White Earth Reservation Tribal Council

CHAIRMAN - Doyle Turner • SECRETARY TREASURER - Franklin B. Heisler DIST. I - Irene Auginaush • DIST. II - Anthony Wadena • DIST. III - Kenneth Bevins

January 8, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: NATIVE DANCER PROJECT

Diabetes is killing many people on our reservation. Type II diabetes is reaching children in our tribe as young as 9 years of age. Obesity is affecting a large majority of our youth and leads to many health problems later in life. We need to stop the frightening increase of this epidemic and its effects.

I believe the Native Dancer Project can lower the incidence of diabetes for our native youth by using a fun, exciting, history and cultural based visual tool to assist them in changing to healthier lifestyles. In addition, I feel Native Dancer can instill pride and positive self esteem back into our youth to make them successful in our ever changing world.

I would like to commend the efforts of our North Dakota State University and our White Earth Diabetes Project staff in taking the time and effort to develop culturally relevant games for the prevention of diabetes in our native youth.

Tools like Native Dancer are crucial to the future of our tribes and the future is our youth.

Sincerely Yours,

Doyle Turner Chairman