



Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang

announces

Three Ojibwe Immersion Fellowships

**With Support from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Commission, Legacy Amendment,
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund**

**May 2016-June 2017
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
Cloquet, Minnesota**

Description. We are pleased to announce our first Ojibwe Immersion Fellowship Program. This program aims to raise the bar for language learning and language revitalization by assisting three fellows to achieve advanced levels of fluency. With funding from the Legacy Amendment, Arts & Cultural Fund, Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang will offer a comprehensive learning experience at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC) for 14 months of full-time language study and immersion participation. Three residential language fellows will be selected for their level of fluency, linguistic aptitude, and commitment to Ojibwe language revitalization. Half of their time, the fellows will apprentice with elders, develop audio curriculum, study with faculty, and assist with teaching in the aim of achieving advanced-level proficiency. The other half, they will gain experience in language revitalization through multiple venues including our Ojibwemotaadidaa immersion program, elementary immersion classrooms, the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College language education program, and the Fond du Lac Office of Language Programs. This multi-faceted experience will prepare the fellows to teach Ojibwe in an immersion context, as well as to contribute to language revitalization in a spectrum of venues.

Fellows will study and work full-time from May, 2016, through June 30, 2017, under supervision of the Ojibwemotaadidaa Director assisting with its summer immersion Academy and school-year immersion weekends. Language instruction in specific areas of grammar, syntax and elder recordings will be provided by several renowned university faculty. The fellows will reside in the dormitory of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College or close enough to the campus to allow easy exchange with students and faculty. Each fellow will receive \$1800 per month stipend and \$500 per month housing allowance for the 14-month period.

Eligibility. a) *Language ability.* The goal of this project is to produce speakers with advanced proficiency and immersion know-how, who can teach other learners.



Candidates for the residential fellowships will need to possess intermediate to upper intermediate language ability.

B) *Commitment*. Applicants must demonstrate a pattern of previous commitment to learning and sharing the Ojibwe language as they will be expected to continue this pattern after completion of the fellowship program.

C) *Immersion experience*. Preference will be given to linguistically talented candidates who have participated in immersion experiences, including Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang. Prior experience will position fellows to jump in quickly and achieve results.

Successful applications will make apparent the applicant's past and present determination to learn Ojibwemowin and commitment to continue to advance his or her proficiency after the fellowship. In addition, the admissions committee reserves the right to assemble a cohort of fellows who it deems will work well together and maximize advancement of the language. This may include a learner who might not have as much experience, but who offers exceptional long-term promise for learning and advancing the language.

Applicants may be asked for a Skype interview. They should continue to check their email after submitting their application, as they may be asked to sign-up for an interview.

Age. Participants should be 18 years of age or older by the start of the fellowship. No one younger than 18 years can be accommodated at this time.

Residence. One of our goals is to build a community of speakers in a specific geographical area who can share the language in follow-up sessions after the fellowship. Applicants should reside in or attend school in Minnesota, northwestern Wisconsin, eastern North Dakota, or the region of Ontario bordering Minnesota. If temporarily removed, they should have a relationship with an Ojibwe language community in this region. Since these fellowships are funded by the taxpayers of Minnesota, other things being equal, priority will be given to applicants residing in Minnesota.

Dissemination. Among the applicants who meet the above qualifications, priority will be given to applicants who plan to advance the language through teaching, performance, writing, community programs, family instruction, or by similar means of dissemination.

Exceptions. The above requirements are not meant to be exclusionary. We are trying to build a group of strong speakers who can carry the language into the future and pass it on to the next generation. Nonetheless, each person has a different situation. If you do not meet one of the above requirements, but you feel that we should consider your application, please email us with a compelling explanation for why we should do so. If you make a good case, we will consider yours alongside other applications.

Expectations. All fellows will be expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior and participation in all facets of the fellowship. They are expected to complete the



expectations of elders, all homework assigned in their courses, and to work closely with their supervisor to meet all deadlines for projects. Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang reserves the right to dismiss any fellow if these requirements and responsibilities are not met.

Applications. Application materials can be requested by email to ojibwemotaadidaa@gmail.com. The packet will contain instructions in Ojibwe for providing information about your language background, formal education, experience, speaking proficiency, and future plans. Your application will include questions about your Ojibwe language learning experience and responses to Ojibwe and English questions. You will also be asked to submit an original lesson plan that you have created. The Ojibwe portion may be difficult, but consider it a learning experience. Use your Ojibwe notes, literature resources, or dictionaries. Get advice from a first speaker, friend, or teacher and send us an email if you need further assistance.

In addition, applications should include a short video clip with quality sound of the applicant speaking the language informally in a natural, conversational style. **We suggest you submit your application and video well before the deadline**, to avoid technical difficulties preventing your application from being complete.

All applications must be submitted by email to ojibwemotaadidaa@gmail.com. Please submit an organized application. The written portion should be typed and submitted as an email attachment along with your video clip.

We will not accept late applications, including missing portions or videos.

We may also contact you for a Skype interview. After reviewing your application, we will inform you of available dates to choose for your interview. Please continue to check your email to ensure you do not miss the deadline to sign up for an interview.

Deadline. All applications must be submitted by email to ojibwemotaadidaa@gmail.com **before noon on Thursday, February 18, 2016**. No applications can be accepted after that date. Application review involves multiple reviewers, so that an optimal group can be selected. We will notify you of your acceptance, non-acceptance, or assignment to the wait list by **Wednesday March 3, 2016**. Acceptance decisions will be made by the review committee comprised of faculty, program staff and community members.

Summary of 2016 Fellowship Application Schedule

January	Announcement and application packets available.
February 18	Applications due by noon. No late applications.
March 3	First-round invitations sent and wait-list announced.
March 7	First-round acceptances confirmed. Wait-list invited, if applicable.



March 10
May, 2016

All participants confirmed.
Fellowship begins

To Request an Application Packet

To obtain an application packet please email your request to ojibwemotaadidaa@gmail.com with “fellowship application request” in the subject line. All applications are due **before noon on Thursday, February 18, 2016.**

