



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2025 – Flandreau, SD

Last year a vote was taken to ban South Dakota’s Governor Kristi Noem from our territories at the request of our people. We met face to face with the governor and discussed not only the issues at hand but focused on how we can work together to resolve issues of mutual concern.

The Governor issued an apology to us for the misunderstanding, which was exacerbated by misinformation. Over the past several months, we have been made aware of many circumstances relating to the comments made by the Governor; only to find out that these issues are real and pose a grave threat to the stability of our Nations and the health and well-being of all our people.

Since our first meeting, the Governor has shown us that she is committed to protecting the people of South Dakota including the citizens of the nine Tribal Nations, who share mutual borders with the state. Our partnership with the City of Flandreau and the Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains are grateful for her support in the development of the Early Childhood Learning Center. The Governor’s commitment to have a cooperative working relationship between all levels of Law Enforcement is evident in her efforts to bring a 13-week Police Officer Training Program to the state, which has successfully graduated nine Native American Law Enforcement Officers. It is for these reasons that we hereby dissolve the order of banishment.

Lastly, we wholeheartedly welcome her nomination and eventual appointment as the Secretary for Homeland Security and wish her much success in her future endeavors.