos and infrastructure improvements such as new water systems, sewer systems, and roads. Improved tribal government services fuel self-sufficiency and promote tribal sovereignty, where Indian people manage their own affairs to best meet their own needs.

GRANTS AND LOAN SUCCESS STORIES

Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Since 1998 the SMSC has worked with the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate (Nation) of South Dakota on several economic development projects and has provided loans totaling $108 million for economic development and community infrastructure development projects. The SMSC also has provided $3.5 million in grants to the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate since 2006.

In recent years, the SMSC funded seven district centers in different areas of the vast Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate in South Dakota. The previous buildings, constructed in the early 1970s for occasional use and not renovated since, were in dire need of repair. Now utilized on a daily basis for tribal government functions, the buildings were insufficient to meet the gathering space needs of the local community.

These buildings are now used for after school programs, meals for the elderly, summer meals, and recreational programs for youth, religious services, and wake and funeral services. With the construction of new facilities, the local elders now have a place to work on projects such as quilt making, while the youth have additional space for learning activities including a new computer lab. The centers also provide the space for elderly and youth to spend time together sharing activities and learning from one another.

The Crow Tribe of Montana
The Crow Tribe of Montana received a grant for $1 million and a loan for $2.5 million in 2010 to finance a new casino. The existing gaming facility was in danger of closure by the National Indian Gaming Commission due to its dilapidated condition and safety violations. As such, the NIGC gave the Crow Tribe a limited time frame to secure financing for the new facility. The SMSC was able to step in and provide assistance and the new Apsáalooke Nights Casino opened May 13, 2011.

The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
A $23.5 million SMSC loan to the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa funded development and upgrades to the Isle Vista Casino and Hotel located on the shores of Lake Superior and adjacent to the Apostle Islands in Wisconsin. Upgrades to the existing marina/campground were included in the project which featured slot machines, table games, a bar and restaurant, a snack bar, a 50 room hotel with a swimming pool, and an entertainment and conference center. The complex created 110 construction jobs and added 50 new jobs to an existing casino staff of 90.
**Santee Sioux Nation**

Since 1998 more than $9.3 million in economic development and community improvement grants have gone to the Santee Sioux Nation of Nebraska. SMSC grants have funded numerous tribal programs, including energy assistance; a counseling program; hot, healthy meals for tribal elders; a teen center; upgrades to economic development enterprises; suicide prevention training and activities; repairs and maintenance of the Pow Wow grounds and RV Park; pool repair and maintenance; a Dakota language program; and land purchases.

In 2011 the SMSC awarded the Santee Sioux Nation a loan in the amount of $20 million for economic development to fund construction of a new 25,000-square-foot Ohiya Casino to replace the existing facility. The new Ohiya Casino will have 400 Class II slot machines, bingo, a golf course, clubhouse, convenience store, and hotel.

**Standing Rock Sioux Tribe**

A $30 million loan in 2009 to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North and South Dakota funded continued development of their Prairie Knights Casino & Resort, located near Bismarck, North Dakota. The resort, which opened in 1993, contains a marina on the Missouri River, a small hotel, two restaurants, and an RV Park. With the loan, the casino and hotel underwent construction of a 100-room addition to the hotel doubling its capacity; an indoor pool; 240 underground parking spaces; banquet and convention space; administrative offices; and laundry facilities. Since 2004 the SMSC has provided Standing Rock with grants totaling more than $417,900.

**Native American Organizations**

Across the country, there are organizations developed, managed, and funded primarily by Native American individuals which exist to serve American Indian clients. A deep seeded, historical distrust of federal and state governments, which exists in some reservation communities, led to the development of these organizations. Native American organizations have a common goal of improving living conditions for Indian people. Over the past four years, the SMSC donated more than $3,402,589 to charitable organizations.

**Division of Indian Works**

Over the past four years, the Division of Indian Works in Minneapolis received grants totaling $386,000 from the SMSC for general operating expenses and capital for group homes. Grants have funded treatment support and services, housing services, the Strengthening Family Circles teen parents program, the Phoenix Project for young women, the American Indian Math Project (targeting grades 5-10), the Healing Spirits Program, the Youth Leadership Development program, and the Horizons Unlimited food shelf.

For more than 50 years the Division of Indian Work, in partnership with the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, has offered a variety of services for Native American families. Some of their services include parenting and youth mentorship programs, a food shelf, emergency assistance, a group home for boys, daily summer activities for children, after school tutoring, cultural activities, holiday meal baskets, foster parents’ licensing, and cooking classes.

**Honor the Earth**

An SMSC grant of $250,000 in 2008 went to the organization Honor the Earth, founded by Winona LaDuke, an enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, in northern Minnesota. SMSC funds supported three programs which encourage renewable energy and community food programs. SMSC funds were used to install renewable wind and solar energy systems on the Northern Cheyenne, Navajo, Pine Ridge, and Sisseton-Wahpeton Reservations and at the Little Earth of United Tribes community in Minneapolis. Funds were also used for the White Earth Land Recovery Project (Callaway, Minnesota) to complete the purchase of a 250 kilowatt wind turbine to support the electricity needs of their food processing facility, office, and radio station.

The third program funded was the White Earth Land Recovery Project’s community food program at Pine Point School in Ponsford, Minnesota. SMSC funds were used to upgrade the kitchen for the Farm to School Program which provides daily meals for tribal elders, children, and staff members at the school. Commercial freezers, a walk in cooler, commercial mixer, range stove, a maple syrup evaporator, and refining, packaging, canning, and other equipment were purchased with the SMSC grant. This new equipment streamlined the effectiveness of the food system and increased sales of foods nationally and internationally of the Native Harvest brand of foods which produces teas; buffalo products; corn and hominy; jellies and jams; maple butter, syrup, and candy; fry bread mix; and wild rice.

**Charitable Organizations**

Grants that the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community have made to charitable organizations vary from social service agencies that help people get through the day to medical foundations. Over the past four years, the SMSC donated more than $3,402,589 to charitable organizations.

A matching grant for $1 million went to the Saints Healthcare Foundation of Shakopee, Minnesota, distributed in fiscal years 2010 through 2012 to improve rehabilitation services at St. Gertrude’s Health & Rehabilitation Center. The Saints Foundation raises funds for both St. Francis Regional Medical Center and its sister facility St. Gertrude’s, which provides long-term care, hospice services, assisted living, and rehabilitation for patients recovering from orthopedic surgeries, cancer, and motorcycle and vehicle injuries.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton gift supported construction of a 36,565 square foot addition to the existing St. Gertrude’s. Thirty beds dedicated to rehabilitation were added and existing rooms and physical therapy spaces were remodeled.

In previous years, SMSC grants totaling $705,000 helped fund construction of a new emergency room for St. Francis, a chapel, an outdoor meditation area, and Circle of Life Suites for hospice care at St. Gertrude’s.
Food Programs

Many families are working, but just not making enough to cover housing, health care, child care, and other essentials crucial to taking care of their families. Sadly, Minnesotans go hungry every day. To help, the SMSC supports a number of food shelves and feeding programs.

At Tiospa Zina Tribal School in Sisseton, South Dakota, SMSC funds paid for a summer meals program for children with a $25,000 grant. Second Harvest Heartland in Minnesota used an SMSC grant to support a fundraiser which raised more than $500,000 to support their work of distributing food to food banks.

At Loaves and Fishes, SMSC funds help bring hot meals to nine sites across the Twin Cities. Loaves and Fishes serves more than 346,000 meals annually. When the oven no longer worked at Holy Rosary Church in Minneapolis, one of the Loaves and Fishes sites, the SMSC paid for a new convection oven so that hot meals were once again available to clients. Four nights a week as many as 300 people a night, many of them women and children, depend on the hot meals from this site.

In the past four years, the SMSC has supported other programs that help the hungry including Hunger Solutions, Division of Indian Work, Department of Indian Work, Jordan Area Food Shelf, Deer River Food Shelf, Salvation Army, Little Earth of United Tribes, the American Indian Family Center, and St. Joseph’s Indian School which sends home baskets of food with their students during the holidays.

Education

As the Seventh Generation, youth are charged with the solemn duty to take care of the earth and its inhabitants in the years to come. The SMSC believes in preparing the youth for their roles as leaders and active participants in their communities. Grants to schools and educational programs help fulfill that mission. Over the past four years, the SMSC donated more than $18,917,815 to schools and educational programs.

Coats and School Supplies

School can be tough enough without having to worry about the basic necessities, like having a warm coat on a cold winter day or having a notebook to do work in class. More than $270,000 in grants the past four years provided winter coats, hats, scarves, and mittens as well as school supplies and backpacks for students in the Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools as well as other schools.

Technology

In today’s world, the use of computers and technology is essential to future success. Technology is changing the way teachers prepare and present curriculum and the way children learn. The SMSC has donated more than $129,500 for classroom technology and upgrades from 2008-2011. In Scott County schools receiving these grants include Eagle Creek, Lakeville Area Learning Center, Jordan Elementary School, Shakopee Area Catholic Schools, Red Oak, Belle Plaine’s Chatfield Elementary, New Prague Schools, and St. John the Baptist in Jordan. In other areas grants have gone to Four Directions in Minneapolis, Naytahwaush Community Charter School in northern Minnesota, and the Boys & Girls Club of the Spirit Lake Nation in North Dakota.

Grants have funded SMART boards, iPad Touches, media center computers, Mimio Boards, and other technology. (SMART boards and Mimio Boards are highly interactive applications which use internet and live video streaming capabilities.)
Since fiscal year 2008, the SMSC has donated a total of $14.5 million to the University of Minnesota for endowed scholarships, the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza, and the TCF Bank Stadium. Of that amount, $2.5 million went into an endowment fund which earns interest which the U of M matches for scholarships for American Indian students with $2 million for construction costs of the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza. The remaining $10 million went towards construction of the TCF Bank Stadium.

“This project had the overwhelming support of our members,” said SMSC Chairman Stanley R. Crooks. “The Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza honors all 11 of Minnesota’s federally recognized Indian tribes. It is near the historic, cultural site later named Saint Anthony Falls which collapsed in 1869 and Spirit Island, a place below the falls which no longer exists. This area contained the only true waterfall on the Upper Mississippi River and was spiritually significant to the Dakota people. Supporting the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza at TCF Bank Stadium was an opportunity to support a project close to this historic Dakota site for a permanent Indian interpretive presence.”

The concept of the Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza, developed by the SMSC, the University of Minnesota, and the architects, was an abstraction using the broader themes of land, water, and sky. Eleven glass skymarkers were developed based on the shape of the traditional Dakota tipi. Each 18-foot tall skymarker contains a map with the location of the tribe, the tribal seal, and tribal flag as well as text and a visual image. Each of the 11 skymarkers contains information specific to the history and culture of a particular Minnesota tribe.

To support the recruitment and retention of American Indian students with financial need to the University of Minnesota, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Endowed Scholarship was established in 2008 with the first round of scholarships awarded to thirteen students during the 2009-2010 school year. As a continuing scholarship, students previously selected are eligible for funding in subsequent school years to complete their education. Then additional students are selected for new scholarships each school year. Including the 2011-2012 school year, a total of 60 students have benefited from the SMSC Endowed Scholarship.
AEDs and Mdewakanton Life Program

The Mdewakanton Emergency Services Department administers the Mdewakanton LIFE Program which provides defibrillators to organizations including law enforcement programs, charitable groups, schools, and other organizations. The SMSC has donated more than 714 AEDs since the program began in 2004 and facilitated the low cost purchase of an additional 20 units. From fy2008-fy2011 the SMSC donated 408 AEDs through the Mdewakanton LIFE Program.

At least sixteen lives have been documented as saved by law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel using defibrillators donated by the SMSC's Mdewakanton LIFE Program. Another 40 lives have been saved by Mdewakanton Emergency Services and trained SMSC First Responders using AEDs on the reservation over the past eight years.

Priority is given to American Indian tribes in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, and Wisconsin, first responding agencies, and governmental agencies. AEDs are also donated to agencies and organizations serving more than 50 clients, churches inside Scott County, and non-profit organizations inside the five-state area.

Another Life Saved by AED Donated by Mdewakanton LIFE Program

Cindy Kurtz, 50, of Luverne, Minnesota, is alive today thanks to two shocks to her heart by an Automated External Defibrillator provided by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and CPR started by her husband and son. After Cindy collapsed in her home on September 11, 2010, her husband and son, both trained First Responders, began CPR while awaiting emergency response. Minnesota State Trooper Jeff Stearns, on duty nearby, responded to the 911 call. In his patrol car was an AED donated by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. He was soon joined by Deputy Kyle Kreun who took over CPR from family members.

Officer Stearns applied first one, then a second shock from the AED as directed by the automated unit itself. After receiving the second shock Cindy had a faint heartbeat and began breathing on her own. Her doctors later were amazed at her recovery; saying only 5% of patients recover from the damage that she suffered: two fully blocked main arteries and two arteries that were 50% blocked. Nationwide, the median hospital to discharge survival rate for cardiac arrest patients is only 8%.

The SMSC purchased 217 AEDs over a four year period for placement in Minnesota State Patrol cars. The AED used by State Trooper Stearns was one of the SMSC purchased units. The goal of the program was to equip rural State Patrol cars through a collaboration with the State of Minnesota.

Other Donations

The SMSC donates certificates for free meals and hotel stays for area fundraisers, including organizations raising funds for individuals suffering from medical crises. In fiscal years 2008-2011, the SMSC Gaming Enterprise donated hotel room coupons and meals valued at more than $118,460. More than 17,600 decks of cards from the casinos were also donated to nursing homes, troops serving in Iraq and the Middle East, and veterans’ organizations.

The SMSC also donates excess equipment, furniture, and computers to local organizations and Indian tribes. Over the four year period ending 2011, televisions, exercise equipment, and restaurant furniture were donated. Furniture which once filled six floors of the hotel was donated to organizations serving elders, tribally owned hotels, and social service programs of six different tribes with each tribe receiving an entire floor of furniture.

Playworks children and staff as well as students in the SMSC Education Department and The Learning Edge Home School participate in community service projects to help others each year. Projects have included creating food packets for Feed My Starving Children; assisting with building a house in Prior Lake for Habitat for Humanity; a car wash to raise money to buy groceries for the local CAP Agency; food, toy, and warm clothing drives; visits to elders at a local nursing home; and gifts for needy families during the holidays.
Chapter 6: Economic Impact of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

Tribal governments raise revenues through a variety of means, similar to how states raise revenue through the lottery or cities through property taxes. Income from tribal enterprises is used to provide services and infrastructure to community members and their families and to fund SMSC government operations. The SMSC tribal government constantly seeks ways to direct proceeds from tribal government enterprises, including gaming, back into the reservation and surrounding communities.
The SMSC is a powerful economic influence in the areas of employment, vendor purchases, construction, and voluntary payments to other governments. For example, more than $171.6 million is made in payments to vendors annually for goods and services. In addition, the annual payroll is $154 million for tribal enterprises and the tribal government, and $24.7 million is spent in annual benefits for employees.

Here are more examples of the SMSC’s positive economic influence:

Voluntary Intergovernmental Payments
Federal law stipulates that state and local governments must provide certain services to Indian tribes located within their area of jurisdiction. Even so, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community makes voluntary annual payments to city and county governments to cover the cost of services provided by those local jurisdictions to the tribe. The SMSC has voluntarily paid Scott County and other jurisdictions $14.4 million over the last ten years for services even though this is not required by law. Some of the SMSC payments have funded road projects, park improvements, wastewater and sewer fees, property taxes, transit and SCALE studies, emergency sirens, and police and fire protection.

Each year the SMSC voluntarily pays
- $380,000 to the City of Prior Lake for services
- $280,000 to Scott County for services

Over the past four years (2008-2012), the SMSC made the following intergovernmental payments:
- $1,470,000 to the City of Prior Lake for police and fire services
- $1,050,000 to Scott County for services
- $2,481,803 in property taxes on fee lands
- $123,782 for the SCALE Joint Training Facility
- $265,215 for County Road 83 overlay
- $1,810,531 for County Road 83 reconstruction to a four-lane roadway
- $614,715 to the Metropolitan Council for waste water treatment
- $392,989 for the County Road 82 reconstruction project
- Paid another $5 million for other intergovernmental projects
- Paid more than $7.5 million for local county and city road projects
- Paid $12.7 million to local governments for services

As the largest employer in Scott County, the SMSC provides more than 4,130 jobs with good benefits.
**Employment**

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community significantly impacts the county and state by employing 4,130 employees in both gaming and non-gaming enterprises.

The SMSC is the largest employer in Scott County, providing one in ten jobs equal to 10% of all Scott County jobs. Employing more than four times as many employees as the next largest employer in the county, the SMSC employs about 1,000 more employees than the next four top employers in the county combined.

**Taxes Paid**

As a government, the SMSC can only be taxed by another government under very specific circumstances. Yet the SMSC, its employees, and its members do pay taxes. The SMSC withholds and matches federal taxes out of employee paychecks. Tribal members also pay federal income taxes each year.

**Annually the SMSC pays:**

- A matching $10.8 million in federal FiCA and Medicare taxes.
- $680,000 a year in property taxes to Scott County on the land it owns in fee status.
- More than $1.75 million in sales and excise taxes on cigarettes, fuel, and liquor to the State of Minnesota.

Since 1996 the SMSC has paid more than $7.5 million for shared local road construction projects and an additional $16.7 million for road projects on the reservation.
SCOTT COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE SMSC EACH YEAR PAY:

- More than $6.3 million in federal taxes.
- $4.0 million in Social Security taxes.
- More than $2.7 million in state taxes.
- $973,758 in Medicare taxes.

ANNUALLY ALL SMSC EMPLOYEES PAY:

- More than $13.3 million in federal taxes.
- More than $5.9 million in state taxes.
- $8.7 million in Social Security (FiCA) taxes.
- Nearly $2.0 million in Medicare taxes.

A total of $13.9 million in income related taxes are paid for and by SMSC employees who live in Scott County.

BENEFITS TO SCOTT COUNTY

In addition to property tax payments, Scott County benefits in other ways, including:

- The SMSC employs 1,952 Scott County residents.
- Annual payroll of $71.6 million for employees who reside in Scott County.
- Annual payments totaling $11.1 million are paid for goods and services to 160 vendors located in Scott County.
- The SMSC has paid $2,957,383 to Scott County over the past 15 years in property taxes on land it owns on the reservation which is not in trust.

CONSTRUCTION

The SMSC has spent millions of dollars on construction projects for its tribal government, infrastructure, and economic enterprises:

- Projects funded include a Water Reclamation Facility, the Dakotah! Ice Center, The Meadows at Mystic Lake, the Wellness Center, Koda Energy, two Water Treatment Plants, two Reverse Osmosis systems, a water well, Public Works Building, Mdewakanton Emergency Services Fire Station, Mazopiya, Tiowakan Spiritual Center, Playworks, Dakotah! Sport and Fitness, the Playworks LINK Event Center, Dakotah Meadows RV Park, Dakotah Meadows Mini Storage, South Metro Federal Credit Union building, water towers, hotel towers, parking decks, and renovations to gaming and other existing properties.

Total construction spending since 1990 is more than $738.9 million.
CHAPTER 7:
GOVERNMENT TO
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

To provide for the safety and welfare of its members, employees, and area residents, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community has a history of working cooperatively with other governments. Over the years, the SMSC has worked on joint projects with the City of Prior Lake, Shakopee, Scott County, the state of Minnesota, agencies of the federal government, and many other government entities.

In spite of a 1984 Supreme Court ruling which mandates that local governments are obligated to provide the same level of service to the SMSC as the rest of their constituents and may not charge for those services, the SMSC has a history and practice of voluntarily paying for services provided by local governments. In the years 2008 through 2011, the SMSC paid a total of $10,385,202 to local governments for shared local road construction projects and other projects like waste water treatment.

SMSC Secretary/Treasurer Keith B. Anderson (fifth from left) was one of the tribal leaders asked to help break ground for the new National Indian Gaming Association building which the SMSC helped fund.
**Working with Other Governments**

As a sovereign nation, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, like every federally recognized Indian Tribe, is a government with the responsibility of caring for its constituents, in this case tribal members. The SMSC, federally recognized as an Indian Tribe in 1969, works with local governments on road, sewer, and many other projects of mutual benefit.

More than 78 agreements have been signed between the SMSC and local governments since 1969 covering police and emergency services, road upgrades, emergency sirens, equipment sharing, sales tax agreements, well head protection, protection of burial mounds, cultural resources, ground water policy, traffic signal installation, watershed districts, and more.

**Agreements with Scott County and Other Jurisdictions**

Over the last fifteen years the SMSC has made total inter-governmental payments of $26.8 million to Scott County and other jurisdictions.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and the Scott County Board of Commissioners in 2008 approved a four-year intergovernmental agreement in which the SMSC makes annual contributions of $280,000 per year to Scott County. These funds are allocated towards road maintenance, county administration, the Sheriff’s Office, and County Attorney’s Office.

Some of the other cooperative agreements reached with Scott County and local townships in recent years include a $20,000 SMSC contribution for aerial photographs and other mapping information; an agreement in 2003 for Scott County to provide ongoing psychological services to the SMSC Mental Health and Employee Assistance Programs on a contractual basis; and an agreement on storm water management for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit under the Federal Clean Water Act.

**City of Prior Lake Shared Equipment, Projects, and Resources**

In addition to an agreement for police services discussed in Chapter 3, the SMSC and the City of Prior Lake have worked together on numerous projects over the years including a mutual aid agreement for the two fire departments and ambulance service and the sharing of asphalt maintenance equipment and sewer equipment. Other joint projects include the installation of civil defense warning sirens; $450,000 for lighting at Ryan Park; $25,000 for a permanent skate park; funding for SWAT team ballistic vests and helmets; and more. Over the years, the SMSC has provided numerous donations to Prior Lake, including a Cairns-Iris Thermal Imager (to help give “sight” to firefighters inside a burning building using infra-red technology), an all-terrain vehicle, AEDs to serve both the police and fire departments, fire department uniforms, and contributions toward a Lakefront amphitheatre building, skateboard park, a park-and-ride lot lease, and more. The SMSC also makes a voluntary contribution of $380,000 each year to the City of Prior Lake for services provided.

In a unique arrangement, the SMSC provides an Employee Assistance Program, called Networks Employee Services, for employees of the City of Prior Lake. Networks provides free short term counseling, information, and referral services in chemical dependency, alcoholism, compulsive gambling, family crisis, codependency, and other issues.

The SMSC also participates in City of Prior Lake long term planning activities on a regular basis. The City of Prior Lake 2030 Vision and Strategic Plan defines what the City wants to be by the year 2030 and includes the incremental steps that must be taken to get there. The document is updated every two years and most recently focuses on economic development, strong financial management, and natural resources. The SMSC has worked closely with Prior Lake on this document over the years.

While not required to do so, the SMSC shares information about proposed plats with the City so that both parties can coordinate trail and park plans. Since 2003 the SMSC and Prior Lake have had an agreement that allows the two entities to interconnect their water supply systems to assure water availability for both parties in a wider variety of circumstances. Recently the SMSC purchased water from Prior Lake while completing improvements on its own water system.

SMSC naturalists have assisted Prior Lake in buckthorn and prairie management, including prescribed burns on Prior Lake property. Together the two governments worked for several years to operate a seasonal compost site which has now transitioned to a new Organics Recycling Facility which opened in September 2011. The SMSC offers free disposal of organic material to Prior Lake, Shakopee, and Savage city governments. In exchange, during the fall of 2011, the City of Prior Lake used their tree spade to move 200 trees, mostly cedars, from the previous SMSC Compost Site to the new Organics Recycling Facility at no charge.
The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is proud to be an active member of the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (SCALE) which formed in 2003. Representatives from 28 local governments including the SMSC, Scott County, local townships, school districts, and cities in Scott County make up SCALE, which meets monthly to discuss ways to collaborate in mutual service areas, such as public safety, parks and recreation, transportation, community development, and general government. The primary purpose of SCALE is to encourage greater efficiencies and leadership in public service through enhanced communication, collaboration of services, and sharing of resources.

By building upon existing partnerships, the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency is helping public officials fully realize the benefits of multijurisdictional cooperation and make the most of local government resources.

The SMSC is a staunch supporter of the SCALE Regional Public Safety Training Facility in Jordan, Minnesota, which provides training opportunities for law enforcement, firefighting, and public works groups. Eight SCALE members (SMSC, Scott County, Carver County, Shakopee, City of Prior Lake, Savage, Elko/New Market, and Jordan) came together to create and fund the facility which features two outdoor firing ranges, a driving simulator, and classrooms. In addition, a four-story tactical tower capable of simulating flashover effects along with a movable, unique maze system on all four floors provides a hands on learning environment and realistic simulations. Since it opened in 2008, a variety of police and fire training opportunities have utilized the facility. Mdewakanton Emergency Services conducts periodic training exercises at the facility and has also used it to train other departments. As a member of the Joint Training Facility the SMSC contributed $123,782 from 2008-2011.

**Examples of Government to Government Agreements Reached 2008-2011**

**SMSC and Scott County, August 2008.** An agreement to provide funding to Scott County for administrative and roadway maintenance costs. The agreement runs through January 2012.

**SMSC and the City of St. Paul, August 2008.** An agreement to provide logistic, emergency services, and command and signal support during the Republican National Convention which was held in September 2008.

**SMSC and Scott County, August 2009.** An agreement to pay the majority of the cost of, and provide right of way for, the reconstruction of County Road 83 from County Road 16 south to County Road 42 from a two lane to a four lane roadway.

**SMSC and Scott County, August 2009.** An agreement to provide right of way for the extension of County Road 21 from its intersection with County Road 42 north to U.S. Highway 169.

**SMSC and Scott County, August 2009.** An agreement and lease to provide land for a transit station located at the intersection of County Road 21 and County Road 16.


**Mobile Medical Services, 2009.** Agreements between the SMSC and various entities to provide support using the Mobile Medical clinic and command center including Scott County outreach, various Tribal Governments, the American Diabetes Association, and the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon.

**SMSC and Scott County, November 2010.** Agreement to reconstruct the intersection of County Road 42 and County Road 17 to reduce traffic conflicts and increase safety.
**Roads**

While the SMSC is not legally required to pay for improvements to the system of roads and highways that lead to its reservation, it has a history and practice of supporting projects which are mutually beneficial. Since 1996 the SMSC has paid more than $7.5 million for shared local road construction projects and an additional $16.7 million for roads on tribal land.

Some of the local shared road construction projects include $2.9 million in SMSC funding for design and improvements at the intersection of County Roads 42 and 83 and the purchase of approximately $18 million in Scott County bonds to finance a road construction project in Belle Plaine for Highway 169 in 2003. The SMSC has also paid for other road construction improvement projects on County Road 42, County Road 83, County Road 82, McKenna Road, as well as traffic control signals at the intersection of County Road 83 and Flandreau Trail in 2008 and County Road 83 and Dakotah Parkway in 2003.

**CR 83**

During 2008 the SMSC paid $265,215 to overlay portions of County Road 83 in preparation for its reconstruction to a four-way divided roadway with bituminous trail. Costs were shared with Scott County and the cities of Prior Lake and Shakopee.

The SMSC provided $1.8 million to upgrade County Road 83 from County Road 42 to County Road 16 in a project completed in 2011. This improvement of the roadway from two lanes to four lanes with a paved trail increased vehicle capacity on County Road 83 as well as pedestrian and vehicle safety. The SMSC along with Scott County and the cities of Shakopee and Prior Lake participated in this project, with the SMSC paying more than 80% of the construction costs. The SMSC also paid Scott County’s portion of the project for which they will be reimbursed in 2015.

**CR 21**

In early 2008 the SMSC, Scott County, Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Federal Highway Administration reached an agreement regarding the alignment for the northward extension of Scott County Road 21 across SMSC lands. The County Road 21 extension, a four-lane divided highway which opened in September 2011, extends from County Road 18 to County Road 42, providing a direct link with Highway 169.

The SMSC provided easements to approximately 24 acres for roadway and utility purposes for the CR 21 extension project. The SMSC sold a 6.88 acre easement to Scott County for use as right of way and also donated an 11-acre easement for right of way. There was also a trade of a right-of-way over 5.99 acres of trust land for 5.99 acres of fee simple ownership of adjacent land with a guarantee the County would support putting that land in trust.

Because the County Road 21 extension project went through a densely wooded forest on tribal land, the SMSC insisted on an underpass for wildlife and pedestrians to cross under the road. A precast concrete wildlife crossing was placed in a wooded area to also provide tribal members and staff with access to both sides of tribal land for hunting, maple syrup gathering, and other cultural activities. Close to 4,000 trees were also replanted as part of this project.

The extension required 18 separate permits from seven governmental agencies, as well as project approval from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, the cities of Shakopee and Prior Lake, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The project won the 2010 American Concrete Pipe Association Project Achievement Award for its innovation.

**CR 42 and 17 Interchange**

In mid-2011 the SMSC, Scott County, and the City of Shakopee began work on a reconstruction project for the most dangerous intersection in Scott County. This intersection of County Roads 42 and 17/Marschall Road has had a high crash rate with four fatalities since 2005. The project includes federal, tribal, state, county, and city funding. The federal funding includes American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus) funding plus federal highways money coming through the state. The SMSC is contributing $1.65 million of the estimated $5-$7 million total cost. The SMSC also donated 100,000 cubic yards of fill valued at about $250,000 to reduce project costs. This new intersection will result in a safer roadway and includes trails and storm water treatment ponding.

“Since this is the route that our ambulances take to get to the hospital and school buses take to get to Shakopee schools, as well as local residents to their homes and jobs, we thought it was important to participate in this project to address immediate safety problems and accommodate growing traffic on this important roadway,” said SMSC Chairman Stanley R. Crooks.
SMSC Lands Used for Scott County Projects
The SMSC has granted more than 50 acres of right of way to other governments for construction of county roads routing through the reservation, including County Roads 16, 42, 21, and 83.

In 2009 Scott County leased 12 acres of SMSC lands for 25 years with an option for an additional 25 years for the 545-space Eagle Creek Transit Station or “Park and Ride.” The transit station is a project of the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, Scott County, the Metropolitan Council, and the cities of Shakopee and Prior Lake. The site is located near Highway 169 and the County Road 21 extension project.

Efforts with Local, State, Federal Governments, and Agencies
The SMSC has worked with several government entities to protect sites important to the tribe.

In 1998 the SMSC, the Metropolitan Council, the City of Savage, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) worked together on a joint project for an Eagle Creek water quality monitoring station at Maka Yusota (Boiling Springs), a sacred site of the Dakota people. Then in 2000, the SMSC, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources signed an agreement to list Maka Yusota as a Traditional Cultural Property and jointly manage the area.

In 2000 the SMSC, DNR, and the City of Shakopee signed an agreement on the restoration of existing burial sites at Shakopee Memorial Park on Highway 101 to natural conditions and management of trails and park in the area to preserve the burial site.

Also in 2000, the SMSC and DNR signed the Little Rapids Site agreement, a joint project to map and locate burial sites funded by the Community and include tribal staff participation.

The SMSC and Minnesota Historical Society reached agreement on multiple projects in 2000 regarding the preservation of the Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site and Jeffer’s Petroglyphs.

The SMSC, the State of Minnesota Department of Human Services, and the Ten Other Minnesota Tribal Governments signed the historic Tribal/State Indian Child Welfare Agreement in 1998 for the preservation of Indian families throughout the state.

The SMSC, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Minnesota Department of Health, along with Prior Lake and Shakopee signed a Well Head Protection Memorandum of Understanding in 2000 for the safety of Public Water Supply wells.

The SMSC reached agreements with the Minnesota River Joint Powers Board and the Prior Lake/Spring Lake Watershed District to improve water quality and environmental conditions on the Lower Minnesota River, groundwater in the southwest metro, Wellhead protection, and a regional storm water and lake drainage channel. In 2008 and 2009 the SMSC paid $176,167 for improvements to the Prior Lake/Spring Lake drainage channel.

In 2004 the SMSC, Prior Lake, Shakopee, and Savage reached Mutual Aid Fire Agreements providing authority and a process for inter-jurisdictional emergency response. In 2005 the SMSC and MnDoT signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Indian employment.

The SMSC, the State of Minnesota (Department of Human Services), and the ten other Minnesota Tribal Governments signed the 2007 Tribal/State Indian Child Welfare Agreement which was an update to an historic agreement created for the preservation of Indian families throughout Minnesota.
CHAPTER 8: SUMMARY

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community prospers today because our ancestors did not relinquish their land or their pride. We have persevered, despite a history of broken promises, lost treaties, and ongoing efforts by some to encroach on our newly found economic stability. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community today is defined by traditional Dakota values, including our resolute commitment to provide for SMSC members and for the next seven generations to come.

We remember our ancestors and we are grateful for their sacrifices. Our culture today pays tribute to those ancestors through our ongoing efforts to protect and provide for our members, to share our good fortune through philanthropy, and our unending dedication to carrying on the traditions our Community members hold close to their hearts.

As we move into a new chapter in the history of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, we are grateful for the past because it defines our present.

Thank you for your interest in our Community.

Chairman Stan ley R. Crooks at the Statue dedication to honor his father, Norman M. Crooks, at the SMSC Community Center, October 16, 2011.
NOVEMBER 28, 1969
• SMSC granted federal recognition as an Indian tribe
• First Chairman Norman M. Crooks elected

1970s
• Community population grew even as Community members struggled to find jobs and develop economic enterprises

OCTOBER 16, 1982
Little Six Bingo opened under the leadership of the first Tribal Chairman Norman M. Crooks

1983
• Koda Cistina day care program began
• Dental Clinic opened
• Little Six Casino opened

1984
• Video slots added at Little Six Casino in new location at Tipi

1985
• Big Eagle Village housing subdivision project began. Community programs began in health, education, and social services

1987
• Growth of Little Six Bingo and Casino

1988
• National Indian Gaming Regulatory Act passed

DECEMBER 4, 1989
• Gaming compact between SMSC and state of MN approved by Secretary of the Interior and published in Federal Register on April 2, 1990
• Grant approved to improve and pave Scott County Road 83

1991
• Construction of Mystic Lake Casino began
• Blackjack added at Little Six Casino

1992
• Mystic Lake Casino opened

1993
• Agreement signed with City of Prior Lake for police and fire services
• Gaming space doubles at Mystic Lake Casino
• South Metro Federal Credit Union charter approved and opened
• New Community Center opens and is dedicated to the children of the SMSC

1994
• Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store #1 opened
• Dakotah! Sport and Fitness opened

1995
• Playworks opened
• Dakotah Meadows RV Park, Campground, RV Wash opened
• SMSC donation funds an improved emergency warning system for the City of Prior Lake

1996
• First Mystic Lake Casino hotel tower opened

1997
• SMSC funded an improved Scott County Road 83/82 intersection

1998
• Dakotah Meadows Campground and RV wash opened
• Housing subdivisions are added
1999
• SMSC sponsored first Native American Music Festival
• SMSC sponsored first annual Northern Plains Diabetes Conference

2000
• Tiowakan Spiritual Center and Community Cemetery completed
• Mystic Lake added a second hotel tower, a swimming pool, and additional banquet and meeting space
• Phase 1 of Dakotah Parkway completed
• Phase III opens at Dakotah Meadows
• Dakotah Meadows Mini Storage opened
• Playworks LINK Event Center opened

2001
• The Buffet at Mystic Lake opened
• Mystic Lake Mall of America store opened
• SMSC honored as Benefactor of the Year by the Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce

2002
• SMSC purchased Lone Pine Golf Course
• Mdewakanton Emergency Services opened

2003
• Lone Pine Golf Course closed for extensive reconstruction
• First Mall of America Pow Wow Exhibition

2004
• The SMSC joined other tribes in a rally at the State Capitol against the expansion of gambling

2005
• The Flandreau Trail water tower was disassembled and moved to McKenna Road where it was reconstructed. New 1,000,000 gallon water tower at Flandreau Trail installed
• Veterans Monument dedicated
• The third hotel tower opened bringing the total number of rooms to nearly 600
• New housing subdivision is completed

2006
• SMSC announced Koda Energy, a biomass energy generation partnership with Rahr Malting
• The Meadows at Mystic Lake opened for its’ first full season
• The Water Reclamation Facility opened

2007
• Old Public Works Building demolished.
• Groundbreaking for new Little Six Casino
• “Committed” statue was dedicated in front of Tiowakan Spiritual Center
• SMSC Pharmacy opened
• Dedication of two statues at the Veterans Monument
• Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store #2 opened
• Bingo Hall opens with special event for Community members and guests.
• SMSC Grand Opening/dedication of Mystic Showroom, with Wayne Newton
• Public Grand opening of Mystic Showroom, with Alan Jackson
• SMSC notes 25th anniversary of Indian Gaming at the SMSC
• Wellness Clinic (Physical Therapy and Chiropractic) opened
• The Mobile Unit was introduced at the Wacipi
• Little Six Casino closed at its Tipi location
• Little Six Casino opened to the public at 12:01 a.m. on December 14, 2007
SMSC Timeline Highlights: 2008 - 2011

Accomplishments During the Business Council’s Term in Office: 2008-2011

2008
• New Compost Site opened to City of Prior Lake residents
• Water bottling plant opened
• SCALE Joint training facility opened
• Solar panels went up on ice arena, fire station
• Vision clinic opens
• Green roof installed at new ice arena
• SMSC Mobile Unit deployed to Republican National Convention
• New vendor entrance for Mystic Lake is completed
• Permanent roundabout opened on Dakotah Parkway
• Dakotah! Ice Center opened with second sheet of ice
• Addition to fire station completed
• First dental deployment of Mobile Unit/Clinic to Red Lake
• Promenade Stage in new area of casino opens

2009
• Doors open to a new team member cafeteria, the Mystic Express.
• SMSC Business Council completed paperwork to transfer 752.41 acres of land into Federal Trust Status
• Reverse Osmosis facility opened on Sioux Trail
• Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store celebrates 15th anniversary

2010
• Dakotah! Sport and Fitness celebrates 15th anniversary
• Dakotah! Sport and Fitness renovations completed
• Koda Energy became fully operational and named Finance and Commerce Top Project of 2009
• First Veterans Program held at Mall of America dance exhibition
• Minnesota Tribal Nations Plaza dedicated at TCF Bank Stadium
• New Mystic Clinic opened in casino
• South Metro Federal Credit opened in new location
• Playworks remodeled Atrium opens
• Wind turbine became operational

November 14, 2009
SMSC Celebrated 40 years as a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe
The Meadows at Mystic Lake recognized as #10 best casino golf course in country by Golfweek magazine
• Chairman Stanley R. Crooks presented with NIGA Leadership Award
• Community Garden planting begins
• Storm water quality improvement project for Big Eagle’s Village complete
• SMSC presented with Chief Standing Bear Humanitarian Award by Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs
• First Mdewakanton Wozupi farmers market at Community Center
• SMSC Gaming Enterprise named one of Star Tribune’s top workplaces for 2010
• SMSC sponsors first Lakefront Jazz and Blues Festival
• Midwest Gaming & Travel names The Meadows at Mystic Lake and Dakotah Meadows as top in Minnesota
• SMSC hosts tribal leaders’ dialogue on American’s Great Outdoors
• Il Premio opened at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
• Root Cellar installed at Mdewakanton Wozupi
• SMSC honored with Spirit of Eagles Award for use of its Mobile Unit
• Chairman Stanley R. Crooks honored by NIGA with Chairman’s Leadership Award of Excellence: Going Green for Mother Earth
• Mazopiya ribbon cutting held and it opened to Community members and staff
• License Plate Recognition system in place at Gaming Enterprise
• SMSC honored with Jefferson Award for Philanthropy
• Renovations completed at Dakotah! Sport and Fitness, including Aquatic Center

2011
• Mazopiya opened to the public
• Chairman Crooks honored as one of 25 people to watch by Global Gaming Business magazine
• Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton met with Minnesota Tribal Leaders
• Chairman Crooks and Secretary/Treasurer Anderson met with President Barack Obama
• SMSC held a reception to honor the first graduate from its Endowed Scholarship at the University of Minnesota
• Chairman Crooks named Tribal Leader of the Year by Native American Finance Officers Association
• MIGA sponsors Rally at the Capitol to protect tribal gaming jobs
• The Meadows at Mystic Lake unveiled redesigned Hole #3
• Mdewakanton Emergency Services honored by Scott County All Hazards Advisory Council
• Greenhouse at Mdewakanton Wozupi opened
• SMSC Gaming Enterprise named a top workplace in Minnesota by Star Tribune
• Vice-Chairman Crooks accepted Jefferson Award in Washington, D.C. for tribe’s philanthropy
• Amphitheater opened with a concert by Jason Mraz
• Mazopiya grand opening
• Installation of sewer project to tie in McKenna and East Village subdivisions with Water Reclamation Facility underway
• Vice-Chairman Glynn A. Crooks helped cut ribbon for completion of County Road 21 project
• Fire Explorer Post 9100 sponsored by Mdewakanton Emergency Services won first place at State Fair
• SMSC Organics Recycling Facility opened to the public at new location
• SMSC Business Council helped Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa dedicate their new facility, funded by a $23.5 million SMSC loan
• Chairman Stanley R. Crooks helped the Santee Sioux Nation dedicate their new facility, funded by a $20 million SMSC loan
• Statue dedication to honor Norman M. Crooks at Community Center