REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

OWNER: Mille Lacs of Ojibwe
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

DATE ISSUED: 10 November 2026

BID DUE DATE: 27 November 2026

PROJECT: E-book and Hard-Copy Printing of the *Against the Tide of American History: The Story of the Mille Lacs Anishinabe*

TO: Qualified Book Printing Companies

THIS IS NOT A CHANGE ORDER NOR A DIRECTION TO PROCEED WITH THE WORK DESCRIBED HEREIN.

A. Project Overview

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe is accepting bids pursuant to this request for proposals (RFP) for the publication of the *Against the Tide of American History: The Story of the Mille Lacs Anishinabe,* previously published in 1985**.** Once bids have been received, an award shall be made to the bidder whose bid is responsive to the invitation, most advantageous to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and in accordance with Mille Lacs Band Statutes. See below for further information and bidding instructions.

B. Scope of Project

Against the Tide of American History: The Story of the Mille Lacs Anishinabe.

- The creation of an e-book and the printing of *Against the Tide of American History: The Story of the Mille Lacs Anishinabe***.**[1]
- This book consists of:
    - 147 pages with double-sided pages. **Sample pictures of the "guts" of the book are attached (Exhibit A).**
    - Within the year the books are received, a request for additional books may be made at a later date.
- Design the front cover, spine, and back cover to be similar to the original cover printed. **Sample pictures are attached (Exhibit A).**
- With the exception of the cover, spine, and first page, the pages should be top-justified.
- Provide proofs for the front cover, spine, back cover, and "guts" of the book prior to printing.
- The printed book should have double-sided pages.

C. Bidding Notes and Instructions

- Submit a detailed invoice for the proposed project.

[1] This title retains an alternative spelling of the term "Anishinaabe" as used in the 1985 publication.

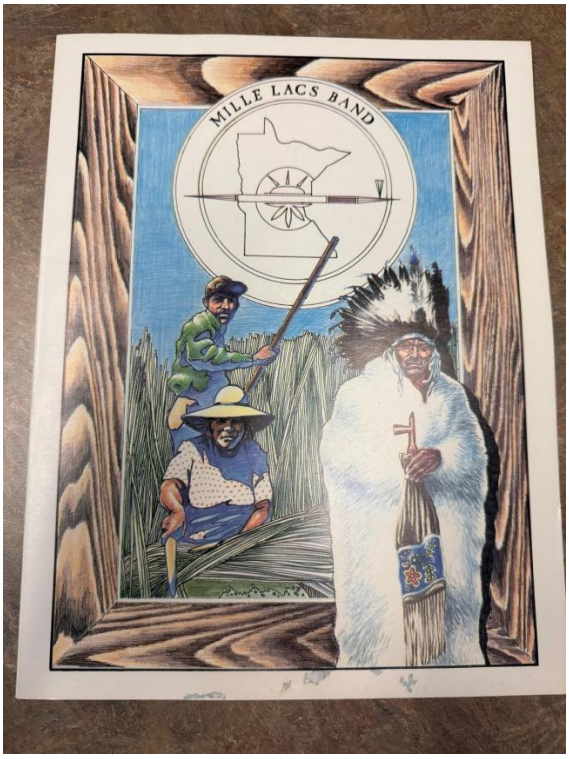
- Submit an estimated printing timeline.
- Submit a document containing the difference in price for hardcover and softcover and a fee scale showing the varying prices per purchase quantity (such as the print of 200 books, 300 books, 400 books).
- Submit a front cover proof for the project.
- Proposal submissions are due by **Friday, November 27, 2026, at 5:00PM**.
- Submissions must be emailed to **Hanna.Valento@millelacsband.com** with the subject line, "**Against the Tide**."

D. Contacts

If you have questions or need additional information, please email Hanna Valento, Legal and Policy Counsel at Hanna.Valento@millelacsband.com.

Exhibit A

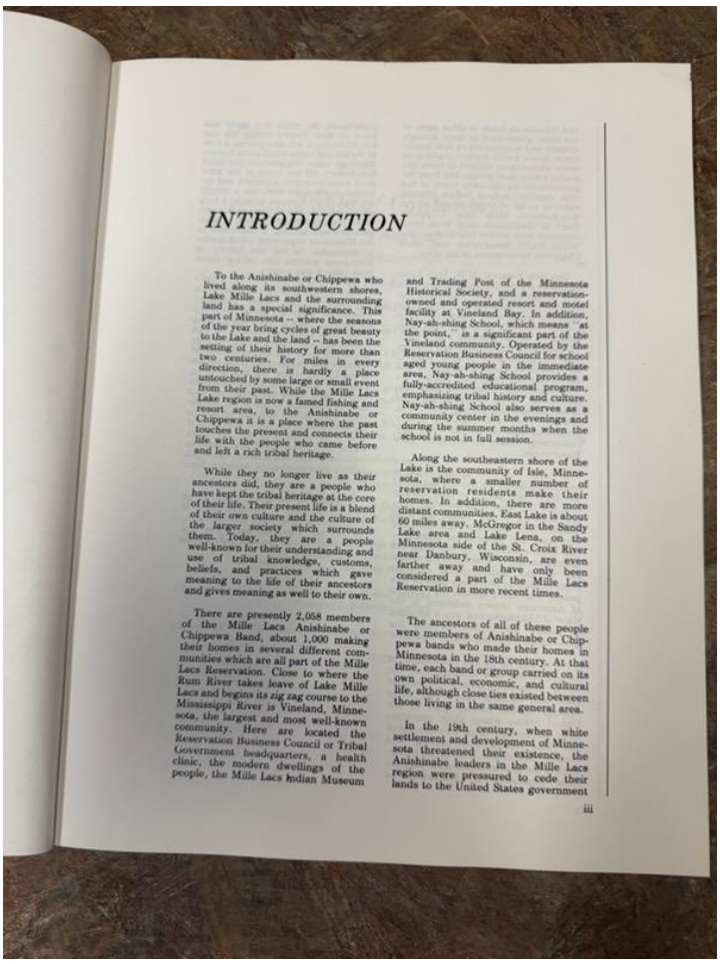
Front of the Book



Spine/Back of the Book



Examples of the “guts”/internal pages



INTRODUCTION

To the Anishinabe or Chippewa who lived along its southwestern shores, Lake Mille Lacs and the surrounding land has a special significance. This part of Minnesota -- where the seasons of the year bring cycles of great beauty to the Lake and the land -- has been the setting of their history for more than two centuries. For miles in every direction, there is hardly a place untouched by some large or small event from their past. While the Mille Lacs Lake region is now a famed fishing and resort area, to the Anishinabe or Chippewa it is a place where the past touches the present and connects their life with the people who came before and left a rich tribal heritage.

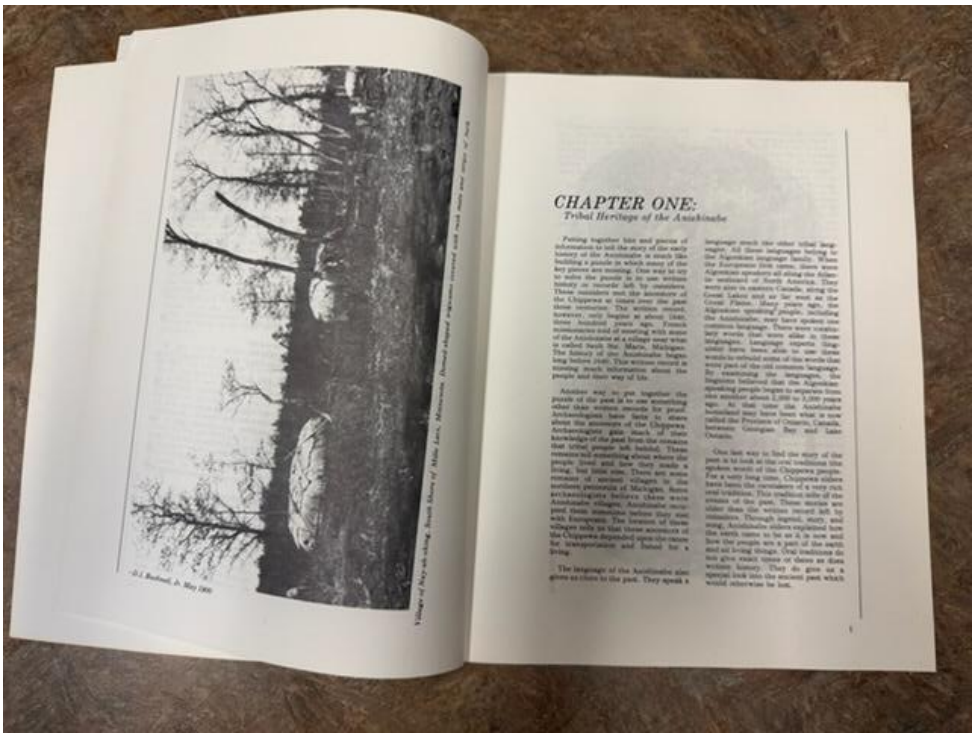
While they no longer live as their ancestors did, they are a people who have kept the tribal heritage at the core of their life. Their present life is a blend of their own culture and the culture of the larger society which surrounds them. Today, they are a people well-known for their understanding and use of tribal knowledge, customs, beliefs, and practices which gave meaning to the life of their ancestors and gives meaning as well to their own.

There are presently 2,058 members of the Mille Lacs Anishinabe or Chippewa Band, about 1,000 making their homes in several different communities which are all part of the Mille Lacs Reservation. Close to where the Rum River takes leave of Lake Mille Lacs and begins its zig zag course to the Mississippi River is Vineland, Minnesota, the largest and most well-known community. Here are located the Reservation Business Council or Tribal Government headquarters, a health clinic, the modern dwellings of the people, the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post of the Minnesota Historical Society, and a reservation-owned and operated resort and motel facility at Vineland Bay. In addition, Nay-ah-shing School, which means "at the point," is a significant part of the Vineland community. Operated by the Reservation Business Council for school aged young people in the immediate area, Nay-ah-shing School provides a fully-accredited educational program, emphasizing tribal history and culture. Nay-ah-shing School also serves as a community center in the evenings and during the summer months when the school is not in full session.

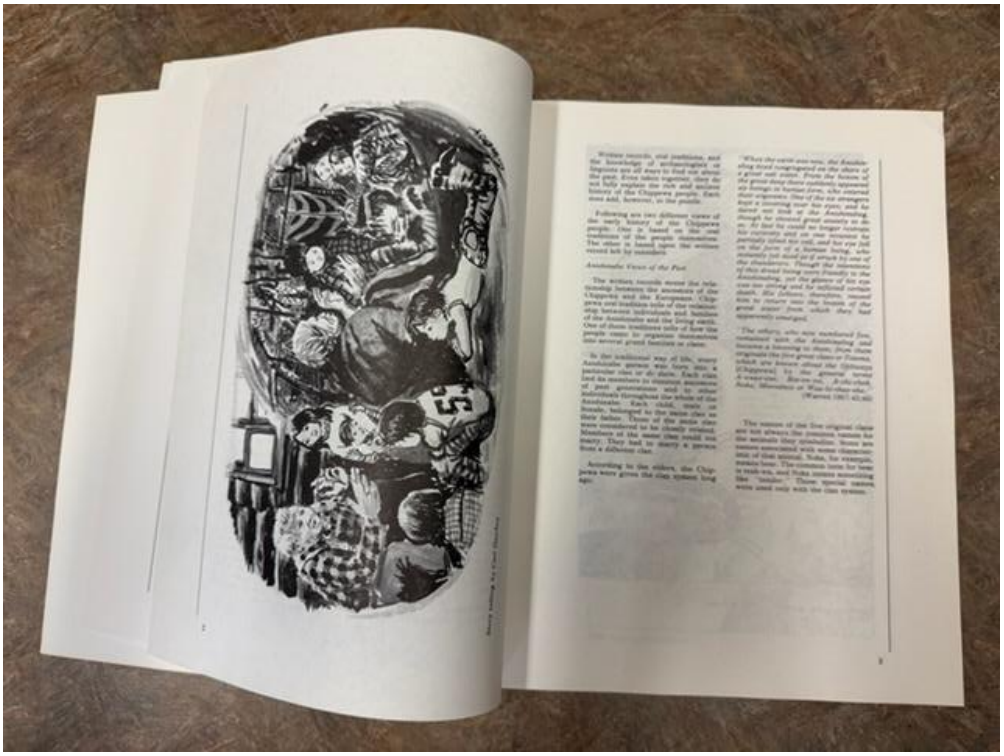
Along the southeastern shore of the Lake is the community of Isle, Minnesota, where a smaller number of reservation residents make their homes. In addition, there are more distant communities. East Lake is about 60 miles away. McGregor in the Sandy Lake area and Lake Lena, on the Minnesota side of the St. Croix River near Danbury, Wisconsin, are even farther away and have only been considered a part of the Mille Lacs Reservation in more recent times.

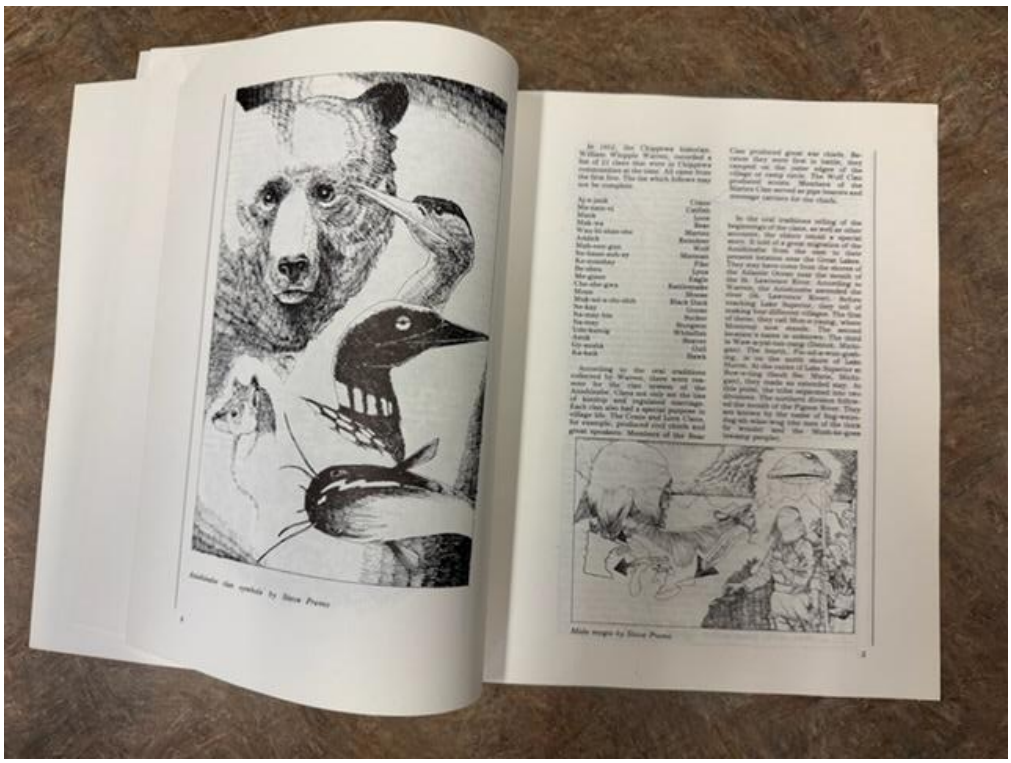
The ancestors of all of these people were members of Anishinabe or Chippewa bands who made their homes in Minnesota in the 18th century. At that time, each band or group carried on its own political, economic, and cultural life, although close ties existed between those living in the same general area.

In the 19th century, when white settlement and development of Minnesota threatened their existence, the Anishinabe leaders in the Mille Lacs region were pressured to cede their lands to the United States government



CHAPTER ONE:
Tribal Heritage of the Anishinabe





Anishinabe clan symbols by Steve Premo

Main images by Steve Premo

