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## **Press Release**

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# Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Recognized for Environmental Sustainability Efforts

GreenStep participant recognized for work to cut energy and other costs

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wednesday, July 8, 2015, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, MN – Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe had the honor of being recognized as a Minnesota GreenStep participant and received Step 1 and 2 block awards at the recent League of Minnesota Cities Conference on June 26th for joining the GreenStep Cities program and advancing to Step 2 in the Minnesota GreenStep program.

"This recognition shows community members and others across Minnesota that the



GreenStep Cities/Nation participants at 2015 League of Minnesota Cities Awards Breakfast with meteorologist and keynote speaker Paul Douglas

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is taking great steps in the direction of energy and resource conservation and innovation," shared Brandy Toft, the GreenStep Coordinator for Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a challenge, assistance, and recognition program. As one of 83 participants, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is helping to lead the way in sustainably across the state of Minnesota. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe has worked hard to implement best practices in order to fulfill their sustainability goals. Actions that are taken within the program focus on cost savings, energy use reduction, and the encouragement of civic innovation. You can learn more about Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe's efforts at <a href="http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/cityInfo.cfm?ctu\_code=2437920">http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/cityInfo.cfm?ctu\_code=2437920</a>.

"We are honored with this award as the first Tribal Nation to join the GreenStep challenge," said Brandy Toft. "Our hope by being part of the GreenStep program we can encourage other Tribal Nations to follow our lead to show that Tribal Nations are leaders and stewards."

### Download high-resolution images to use in your story:

You can find a large group photo of all of the Minnesota GreenStep Cities/Nations in attendance at the LMC Conference at <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/mncerts/19147825818/in/album-72157654910345189/">https://www.flickr.com/photos/mncerts/19147825818/in/album-72157654910345189/</a>. Click the ↓ down arrow button below and to the right of the image to download it from Flickr.

**About GreenStep Cities:** Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance, and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. This free continuous improvement program is based upon 28 best practices that are tailored to Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation. More at <a href="https://www.MnGreenStep.org">www.MnGreenStep.org</a>.

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