



Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Population Projections

Methodology Report

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Background

In 2012-2013, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) contracted with Wilder Research to conduct a study and produce population projections for MCT and its six member Bands: Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, and White Earth. In 2014, Wilder Research was again contracted to update the original projections and to add another enrollment criteria scenario, lineal descent. There is significant concern among MCT members and leadership about the extent to which the MCT population is shrinking. The purpose of this study is to help MCT and its member Bands and individual members better understand population trends, and specifically understand the tribe's population trajectory under the current tribal membership criteria and alternative scenarios.

Population projections through the year 2098 were completed for MCT overall and for each of the six Bands under four different scenarios for changing the tribal enrollment criteria, and also projects the MCT population if the current enrollment criteria is maintained. This report describes the study methods and detailed results of the original and updated population projections completed by Wilder Research and Gillaspay Demographics. We addressed the following **research questions**:

- What size will the population of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe be now and through the end of this century if the current tribal enrollment eligibility criteria (1/4 blood quantum of MCT blood, **scenario 1**) is maintained?
- What would the size of the MCT population be from now through the end of this century if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood from non-MCT federally recognized tribes and Canadian First Nations to count toward the requirement of 1/4 blood quantum (**scenario 2**)?
- What would the size of the MCT population be from now through the end of this century if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow blood from any federally recognized American Indian tribe or Canadian First Nation to count toward the requirement of 1/4 blood quantum (**scenario 3**)?
- What would the size of the MCT population be from now through the end of this century if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow 1/8 blood quantum from MCT (**scenario 4**)?
- What would the size of the MCT population be from now through the end of this century if the tribal enrollment eligibility criteria were changed to allow any lineal descendant from the original 1941 MCT base rolls (**scenario 5**)?

Study methodology

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe member survey

Wilder Research conducted a Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) member survey that included over 100 Band members from each of the six Bands. This survey was used to understand the extent to which MCT members have non-MCT American Indian and/or Canadian First Nations blood, in themselves and in their children.

Survey instrument design

Wilder Research developed the survey instrument in partnership with MCT to address the key research questions. The survey included questions about MCT members' blood quantum for MCT, other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes, and any other federally recognized American Indian tribes and/or Canadian First Nations. The survey also asked MCT members about their biological children's blood quantum for MCT, other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes, and any other federally recognized American Indian tribes and/or Canadian First Nations. Wilder developed a paper and web version of the survey. See the Appendix for the survey instrument.

Pre-test

In order to be sure the survey instrument (web and paper versions) was working properly, that the questions were clear and acceptable to respondents, and to assess the degree to which MCT members can accurately report their own and their children's blood quantum, Wilder Research completed a pre-test with 46 MCT members, most of whom are staff of MCT or one of the six Bands' enrollment offices.

Wilder Research compared survey respondents' self-reported blood quantum and that of their children against official MCT records and determined that most MCT members reported their blood quantum very accurately. In the pre-test, 36 of 46 pre-test respondents reported their MCT blood quantum exactly the same as the official MCT record. In 8 of the 10 cases where pre-test respondents mis-reported their blood quantum, their error was within 1/8 of the official blood quantum, and in the other two cases the respondent did not fill in the numerator of the fraction (i.e., missing data).

Sample

A sample of 3,206 MCT members was randomly selected by Wilder Research to participate in the full survey. Random selection was used to ensure that the survey respondents are statistically representative of the overall adult population of MCT. Overall, 785 MCT members completed the survey through the random sampling process.

In addition, the survey was advertised by MCT on their website and in the Bands' local newspapers, including providing a link to the web survey and offering to send paper copies of the survey. A total of 59 MCT members completed the survey using this option.

Data collection

Survey data collection was completed between December 2012 and May 2013. All of the originally sampled MCT members were sent an initial invitation letter telling them about this survey and asking them to complete the survey by following a URL link to the survey. The letter also included a unique password for each sampled Band member (that was linked to their official tribal enrollment ID number), and a toll-free number to call Wilder Research and complete the survey over the phone. These originally sampled MCT members who did not complete the survey were sent a reminder post card that also included the same information as the letter. All originally sampled MCT members who still did not complete the survey were sent a final invitation letter along with a paper copy of the survey and a postage-paid return envelope.

Wilder had to add more sample for Bois Forte and Mille Lacs to reach the target of at least 100 completed surveys from the random sample from each Band – these additional members that were sampled later just received an initial survey packet with the paper survey enclosed and a follow-up/reminder phone calls from Wilder Research.

MCT secured several prizes that were used as incentives to complete the survey, including play-and-stay packages at each of the bands' casinos. The prize drawings were held and prizes were distributed in August 2013.

Completed surveys

Overall, 785 MCT members completed the survey. See Figure 1 for more information.

1. Final number of completed surveys

	Number sampled	Number sampled who completed survey	Number who opted in	Total number of completed surveys
Bois Forte	432	106	6	112
Fond du Lac	400	109	13	122
Grand Portage	400	172	3	175
Leech Lake	400	112	14	126
Mille Lacs	1,174	103	6	109
White Earth	400	124	17	141
MCT total	3,206	726	59	785

Data cleaning

Wilder Research checked all surveys for completion and accuracy. Survey data were entered into data analysis software, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), for further analysis and verification. Quality control checks were completed on all variables. In some cases, the MCT population records were used to verify official blood quantum and other variables. (We used the MCT blood quantum from MCT records rather than the blood quantum they self-reported on the survey in cases where these numbers did not match.) If a member child's MCT blood quantum was missing on the survey, we used the blood quantum from MCT records when possible, by matching on the child's name.

Coding was completed to categorize responses to the final open-ended question. See the Appendix for the codebook and the responses given by the MCT members who were surveyed.

Population projection methods

Wilder Research worked with Gillaspy Demographics (Tom Gillaspy, independent consultant) to complete these population projections for MCT. Dr. Gillaspy has extensive experience projecting populations. He served as Minnesota's State Demographer for 33 years.

Projections were made for MCT and each of the six Bands for the period of 2013 through 2098. The projections were made using a *cohort component method* in which the population of MCT for 2013 was adjusted for births and deaths. (Normally, the cohort component method would also account for migration; however, in this case migration is not a component since the population is based upon tribal enrollment, not location.) Since the population for each of the six Bands was projected using the same survival and fertility rates, differences in projected population by the year 2098 depend on the starting (2013) age and gender profile of the enrolled membership. Baseline population data was provided by the MCT enrollment office.

Mortality component

The 2013 MCT population was aged by five-year cohort into the future using survival ratios based upon life table computations. Since a life table for MCT was not available, a life table was estimated using the most recent and relevant mortality data available.

The basic life table for MCT was estimated using mortality characteristics of northern Minnesota counties for the American Indian population during the period 2002 to 2010. This life table resulted in an expectation of life for males at birth of 69.66 years and for females of 74.91 years. These results were compared against 2002 results for Canadian

First Nations population from Statistics Canada. In general, the northern Minnesota counties had similar mortality characteristics to that of the Canadian First Nations in 2002. (Infant mortality was somewhat lower for Canadian First Nations, especially for males, but this could be due to random variation in the smaller population base in northern Minnesota. The mortality rate for American Indians age 45+ was lower in northern Minnesota than for Canadian First Nations. So, although these rates are similar, differences in timing, population size, and the impact of random variation in such a small population can have an impact on the overall mortality rates.)

The survival ratios used in the projections are shown in Figure 2, with intervening years interpolated. Based on the starting point life table and the 2063 target survival ratios developed from the United Nations' model life tables selected using U.S. Census Bureau life expectancy targets for American Indian from their most recent round of national projections, all of the intervening years of survival ratios were filled in by using a straight line interpolation (a constant percent change in the survival ratio) to equal the 2063 target numbers.

2. Survival ratios used in MCT population projections

	Female		Male	
	2013	2063	2013	2063
Birth	0.9794	0.981031	0.9631	0.96781
0-4	0.99231	0.993435	0.98976	0.991441
5-9	0.998821	0.998945	0.998474	0.998647
10-14	0.999395	0.99941	0.999302	0.999281
15-19	0.999314	0.999303	0.999038	0.998975
20-24	0.995979	0.996585	0.985932	0.988411
25-29	0.993894	0.994853	0.984939	0.987558
30-34	0.991866	0.993133	0.98497	0.987455
35-39	0.989845	0.991345	0.984995	0.987199
40-44	0.984231	0.986576	0.97857	0.981555
45-49	0.978645	0.981656	0.972197	0.975525
50-54	0.973021	0.976422	0.960896	0.964856
55-59	0.967437	0.970744	0.949713	0.953216
60-64	0.954773	0.958259	0.920124	0.925113
65-69	0.94228	0.943851	0.891413	0.895118
70-74	0.890233	0.895131	0.851657	0.852661
75-79	0.840913	0.843417	0.776128	0.776128
80-84	0.7108	0.720106	0.6371	0.641355
85+	0.4727	0.4727	0.4363	0.44298

Survival ratios were computed from the life table calculations for five-year age sex groups. Survival ratios were increased to account for increased longevity that is expected in the future. The U.S. Census Bureau, in their latest projections made in 2012, assumes a 2060 life expectancy for American Indian males nationally of 80.4 years at birth, and for females it is projected to be 84.7 years at birth. For purposes of the MCT projections, we assumed a 2063 life expectancy at birth for males of 80 years and life expectancy at birth for females of 85 years. With these targets, we used the United Nations' general model abridged life tables and interpolated the changes in survivor ratios by five-year age sex group to increase survivor ratios from 2013 to 2063 and then held constant from 2063 to 2098.

Fertility component

The basic fertility rate calculation for MCT was made using birthrate information from the Minnesota Department of Health for the years of 2007 to 2010 by age of mother, for American Indian mothers. These birthrates by five-year age group resulted in a total fertility rate of 2.54. For Minnesota, this compares fairly closely with the results of fertility rates for Canadian First Nations in 2002 from Statistics Canada. Figure 3 shows the age specific fertility rates per 1000 women.

3. Age-specific fertility rates used for MCT population projections

Age of Mom	Rate Per 1,000
15-19	74.22
20-24	170.75
25-29	130.21
30-34	79.67
35-39	42.41
40-44	10.8

The most recent Census Bureau projections for the U.S. population projects a total fertility rate for American Indians of 2.22 in 2013 and 2.02 in 2058. That translates to a drop in fertility rate of approximately 1 percent every five years from now through 2058. Although MCT has a slightly higher starting fertility rate of 2.54, we assumed the same rate of decline in fertility rate between now and 2063 as what is projected for the U.S. as a whole, resulting in a MCT assumed fertility rate in 2063 of 2.2974 and then constant thereafter until 2098.

Births were proportionally allocated to 51 percent male and 49 percent female, approximating the current proportional ratio of births by gender.

Fertility adjustment

The population projection for MCT contains the elements of enrollment eligibility as well as births and deaths. The enrollment eligibility criteria were incorporated into the model by applying a proportional factor to the fertility component. Population projections were computed for MCT overall and for each of the six Bands, under the four scenarios for blood quantum, for 2013 through 2098. (No fertility adjustment is needed for scenario 5, lineal descent, which is not based on blood quantum.)

The proportional factors were determined by means of the MCT member survey described above, using the data from MCT women who participated and their children. Missing data required close inspection of the survey results. For many children, both MCT enrollment and blood quantum were reported. For some, the child was indicated as an enrolled member of MCT but blood quantum was not reported. These children were assigned a blood quantum of 1/4. That resolved most of the cases of missing data, but not all. Remaining cases were assigned a blood quantum value of half (50%) of the mother's blood quantum. Similar assignments were made for non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe blood quantum and for non-Chippewa blood quantum. By these means, all of the children were assigned blood quantum values. Figure 4 shows the percent of children born to mothers who are MCT members who are eligible for tribal enrollment under each of the scenarios under consideration. For example, for scenario 1, 48.6 percent of the children born to members have an MCT blood quantum of 1/4 or more. These factors were multiplied by the age specific fertility rates, resulting in an enrollment membership adjusted fertility rate.

4. Fertility adjustment factors used to estimate percent of children born to mothers who are MCT members who would be eligible for MCT tribal enrollment under the scenarios under consideration

Scenario 1 (MCT blood quantum at least 1/4)	.486034
Scenario 2 (MCT plus other Chippewa at least 1/4)	.533708
Scenario 3 (MCT plus other Chippewa plus non-Chippewa at least 1/4)	.573034
Scenario 4 (MCT blood quantum at least 1/8)	.659218

Adjustment for additional number of people who are currently alive who would be eligible to be enrolled under enrollment criteria changes for scenarios 1-4 (NEW, May 2014)

The previously described steps were completed during the first phase of the study. One objective of the second phase of the study was to calculate the number of currently living individuals who would be eligible to become enrolled in MCT if the enrollment criteria

were to be changed. Adding in these individuals to the “base population” provides a more accurate starting population size that was then used to project the future population under scenarios 1-4.

The following steps were used to establish the new base populations for each Band and MCT overall:

1. The current enrolled population in the various Chippewa bands in the U.S. is 188,795.
2. The U.S. Census Bureau (American Community Survey 2010-12) shows 117,149 people in the United States who are single race American Indian with designated tribe of Chippewa. We assumed they are all enrolled.
3. That still leaves a substantial number of enrolled people who do not claim single race. (The U.S. Census Bureau does not collect tribe identification for people identify as more than one race.)
4. Most people who identify as Chippewa live in the five-state area of Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Chippewa people account for 51.6% of the total number of American Indians who were designated as tribal enrollees in the five states.
5. In the five-state area, there are 194,047 people who are more than one race, of which American Indian is one race.
6. Multiply this multi-race population by the percent of Chippewa to total population of American Indians who have a designated tribe found in #4 to yield 100,097 people.
7. We estimated that 71,646 of these people are enrolled members. This leaves 28,451 people who are multi-race American Indian with some relationship to Chippewa who live in the five-state area and who are not enrolled members.
8. Not all of these people would be eligible for enrollment in MCT, even under the possible changes to the enrollment criteria. Therefore, for scenarios 2 and 3 we applied an arbitrary proportion of 50% who may be eligible to be enrolled in MCT.
9. For scenario 4, we set a higher starting population for the addition at 75% of the potential population, rather than 50% of the potential population. However, since that additional population also includes many people with more remote connections to MCT, we used a more constrained fertility rate. Also, for scenario 4 we used the proportion of total MCT members in each Band as of 2013 and estimated this same proportion would hold through the century, rather than estimating the projections

based on age and gender for each Band individually, since adequate data are not available to complete projections at this level.

10. We assumed the age and sex distribution of the total multi-race American Indian population of the five-state area to establish the starting point for the projections. This population is somewhat younger than the current enrolled population of MCT.

The base population was also adjusted for potential enrollment from Canadian First Nations populations, as follows:

1. The 2006 (most recent) Canadian Census shows 24,190 people with a mother tongue of Ojibway (which is the best way to estimate the population, since Canada uses language to measure tribal affiliation).
2. 17,390 of these people live on reserves. We assume they are enrolled. (We could not find any information on tribal enrollment for Canadian First Nations tribes.)
3. Subtracting #2 from #1, we are left with 6,800 people.
4. Again, we assumed a factor of 50% for potential eligibility to enroll in MCT.
5. We assumed the same age/sex distribution as for the U.S. based population.

The results of these adjustments to the base population of MCT are reflected as possible ranges (the known starting population in 2014 based on current enrollment at the low end ranging up to the highest possible base population using the steps described above), because we know that not all people who are alive today who would become eligible for enrollment in MCT if the criteria were to be changed would actually enroll themselves, and certainly not all would enroll immediately. Therefore, these adjusted estimates should be interpreted as the top end of the possible range in population size that could be observed if the enrollment criteria were to be changed.

Lineal descent projections (scenario 5) – NEW, May 2014

In the second phase of this study, projections based on an additional enrollment criteria scenario using lineal descent (scenario 5) were completed. These projections used different methods. We completed the following steps to project the population of MCT under the scenario of lineal descent:

1. We used life expectancy at birth and age 65 from the U.S. CDC historical records for American Indian (and when not available for non-white race) and using the United

Nations' model life tables for the general population, we identified matching survival ratios for men and women from 1940 to 2014.

2. We used CDC historical records for American Indian fertility by age of mother with the final date of 2012 actual results, interpolating for missing years.
3. We adjusted the childbearing pool for American Indian men marrying women of other races. Four data points are available (1960, 1970, 1980, and 2011). Other years were interpolated based on trends in all interracial marriages.
4. We estimated the MCT population to 2014 from the 1941 base roll by age and gender.
5. Starting with the 2014 lineal descent population estimate from base roll data, we used the same survival ratios as in previous projections to project the population out to 2100.
6. We also assumed the male intermarriage rate is constant at the 2011 level of 56%. This number has not changed appreciably since 1980. Prior to 1980, the rate increased rapidly.

There are two very divergent projected fertility rates that are possible for this population. Recent trends in fertility have been heavily influenced by events since 2000 (9/11, the recession, a relatively poor housing and job market, etc.) and are rather low right now for U.S. standards (though not by some international standards). The U.S. Census Bureau in its most recent round of projections estimated fertility rates rebounding to approximately replacement level of a total fertility rate about 2.1 to 2.2 for American Indians and about 1.96 for the total U.S. population, which is much higher than the rates of 1.345 for American Indians and 1.88 for the overall population that were actually observed during 2012. These differences in projected fertility rates can make a big difference in the total population size after 85 years.

Projections to 2100 using a lower fertility rate

1. We started with the official 2012 CDC fertility rates by age. This is a bit higher than in the previous projections but is still relatively low, with a Total Fertility Rate of 1.345.
2. We estimated a declining fertility rate annually to 2065 as per the 2010 U.S. Census projection series.

Projections to 2100 using a higher fertility rate

1. Fertility over the past 15 or so year has fallen dramatically, especially as the result of the recession, slow recovery and related issues. Because these recent trends are assumed to be a divergence from the pattern that will be observed going forward, these higher projections raises current fertility levels to the revised 2012 U.S. Census Bureau's projection of American Indian fertility by 2030.
2. We started with a Total Fertility Rate of 1.345 in 2015, raised it to 1.58 by 2020, raised it to 1.81 in 2025, raised it to 2.05 by 2030, and hold it constant after that.

We believe there will be a rebound in the fertility rates of the American Indian and overall U.S. population, and that the higher projection is closer to being realistic. (The two series begin to separate substantially after about 2040.)

Results of the population projections

The main findings from the population projections are shown in the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Population Projections Summary Report (May 2014). The following points summarize the key results from this study.

Key findings

- The overall population of MCT and each of the Bands is declining significantly under the current enrollment criteria (1/4 MCT blood quantum, scenario 1).
- This population decline will also be accompanied by a substantial aging of the population. Nearly half of MCT members will be age 65+ by the later part of this century (under scenario 1), compared with just over 10% in 2013. This significant aging of the population will have a profound impact on the characteristics and operations (i.e., member programming and service needs) of MCT.
- All of the scenarios using 1/4 blood quantum (scenarios 1, 2, and 3) will result in steep population declines over the remainder of this century.
- The adjusted fertility rate for the population is low (1.235 children per woman's lifetime) under the current enrollment criteria. A fertility rate of approximately 2.1 or higher (or other changes to the enrollment criteria) is needed to maintain or increase population size.
- The scenario using 1/8 blood quantum (scenario 4) results in initial increases in population size and projections that the population size will remain relatively constant or decline somewhat through the end of this century.
- The scenario using lineal descent (scenario 5) results in a significant initial increase in population size (the 2015 population is estimated to be around 63,000) and projections that the population could range anywhere from just over 120,000 to over 200,000 (more likely) by the end of the century.

The last question on the MCT member survey asked members if they had any comments about MCT's current enrollment criteria or any other comments about tribal enrollment. Overall, 484 comments were provided. All of these comments can be found in the Appendix.

A total of 73 MCT members made comments suggesting that the blood quantum criteria should be lowered. Here are a few examples of their comments.

1/4 is too high for a minimum qualification and should be lower to 1/32 or less. All those on the rolls and their immediate descendants should be recognized and afforded benefits regardless of where they live.

I would like for it to be dropped down to 1/8 so that the tribe can grow. And so my children can become enrolled.

I just wish they could lower the blood quantum so I can enroll my children. They are Indian, they look Indian, they breathe Indian... When I die and I'm 55, the blood line stops with me. My brothers and sisters are in the same situation with their own children.

A total of 41 MCT members made comments suggesting that the current blood quantum criteria should be maintained by MCT. Here are a few examples of their comments.

I've never had any problems with tribal enrollment. They should just leave it at 1/4. I saw something on the news today about White Earth trying to change something. That's just my two cents.

I like it the way it is. It [eligibility criteria] should stay closed, not open like the Cherokee have done. They have too many people enrolled now and don't take care of their people like we do.

I think the blood quantum should stay at one quarter and nothing less!

A total of 39 MCT members made comments suggesting that the blood quantum criteria should be based on lineal descent or a similar approach. Here are a few examples of their comments.

Our ancestors were taken advantage of and I feel we have a right to be a part of the tribe. We are descendants and it does not matter what our blood quantum is -- we are members of the tribe.

I highly disagree with the MCT blood quantum criteria of 1/4. I believe tribal enrollment should be established by proven blood relation and hereditary.

The criteria is a form of generational genocide. It shouldn't matter HOW much Native blood one holds, it should only matter that they are Native!

Many other members made specific comments about their families, especially related to frustration that their children and/or grandchildren cannot be enrolled. Here are a few of those comments.

This has been an ongoing issue as to non-inclusion of any other acceptance of blood within MCT, etc. I want my 3 children enrolled along with my grandchildren...When the parents (biological) are the same for all their children, and due to DOB (1961?) cut-off year, the younger sibling(s) can't be enrolled but their sibling is.

Unable to enroll my daughters, grandchildren or great-grandchildren due to present policies. I am anxious to see this change in the future.

My father was born in Grand Portage in 1916. I was living in grand Portage in 1941. My children are not eligible to partake of their heritage, yet children who were born after them are members of the Grand Portage band. My family has been in Grand Portage for over 100 years and my family ties to Grand Portage will end with my demise! IS THIS FAIR!?!

Results: Scenario 1

Keep the tribal enrollment criteria the same – 1/4 MCT blood quantum.

Figure 5 shows the results of the population projections under this scenario.

5. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 1

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	41,110	3,375	4,226	1,113	9,244	4,406	18,746
2018	40,633	3,440	4,165	1,069	9,434	4,555	17,971
2023	39,700	3,475	4,067	1,008	9,508	4,683	16,959
2028	38,232	3,474	3,932	933	9,432	4,775	15,686
2033	36,192	3,423	3,741	845	9,206	4,798	14,179
2038	33,723	3,328	3,497	745	8,884	4,756	12,513
2043	30,964	3,196	3,221	640	8,473	4,657	10,777
2048	28,142	3,034	2,941	542	7,983	4,508	9,133
2053	25,539	2,856	2,683	460	7,439	4,322	7,779
2058	23,245	2,674	2,458	393	6,874	4,106	6,741
2063	21,134	2,484	2,253	338	6,304	3,865	5,890
2068	19,089	2,281	2,051	291	5,711	3,601	5,154
2073	17,115	2,071	1,853	250	5,113	3,319	4,509
2078	15,214	1,857	1,663	214	4,526	3,024	3,930
2083	13,463	1,652	1,485	185	3,987	2,726	3,427
2088	11,918	1,470	1,324	162	3,518	2,437	3,008
2093	10,546	1,302	1,174	143	3,109	2,162	2,656
2098	8,993	1,109	995	120	2,663	1,835	2,271

Results: Scenario 2

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/4 blood quantum including MCT and other Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized American Indian or Canadian First Nations tribes.

Figure 6a shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is the current MCT population (i.e., no one who is currently alive today would become enrolled even if the enrollment criteria were to be changed).

6a. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 2 assuming the current base population

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	41,110	3,375	4,226	1,113	9,244	4,406	18,746
2018	40,773	3,455	4,178	1,071	9,478	4,578	18,012
2023	39,964	3,506	4,093	1,011	9,592	4,729	17,033
2028	38,603	3,518	3,970	938	9,547	4,844	15,786
2033	36,662	3,479	3,790	851	9,350	4,888	14,303
2038	34,312	3,400	3,559	753	9,064	4,869	12,668
2043	31,682	3,282	3,296	650	8,692	4,796	10,966
2048	28,985	3,136	3,030	553	8,240	4,671	9,355
2053	26,502	2,972	2,785	472	7,732	4,510	8,031
2058	24,322	2,804	2,573	407	7,199	4,316	7,022
2063	22,319	2,628	2,379	354	6,662	4,097	6,198
2068	20,375	2,438	2,188	308	6,100	3,854	5,488
2073	18,495	2,239	2,001	268	5,530	3,591	4,867
2078	16,677	2,035	1,819	234	4,967	3,312	4,309
2083	14,997	1,840	1,650	205	4,450	3,029	3,824
2088	13,510	1,664	1,495	183	3,997	2,752	3,419
2093	12,180	1,502	1,350	164	3,600	2,486	3,077
2098	10,625	1,309	1,172	142	3,152	2,160	2,691

Figure 6b shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is adjusted to include individuals who are currently alive who may become eligible for enrollment in MCT if the enrollment criteria were to be changed.

6b. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 2 assuming a base population that includes everyone currently alive who would become eligible to enroll

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	58,438	4,798	6,007	1,582	13,140	6,263	26,648
2018	58,726	4,977	6,018	1,543	13,652	6,594	25,943
2023	58,509	5,133	5,992	1,480	14,043	6,923	24,937
2028	57,625	5,252	5,926	1,399	14,251	7,231	23,564
2033	55,920	5,307	5,781	1,298	14,262	7,456	21,817
2038	53,555	5,306	5,555	1,175	14,147	7,600	19,773
2043	50,717	5,254	5,277	1,040	13,914	7,677	17,555
2048	47,663	5,157	4,982	909	13,550	7,682	15,383
2053	44,705	5,014	4,698	797	13,042	7,607	13,547
2058	41,949	4,837	4,437	703	12,417	7,444	12,111
2063	39,268	4,624	4,185	623	11,721	7,209	10,905
2068	36,526	4,370	3,923	551	10,935	6,908	9,838
2073	33,752	4,085	3,652	489	10,091	6,553	8,882
2078	30,921	3,774	3,373	434	9,210	6,142	7,989
2083	28,101	3,447	3,091	385	8,337	5,675	7,165
2088	25,418	3,130	2,813	344	7,520	5,178	6,433
2093	22,934	2,828	2,542	309	6,778	4,682	5,795
2098	19,934	2,456	2,198	266	5,914	4,052	5,048

Results: Scenario 3

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/4 blood quantum including MCT and any other federally recognized American Indian or Canadian First Nations tribes.

Figure 7a shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is the current MCT population (i.e., no one who is currently alive today would become enrolled even if the enrollment criteria were to be changed).

7a. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 3 assuming the current base population

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	41,110	3,375	4,226	1,113	9,244	4,406	18,746
2018	40,888	3,469	4,189	1,073	9,515	4,598	18,046
2023	40,183	3,531	4,114	1,014	9,661	4,767	17,095
2028	38,910	3,555	4,001	942	9,642	4,901	15,869
2033	37,051	3,526	3,830	856	9,469	4,963	14,406
2038	34,805	3,459	3,610	759	9,214	4,964	12,799
2043	32,289	3,356	3,360	658	8,877	4,912	11,127
2048	29,705	3,223	3,106	563	8,459	4,810	9,544
2053	27,330	3,073	2,872	483	7,983	4,670	8,248
2058	25,255	2,917	2,672	420	7,482	4,498	7,266
2063	23,355	2,754	2,489	368	6,975	4,300	6,468
2068	21,510	2,576	2,309	323	6,443	4,076	5,783
2073	19,721	2,388	2,132	284	5,900	3,832	5,186
2078	17,988	2,195	1,960	251	5,363	3,570	4,649
2083	16,383	2,009	1,798	224	4,867	3,302	4,183
2088	14,961	1,841	1,651	202	4,434	3,039	3,795
2093	13,681	1,685	1,512	184	4,051	2,784	3,465
2098	12,141	1,494	1,335	162	3,608	2,461	3,081

Figure 7b shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is adjusted to include individuals who are currently alive who may become eligible for enrollment in MCT if the enrollment criteria were to be changed.

7b. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 3 assuming a base population that includes everyone currently alive who would become eligible to enroll

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	58,438	4,798	6,007	1,582	13,140	6,263	26,648
2018	58,748	4,984	6,018	1,541	13,671	6,606	25,928
2023	58,536	5,144	5,993	1,477	14,074	6,945	24,903
2028	57,644	5,267	5,928	1,395	14,284	7,261	23,509
2033	55,930	5,323	5,782	1,292	14,294	7,492	21,747
2038	53,570	5,324	5,557	1,169	14,182	7,640	19,699
2043	50,742	5,273	5,280	1,034	13,950	7,719	17,485
2048	47,693	5,175	4,986	903	13,582	7,723	15,324
2053	44,740	5,030	4,702	791	13,068	7,646	13,502
2058	41,991	4,851	4,442	698	12,441	7,479	12,080
2063	39,318	4,637	4,190	619	11,743	7,239	10,890
2068	36,587	4,381	3,928	549	10,959	6,933	9,837
2073	33,824	4,095	3,657	487	10,119	6,572	8,894
2078	31,004	3,783	3,378	433	9,244	6,154	8,013
2083	28,196	3,457	3,095	385	8,377	5,683	7,199
2088	25,525	3,141	2,817	345	7,565	5,185	6,474
2093	23,053	2,839	2,547	310	6,827	4,691	5,839
2098	20,063	2,469	2,207	268	5,962	4,066	5,091

Results: Scenario 4

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility 1/8 blood quantum including MCT blood only.

Figure 8a shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is the current MCT population (i.e., no one who is currently alive today would become enrolled even if the enrollment criteria were to be changed).

8a. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 4 assuming the current base population

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	41,110	3,375	4,226	1,113	9,244	4,406	18,746
2018	42,143	3,611	4,307	1,091	9,915	4,806	18,412
2023	42,554	3,807	4,344	1,046	10,411	5,184	17,762
2028	42,233	3,952	4,339	985	10,672	5,520	16,765
2033	41,382	4,048	4,281	913	10,794	5,791	15,554
2038	40,586	4,154	4,212	837	10,982	6,065	14,336
2043	39,764	4,253	4,137	758	11,166	6,334	13,117
2048	38,924	4,334	4,068	685	11,275	6,575	11,986
2053	38,349	4,404	4,030	630	11,339	6,795	11,151
2058	38,209	4,485	4,037	592	11,421	7,005	10,669
2063	38,385	4,574	4,077	568	11,540	7,214	10,412
2068	38,705	4,659	4,129	551	11,661	7,416	10,289
2073	39,147	4,743	4,191	542	11,790	7,613	10,267
2078	39,680	4,827	4,263	539	11,934	7,801	10,315
2083	40,382	4,923	4,351	542	12,132	7,991	10,443
2088	41,286	5,039	4,454	552	12,397	8,190	10,654
2093	42,305	5,165	4,564	564	12,704	8,393	10,915
2098	42,663	5,208	4,596	567	12,826	8,454	11,012

Figure 8b shows the results of the population projections under this scenario assuming the base population is adjusted to include individuals who are currently alive who may become eligible for enrollment in MCT if the enrollment criteria were to be changed.

8b. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 4 assuming a base population that includes everyone currently alive who would become eligible to enroll

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2013	65,432	5,372	6,726	1,771	14,713	7,013	29,837
2018	67,211	5,759	6,869	1,740	15,813	7,665	29,364
2023	68,315	6,112	6,974	1,679	16,714	8,322	28,515
2028	68,528	6,413	7,041	1,598	17,317	8,957	27,203
2033	67,879	6,640	7,022	1,498	17,705	9,499	25,513
2038	66,924	6,850	6,945	1,380	18,109	10,001	23,639
2043	65,663	7,023	6,832	1,252	18,439	10,459	21,660
2048	64,172	7,145	6,707	1,129	18,589	10,840	19,761
2053	62,785	7,210	6,598	1,031	18,564	11,125	18,256
2058	61,699	7,242	6,519	956	18,442	11,312	17,228
2063	60,791	7,244	6,457	900	18,276	11,425	16,490
2068	59,867	7,206	6,387	852	18,037	11,471	15,915
2073	58,941	7,141	6,310	816	17,751	11,462	15,458
2078	57,950	7,050	6,226	787	17,429	11,393	15,064
2083	56,962	6,944	6,137	765	17,113	11,272	14,731
2088	56,114	6,849	6,054	750	16,849	11,131	14,480
2093	55,459	6,771	5,983	739	16,654	11,003	14,309
2098	53,781	6,565	5,794	715	16,168	10,657	13,882

Results: Scenario 5

Change the tribal enrollment criteria by making enrollment eligibility based in lineal descent from a member of the 1941 MCT base roll.

Figure 9a shows the results of the population projections from 1941 to the present using lineal descent as the enrollment criteria.

9a. Detailed population estimates from 1941 to present for MCT under scenario 5

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
1941	13,661	710	1,376	391	2,191	364	8,629
1945	16,895	840	1,733	532	2,744	427	10,619
1950	19,648	965	2,004	628	3,170	509	12,371
1955	21,591	1,084	2,137	688	3,467	611	13,605
1960	23,371	1,218	2,226	739	3,804	708	14,677
1965	25,160	1,331	2,362	801	4,155	770	15,742
1970	28,403	1,496	2,680	921	4,691	855	17,760
1975	31,633	1,662	2,991	1,035	5,181	953	19,810
1980	35,261	1,867	3,309	1,151	5,726	1,086	22,122
1985	38,876	2,084	3,605	1,261	6,288	1,226	24,412
1990	42,685	2,308	3,932	1,380	6,887	1,360	26,819
1995	46,909	2,542	4,317	1,516	7,542	1,495	29,498
2000	45,207	2,450	4,159	1,463	7,252	1,441	28,442
2005	55,275	2,994	5,084	1,794	8,844	1,764	34,796
2010	60,655	3,295	5,502	1,970	9,703	1,947	38,238
2015	63,033	3,427	5,742	2,045	10,075	2,028	39,717

Figure 9b shows the results of the population projections through 2100 under this scenario using lower end fertility estimates.

9b. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 5 assuming lower end fertility estimates

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2015	63,033	3,427	5,742	2,045	10,075	2,028	39,717
2020	65,778	3,578	5,991	2,134	10,509	2,116	41,449
2025	71,280	3,875	6,499	2,315	11,383	2,288	44,920
2030	76,083	4,134	6,921	2,474	12,145	2,441	47,967
2035	80,611	4,383	7,300	2,621	12,867	2,591	50,848
2040	84,260	4,586	7,614	2,739	13,453	2,712	53,157
2045	87,628	4,771	7,914	2,848	13,995	2,821	55,280
2050	91,302	4,969	8,250	2,968	14,583	2,937	57,595
2055	95,188	5,180	8,598	3,095	15,203	3,060	60,051
2060	99,009	5,388	8,930	3,220	15,813	3,184	62,474
2065	102,476	5,578	9,226	3,333	16,369	3,297	64,672
2070	105,477	5,743	9,484	3,431	16,851	3,395	66,572
2075	108,430	5,904	9,745	3,527	17,325	3,490	68,439
2080	111,468	6,069	10,015	3,626	17,811	3,587	70,360
2085	114,625	6,241	10,294	3,729	18,315	3,688	72,358
2090	117,830	6,416	10,573	3,834	18,828	3,792	74,386
2095	121,022	6,591	10,853	3,938	19,339	3,896	76,406
2100	122,449	6,668	10,977	3,984	19,568	3,941	77,308

Figure 9c shows the results of the population projections through 2100 under this scenario assuming higher end fertility estimates.

9c. Detailed population projections for MCT under scenario 5 assuming higher end fertility estimates

Year	Total MCT	Bois Forte	Fond du Lac	Grand Portage	Leech Lake	Mille Lacs	White Earth
2015	63,033	3,427	5,742	2,045	10,075	2,028	39,717
2020	65,778	3,578	5,991	2,134	10,509	2,116	41,449
2025	71,280	3,875	6,499	2,315	11,383	2,288	44,920
2030	78,057	4,242	7,097	2,538	12,460	2,505	49,215
2035	85,555	4,653	7,737	2,782	13,658	2,750	53,975
2040	90,966	4,951	8,210	2,957	14,524	2,928	57,396
2045	96,250	5,240	8,684	3,128	15,372	3,099	60,726
2050	102,565	5,583	9,258	3,335	16,383	3,300	64,707
2055	110,362	6,006	9,955	3,589	17,628	3,549	69,635
2060	118,976	6,475	10,713	3,870	19,004	3,827	75,087
2065	127,560	6,945	11,465	4,149	20,377	4,105	80,518
2070	135,992	7,405	12,211	4,424	21,728	4,378	85,846
2075	145,074	7,900	13,023	4,719	23,181	4,670	91,580
2080	155,340	8,459	13,941	5,054	24,822	4,999	98,065
2085	166,885	9,087	14,968	5,430	26,667	5,371	105,361
2090	179,440	9,771	16,083	5,839	28,674	5,776	113,296
2095	192,805	10,500	17,273	6,274	30,811	6,207	121,739
2100	205,356	11,184	18,395	6,682	32,818	6,611	129,665

Appendix

Survey instrument

Codebook

All respondents' comments to open-ended question

Survey instrument

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Member Survey

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) is looking at the tribal enrollment criteria for MCT members. The results of this survey will be used to help MCT consider possible changes to enrollment criteria and how this could affect total tribal population size.

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** This survey is for informational purposes only; no tribal enrollment changes will be made based on your responses to this survey.

Please complete the following information. Your responses are confidential -- no one but the study team will see your answers.

Your first name: _____ Your last name: _____

Your date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ Your tribal enrollment number: _____

Today's date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ Your gender: ¹ Male ² Female

The first questions are about you.

1a. MCT has record of you as an enrolled member of one of MCT's member bands. Do you know what blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood) the MCT has on record for you?

¹ Yes →

² No (go to 1c)

1b. What is your exact blood quantum on record with MCT? Enter your response as a fraction (for example: 1/1, 1/2, 1/4, 23/64, 53/128). _____

1c. Which MCT band are you enrolled with?

¹ Bois Forte

² Fond du Lac

³ Grand Portage

⁴ Leech Lake

⁵ Mille Lacs

⁶ White Earth

2a. Outside of MCT, do you have any other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood (such as Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, Red Cliff, Bad River, etc.)?

¹ Yes →

² No (go to 3a)

2b. What other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe(s)?

2c. What is your blood quantum for this tribe/these tribe(s)? _____

3a. Outside of Chippewa/Ojibwe blood, do you have any blood from other federally recognized tribes (such as Dakota, Cherokee, Cheyenne, etc.) or Canadian First Nations?

¹ Yes →

² No (go to 4a)

3b. What other federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?

3c. What is your blood quantum for this tribe/these tribe(s)? _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Next, we have some questions about your biological children. This information will help the MCT understand what effect changing tribal enrollment criteria could have on the total MCT population size. **Please provide information for each of your biological children. If you do not have any biological children go to question 4 on page 6.**

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please DO NOT send any separate documentation to the MCT at this time. We are only asking these questions for informational purposes; no enrollment status will be changed as the result of this survey.

CHILD #1 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #2 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #3 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #4 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #5 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #6 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #7 (if none, go to question 4 on page 6)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO next child)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

CHILD #8 (if none, go to question 4 below)

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Gender: ¹ Male ² Female

A. Is this child an enrolled member of the MCT?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO B)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO C)
B. (If enrolled in the MCT) What is this child's tribal enrollment number?	_____	
C. What is this child's MCT blood quantum (fraction of MCT blood)?	_____	
D. Does this child have any blood from any non-MCT Chippewa/Ojibwe tribes?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO E)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO F)
E. What is this child's blood quantum for this other Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	
F. Does this child have any blood from any non-Chippewa/Ojibwe federally recognized tribes or Canadian First Nations?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹ Yes (GO TO G)	<input type="checkbox"/> ² No (GO TO Q4)
G. What is this child's blood quantum for this other non-Chippewa/Ojibwe tribe?	_____	

***** If you have additional biological children please attach their information on separate pages *****

4. Please provide any comments about the MCT's current enrollment eligibility criteria, which is 1/4 (one-quarter) MCT blood quantum, or any other comments about tribal enrollment.

Miigwetch (thank you)!

Codebook

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Codebook May 22, 2013

2a. Outside of MCT, do you have any other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood (such as Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, Red Cliff, Bad River, etc.)?

10	Bad River
15	Red Cliff
20	Red Lake
25	Turtle Mountain
30	Chippewa Cree
35	St. Croix Chippewa
40	Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC)
45	Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO)
50	Lake Superior Chippewa (unspecified)
55	Legard Louis Wisconsin Chippewa (outside FDL)
60	Couchiching First Nation
65	Lac LaCroix First Nation
70	Long Plain First Nation
<hr/>	
80	Unspecified other Chippewa/Ojibwe blood (including Pembina)
85	Named other MCT band (Bois Forte / Fond du Lac / Grand Portage / Leech Lake / White Earth / Mille Lacs)

3a. Outside of Chippewa/Ojibwe blood, do you have any blood from other federally recognized tribes (such as Dakota, Cherokee, Cheyenne, etc.) or Canadian First Nations?

10	Alaskan Native
15	Blackfoot/Blackfeet
20	Cherokee
25	Cheyenne
30	Creek
35	Ho-Chunk/Winnebago
40	Mohawk
45	Navajo
50	Oneida
55	Ponca
60	Potawatomi (Hannahville Indian Community)
65	Yana/Yahi/Deer Creek/Mill Creek
<hr/>	
70	Assiniboine Dakota/Sioux
72	Devil's Lake Dakota/Sioux
74	Lower Dakota/Sioux
76	Mdewakaton Dakota/Sioux
78	Ogala Dakota/Sioux
80	Santee Dakota/Sioux
82	Standing Rock Dakota/Sioux
84	Yankton Dakota/Sioux
86	Unspecified Dakota/Sioux
88	Sisseton Sioux
<hr/>	
90	Chapleau Cree First Nation
95	Fort William First Nation
115	Shoal Lake Cree Nation
120	Unspecified Canadian First Nation
<hr/>	
130	Other federally recognized tribe/First Nation

4 (6). Please provide any comments about the MCT's current enrollment eligibility criteria, which is 1/4 (one-quarter) MCT blood quantum, or any other comments about tribal enrollment.

10	Blood quantum requirement should be lowered.
20	Blood quantum should include all Chippewa/Ojibwe blood.
25	Blood quantum should include all Native American blood, including Canadian First Nations.
35	Eligibility should be based on lineage/descendancy.
40	The eligibility criteria should remain the same.
45	Adopted children of MCT families should not be eligible for tribal membership.
50	Eligibility should be redefined by changing the cut-off year for enrollment.
60	My children are ineligible, but I wish they could be enrolled.
65	My grandchildren are ineligible, but I wish they could be enrolled.
70	I am concerned about the tribe dying out.
75	Problems with tribal administration/management
80	More research should be done to ensure that blood quantum numbers are correct.
85	Some of my or my family's blood is unaccounted for.
90	I don't understand the blood quantum requirement/calculation/how to enroll my family.
95	It's unfair that some family members can be enrolled while some cannot, depending on their date of birth.
100	Listed family ancestry
110	No comment
120	Indirect comment

Respondents' open-ended comments to the final question on the survey:

Please provide any comments about the MCT's current enrollment eligibility criteria, which is 1/4 (one-quarter) MCT blood quantum, or any other comments about tribal enrollment

Just for the Bois Forte reservation, I would like to see the 1/4 lowered to 1/8. And that is about all I would want to change on that. The reason being is that my grandkids could be enrolled. Right now, the two oldest have children who can't be enrolled because they are 3/16. I kind of think there are a lot of people who would like it lowered to 1/8. Reservations decide that for themselves. I was to an Elders meeting at Bois Forte – they were talking about this, and they were trying to decide if Bois Forte should recognize another reservation. They don't recognize the blood of another tribe (like Canadian First Nations) as counting towards the 1/4. That is same issue they are talking about here, and there are a lot of people who would like to lower the 1/4 to 1/8. My family in particular, we hunt a lot, and if you are not a member, you can't hunt on Bois Forte reservation. My grandson can't hunt on this reservation. I would like to hunt with the family.

My hope is to have our Grand Portage Constitution finished. We had a few meetings in Portage, with [xxxxx], and were surveying our members to figure out if a change should be done with the criteria to accept 1/8 quantum, or even direct descendants qualification, enrollment before we lose our heritage and rights as Anishinaabe "Original People". Miigwetch.

1/4 is too high for a minimum qualification and should be lowered to 1/32 or less. All those on the rolls, and their immediate descendants, should be recognized and afforded benefits, regardless of where they live.

Please lower these blood quotas and change the mandatory birth dates for enrollment (I have two siblings who could join, but the birth date minimum prevents them).

I have two children that are not enrolled. I wish the criteria eligibility of 1/4 was different. They carry all the genes from our ancestors, and they should be recognized as such. Miigwetch.

I would like for it to be dropped down to an eighth, so that the tribe can grow. And that my children can become enrolled.

I just don't like it, my kids are not 25%; they're shy of it. I've tried to enroll them; I sent all the paperwork through. My first one, now she's gonna be 22, and I sent hers in twice. They had different people in the enrollment office, and they said send it in. When the other one was born, I sent it in four times, and I never heard from them – the people ended up leaving it; they all disappeared. (anything else?) no, I just wish they would decrease it from 25% to where my kids could be enrolled.

I believe that the MCT enrollment criteria should be changed to 1/8 blood quantum. My children have been raised to be proud of their Ojibwa heritage and yet are being denied recognition by their own tribe. This should be corrected as soon as possible.

Lower enrollment eligibility, so my children can become members of the MCT.

I believe the eligibility criteria should be lowered to 1/8 (one-eighth) MCT blood quantum, so my children, and other children with 1/8 or greater quantum, can receive benefits they are entitled to and so it will increase the level of tribal members.

I believe this should be dropped down to 20% – 1/5 – so both of my children can be enrolled. My mother wasn't quite 100%, and it affects my children greatly. Miigwech!

I just wish they could lower the blood quantum, so I can enroll my children. They are Indian, they look Indian, they breathe Indian – they are who they are without having a choice.

They should have done this study a long time ago. When I die, and I'm 55, the blood line stops with me. My brothers and sisters are in the same situation with their own children.

It should be 1/8 blood quantum to be enrolled, because there will be a decline in band members in the future. Therefore, our profits can still go to Native blood after there are no more 1/4 bloods. Also, it would let the 1/8 blood still feel like part of the tribe to motivate them to carry on Native ways of life.

I would like to see the criteria reduced, so our tribe can stay strong in numbers, instead of dying out as our people integrate with other races.

I think Grand Portage Reservation should lower blood quantum eligibility criteria to 1/8, due to the tribe becoming smaller, as elders pass away and as tribal members marry outside of their race.

I would like to see it lowered to 1/8. I think this is critical to keep our member numbers sustainable.

Because we are a declining enrollment at Grand Portage, we should drop the quantum to 1/8 to keep this reservation alive and thriving.

The 1/4 blood quantum should be lowered in order to allow more Native Americans to become enrolled. As elders leave us, the membership in MCT goes down, thus reducing federal and state money for programs and services.

I think it should be lowered, I think that any amount of blood quantum should be recognized by the MCT...if they don't, the tribe's going to outsource itself and cease to exist. (What do you mean?) Nobody will be able to make the minimum requirement in the next 50 to 80 years, roughly two generations. (anything else?) I would think that they should lower the blood quantum, and that any amount of blood should be recognized.

They need to lower it, because there's a lot of band members my age, or of my generation, that their blood line dies with them, as far as blood quantum goes. (Recommendations?) They need to go back, look at the rules, and see what's been done, because they've got a lot of us natives down as part Irish. They should look at lowering it just a hair, because according to the government, it was supposed to be an eighth. I'm not too sure about that, but the requirement was under a quarter. (anything else?) That's about it.

I think the tribal enrollment criteria should be set to the lower limit of 1/8 blood quantum.

By the way, my blood quantum is 1/2, but I don't currently know what the MCT has me listed as, which is why I claimed I didn't know how much the MCT has me listed as for a blood quantum. I would certainly hope they agree with me...

It would be great if the quantum was lowered for our children, who are not 1/4, because they still are Native, considered Native American, and cannot be included as members. Our children are the future, and how can they help keep our lands, language, cultures afloat, if they are not considered to have enough Native American blood. Thanks

Please change this blood quantum, so my kids can be enrolled in Bois Forte.

I think you should lower the blood quantum and age.

When, if at all, are they going to lower the eligibility criteria to 1/8?

I'd like to see it be 1/8, but I don't know how they'd provide the services, because it'd add more enrollees. Fond du Lac can't afford that.

I think it is imperative to extend benefits and privileges to include lower blood quantum for the sustainability and longevity of our tribe.

With so many elders passing, perhaps it is time to look at new eligibility criteria of 1/8 MCT blood quantum.

Well, I was just thinking, direct descendants would be nice to cover. My nieces are all 1/8, and great-nieces and -nephews are all 1/16, and it'd be nice if they got paid to go to school like I did. I got paid my tuition, books, and fees, and then I get some annual stipends from gambling and fishing and hunting rights to divide up. (specific?) I think if they went down to 1/16, that'd be good for me.

They should lower the blood quantum to 1/8, so our children could also be enrolled.

At Grand Portage, we have very few people enrolled. Like our Tribal Chairperson has some of his own children that are not enrolled. They should lower the eligibility for people who have Native blood!

I'm 1/2, but my children still won't qualify, it would be a great benefit for college, etc. I believe that the percentage should be 1/8!!

I feel like something needs to be done; there should be some change in the criteria. There are Natives I know, and they are just shy of being that 1/4. (What?) They can't get enrolled a little bit less than the 1/4. I don't think that's fair.

No. (any) I don't have children, so it doesn't matter to me. I could see lowering criteria as a good thing. (why?) Helps children, and they would realize who they are and how it could be different.

I know my children's dad is 1/4, and I don't think they [MCT] are making enough effort to get band members like him enrolled. Also, it would be nice if they lowered it [blood quantum] down to like 1/8.

I would rather see the quantum go down first, before including other Indian blood to make other non-Chippewa enrollable in MCT.

I would like to see the threshold lowered for blood quantum, so they could benefit from the medical and health.

I think, at a minimum, one generation below 1/4 should be enrolled now. Thanks

I think it should be lowered to 20-23%

I think it would be good to have a 2 tier membership system, where 1/4 would be the lowest to receive full benefits and any lower quantum's would have a membership without full benefits. I know the BIA does not consider less than 1/4 blood for benefits. Maybe lower quantum's could receive some kind of recognition within the tribe that could be worth something.

I think the blood quantum should be lowered. They are still trying to eliminate us.

Combine blood from Wisconsin Chippewa tribe to make up the 1/4 for enrollment. Also look at 1/8 MCT as enrollment. I have a half-sister who has less MCT blood (1/8) than my son. She is enrolled because she was grandfathered in years ago. He is not enrolled.

They should let more people/tribes in. My older kids have Turtle Mountain blood through their mother, but they have my MCT blood, too, and they cannot register.

My daughters are half Standing Rock Sioux. (Actually, one is 1/4 Standing Rock.) I understand why the system is the way it is. But, other than Red Lake, it may be good/nice to allow blood from tribes that will participate with MCT, such as Turtle Mountain or Ojibwe from WI or Michigan. Also, I think that the blood quantum should not be lowered to anything less than the current 1/4.

I feel sad that my future grandchildren may not be able to be enrolled at their rezs because their blood quantum continues to be cut in half, if they have children outside their rez – even if they are all MCT or Chippewa tribe.

I would like to include my children's Red Lake blood - their father is 7/16 Leech Lake and 1/2 Red Lake - on paper he looks under half when he's actually 15/16. My children look, on paper, only 33%, when in reality, they are closer to full-blooded. This was just a white man's creation to weed out Native Americans, and it's working.

Two youngest could be enrolled, if Leech Lake took Red Lake blood.

Enrollment rolls are very messed up for many reasons, so actual blood quantum's are not recognized. Oral family records from grandparents do match what the rolls have. I would like to see all Ojibwa & other bands blood quantum's be applied before our Indian people are no longer recognized. Blood quantum's were put in place to eventually eliminate our Indian people. We need to recognize our children and grandchildren and those to come in the future.

I have siblings that are also enrolled. We all have the same mother and father, but my youngest sister does not get recognized because of the year of her birth – this is just not fair. My grandpa was full-blooded quantum – but not recognized – because his mother married someone from the Hayward tribe. This is discrimination!

I think the MCT should recognize all Native (Ojibwe) blood when a person is trying to get enrolled, not just MCT blood.

My whole understanding was that we have our tribe – even though we've kind of broken off as the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, we still have Chippewa tribes that we are part of that make the bigger picture. It seems awfully silly to have relations with anyone from Fond du lac, because this is where I'm from – I'm related to everybody here. Why would I have relations or children with everyone here? I was figuring I had it made, because my husband is part of Superior Chippewa tribe, I was assuming our children would have enough to be enrolled here at Fond du Lac. I can understand me, you know, my father was not part of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, I get that, and he's not part of the Lake Superior Band of Chippewa, so I get that, but my children and husband are part of the whole band. To me, it would make sense that we would include all of the Lake Superior Ojibwe.

Ojibwe blood quantum from Canada should be factored in to a total Indian blood quantum.

I think it should include all Ojibwe blood.

I think that the Cree blood should also be counted as eligibility for enrollment.

We need to take blood from many other tribes to increase the enrollment – Red Lake, in particular. One-quarter is okay, but not allowing Indians enrollment because they aren't from the right area seems like a destructive idea.

If there is a way to enroll Native blood from other federally recognized tribes - my daughter could be enrolled! My grandmother was from Red Cliff and that blood is not counted here.

How come if I have a child from Red Lake - (21/64 over a quarter) - this child's blood don't count. MCT don't recognize the Dakota on Red Lake - why isn't more blood recognized? What good is the main purpose of this survey? 10-15 years ago, they claimed to do something, and 10 years later, they're still asking questions.

I wish they'd open it up, especially to Red Lake, or any of the other tribes. As it is now, my kids are enrolled, but my grandchildren aren't at all. Some of them are Native, and some of them aren't, but if they could count my Red Lake blood, they would be. I think they should open it up to all tribes, regardless of whether or not they're American or Canadian even. I think it should be open to all reservations and all tribes. They're breeding us out.

Please consider all Indian blood from any federally recognized tribe. If we do nothing, we will lose our Native People. An Indian is an Indian, aren't they? My grandchildren have a father from Red Lake that they cannot claim. Their tribal blood line will be gone, if they do not marry MCT blood.

I think that the MCT should allow blood quantum from other tribes to be counted. We are selling our members short, and we should not be so closed-minded in our approach to blood quantum. The blood quantum will continue to shrink, and the MCT will slowly die out, because we don't allow blood from other non-MCT Tribes.

It should include all blood from non-MCT Ojibwe or First Nation Ojibwe at the minimum. Include all other blood from other tribes before we quantum ourselves out of existence.

I would like for MCT to acknowledge outside tribes' blood quantum, as my youngest daughter is considered a half-breed – her grandmother is enrolled in Red Lake, which brings her father's blood quantum down.

My children have 1/4 Chippewa blood quantum, but my mother's Lac LaCroix First Nations ancestry is not recognized by the MCT. They are denied MCT eligibility, because of the Webster Ashburton Treaty that artificially divided the Chippewa people.

The elders told stories about this. The *wendigo* would come and eat all the children that did not have a name. This is a racial construct: conceptualized by a wendigo, that is contrary to all that is known in your heart about how children are to be considered. The officials of the MCT that carry this policy out are purveyors of the genocide used against the Anishinaabe. Treaties are supreme laws of the land; Article IV of Treaty of 1847 stipulates the half-breeds and mixed bloods that reside among them shall be considered simply Chippewa.

Why can't we combine all of our blood quantum from other tribes.

You know, I haven't really thought about that part. As far as I'm concerned, if you have any Native American blood in you at all, you are considered a Native American, even if it's just a very small amount.

I would like the MCT to include other Ojibwe blood (such as Red Lake) and Canadian First Nation Blood. I don't agree with lowering the blood quantum.

I believe MCT should recognize other blood from other tribes. My daughter's father is full-blooded Chippewa/Cree from Rocky Boy, MT.

It should be combined, not lowered.

All blood quantum from other reservations (Chippewa) including Canada, should be accepted by MCT. I consider myself to be full-blood Chippewa, no matter what the MCT records show, long ago there were never any boundaries/reservations, county, state, or country, that separated the people of this land.

I think any child should be able to be registered with a tribe, just because of the fact of the ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act). At the very least, the child could stay with an Indian family.

MCT should recognize all and any Indian blood lineage.

MCT should accept other Indian blood for blood quantum.

I think it is unfair for Native American blood quantum to be counted as it is, even if the Federal Government were to fund a separate program to track and issue certificates of recognition of total blood quantum as how much total Indian we are. Ex: [xxxxx], Address, DOB, SSN/Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe 7/8, Red Lake Band of Ojibwe 1/8, total US American Indian Blood Quantum 8/8. This would be with proof, of course, but this certified verification would be presented for enrollment in one tribe or could be used for verification for services provided by any tribes requiring proof of enrollment. To me, being enrolled in a tribe is okay, as all it means is eligibility for various services and compensations. But nationally, as a whole, we need to hang onto our recognition as American Indians by having documentation to show that I am Native American and, in fact, full-blood. As only allowing recognition of only one tribe and one quantum amount reflects that I am, or we as a nation are, less Indian than we really are. It shouldn't matter if individual tribes want to establish their own rules and eligibility to be enrolled in their individual tribe, as it is in many cases now, as I said.....that does, in fact, entitle us enrollees to certain tribal services, where, as a nation as a whole, we need to be concerned about having recognition and status that allows the federal government to know who we are and eligible for federal services, benefits, and compensations as being enrolled in one tribe, or not enough for any tribe, shouldn't affect it. But getting back to the MCT's 104, as I said, each tribe should still be able to make their own rules as it applies to their own tribe's services and eligibility for those services, and each individual tribe should be allowed to have its own, like Leech Lake having the right, per a vote of the people, to lower the eligibility. Some tribes have more money and more services to provide, and are there for our people. Others seem to be pretty darn greedy and forgot about our people, our families, our children all together. Mii-gwetch!

I think it would be more beneficial for Tribal families if more research would be done into tracing family lines back. That way, more family members could be enrolled. Or else it would be good if the blood quantum requirement would be lowered.

I feel if a Grand Portage Band member enrollee marries an enrolled MCT band member from a different band, the descendant's full blood quantum should be recognized. If we continue on the present course, we may have fewer and fewer enrolled members, but we should also be aware that reducing the 1/4 allows many more descendants to become enrolled. With the current budget woes, resources would be stretched even more and possibly creating more hardship to an ever decreasing budget crisis. I believe we should encourage our children to maintain a healthy percentage of our heritage. If we reduce the quantum, the strain on each of the reservations would increase added pressure on housing, health care, land, natural resources, wildlife, etc. How and why was the 1/4 quantum established? If we start lowering the blood quantum in the near future and again and again in years to follow, how low will the quantum go? Will we be a nation of very, very low blood quantum if this trend starts and continues? Our elected officials and band members who may be of low quantum in the future may not be quite as caring and keep lowering the quantum to maintain eligible enrollees.

The blood quantum should not be separate in one state. We are all one in Minnesota. This causes generations/children to be left out of their culture, of who they are. The fractionation causes more wrong than good.

The laws are wrong. We have to choose from one – like my son is Cherokee and Chippewa and has lost all his identity as a Cherokee, because we had to choose one over the other. My father is a spiritual leader for Bois Forte, and my grandchildren can't even be recognized as an Indian. That is wrong! Because of the blood quantum - this is due to bad records and records that they did not keep. This problem is affecting a lot of us. This is not a [unintelligible] way of keeping track. My grandchildren are being affected, and that pisses me off.

I'm a card-carrying Indian, and I know who I am. But I'm afraid my grandchildren will never know what it is to be Native. They should go by lineage, not blood quantum.

I think the enrollment should be opened to direct descendants of those members with 1/4 blood quantum beginning from the last enrollment modification. I believe that would take it to DOB thru 1986.

Indian is Indian. My eldest, non-enrolled child has Indian blood in her just as her mother (me), her siblings, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on. But she doesn't have what I call "that magic 405A" after her name. You're invisible on my rez without it. It's quite frustrating, and the "thinning" of Indian blood needs to be revisited and corrected.

I would like to see enrollment by lineage, due to the fact that I am now an Elder, at 62 yrs.old. It is important to me, as it was for my mother, to have my family as enrolled members before I die. If we go by lineage now, then we won't have the expense in later years doing these surveys. I would like to know the average age of our members at Grand Portage. My children and grandchildren have Grand Portage Chippewa blood, and it seems that there should be no question for these generations to become band members as soon as possible. We went through a questionnaire 2 yrs. ago and were given results at that time. Why are we doing this again? I hope you listen to members this time around and get enrollment open to the next generations. Thank you.

I think it would help to have total blood quantum. My grandfather went to Washington for Grand Portage to get Grand Portage treaty laws. He was an early leader of the tribe. (anything else?) My grandmother was Sioux and a little Swedish. I would like to see it go to the original people enrolled – not the blood quantum, but the heritage – then my kids would be included.

I feel it should go back to the way it was when I was enrolled. As long as we could prove our heritage, we were enrolled. As it stands, we are in the trend of self-annihilation – no one is eligible. Also, I feel we have Canadian blood on our side and was shown by our historian, but when presented to MCT, they would not listen and would not look into. And we have band members who have been adopted into our band who hold rights that our own people do not have. This enrollment is messed up, because it depends who is chairman and RTC at enrollment.

I wish, or would like to see, all members of any tribe have increased blood quantum, possibly by using ancestors and where they were enrolled. (Red Lake Band) For instance, my deceased husband was enrolled in Red Lake at one point, but switched to Leech Lake. So our daughter could be enrolled here, our daughter's quantum went down. As for myself, I was enrolled in White Earth but later switched to Leech Lake. Both our fathers were full-blooded Leech Lake enrollees. Using each quantum would help so our Native population in being enrolled doesn't decrease.

My children are only a point away from being enrolled. They are descendants from Bois Forte Band and Grand Portage. My quantum was changed 3 times...why?

My grandmother was more Native than the records show, making my mother and all subsequent generations 'less Native.' It's hard to verify, with 100% accuracy, every member's exact numerator and denominator that comprise their magical quantum fraction. For this reason, I support a move to lineage enrollment criteria.

The whole blood quantum is full of shit. (why?) Because situations like this we're dying out. We have Full Bloods who are not recognized just because of this blood quantum, government BS. A lot of us, that our fathers did not sign a birth certificate, lose half of our Indian status, but we're full-blooded.

They have to do away with this blood quantum. My brother's children can't get enrolled, because they were born after 1961, so they can't. They are the same as my children, who are eligible, so it's just a big mess, this whole blood thing.

In my opinion, blood quantum is a tool of genocide, used by the U.S. government to eradicate Native populations. We should scrap the whole blood quantum issue. In its place, I propose that we simplify enrollment – if you have one or more parents as enrolled members, the individual should be eligible for enrollment.

How can you be a recognized tribe if you aren't even a Native American? If only 5% of you is Native American and the other 95% is white, black, or any other nationality, how can you be recognized as Native American, if you're not Native American and you are something else?

I think Native Americans should be the ones who benefit (from) what the enrollment guidelines are. The present guidelines are (that) you only have to be a quarter to be enrolled. In my eyes, all you are doing is diluting it and watering it down. I believe that you are destroying the Native American people by turning their nationality into something it's not, which is a mixed race. That's how I feel about it. There are a lot of people who aren't Native American who are benefitting by using Native American Chippewa funds for schooling, per capita payments. That's what it is. I don't believe numbers should matter; being an Indian is what matters. It should matter how many people you have in your tribe, it should matter how Native American you are.

The legislation and the Federal Government shouldn't dictate your numbers. It shouldn't matter. From my understanding, the numbers aren't high enough and you won't be recognized as a Federal tribe.

The tribe is about Native American people themselves, and it's about the members of the tribe. We shouldn't be forced into having people take away what we have, when you have the government and legislation wanting us to take in more members, and we're already struggling.

White Earth already has a ton of members and Mille Lacs has a ton of members. But Shakopee (Mystic Lake Casino) doesn't have many members and I don't see the government looking at recognizing them.

The Ojibwe people, for the most part, struggle. What few options they have available are taken up by members who aren't even members, who are white or whatever nationality they are. I am over 50% myself and the majority of my family are Indians. I see people who are white as a ghost, who say they are Native American. They say, "I'm more Swedish and Norwegian, but I am an enrolled member." A lot of fraudulent birth certificates. A lot of people who get enrolled due to the fact that they might have had a one-night stand, or who are enrolled for the benefits. They try to get enrolled in tribes who have money. That's why the Shakopee tribe's numbers haven't gone up, because they don't let anyone in anymore. You should be talking to Shakopee.

Lowering the blood quantum is totally what some idiot would do, and that's how I feel about it. When you lower it, you just cave in to the white man telling you what to do. Our people have been dictated to for too long. How does somebody who is 90% white and 10% Indian benefit the tribe? There are a lot of people who claim to be Indian who aren't Indian, but they are claiming (it) to get free money. So many white people and people who aren't Native American who are enrolled in the tribe. How can that benefit the tribe? You've got to be Native American or Indian, in my eyes, to really understand the culture.

I would like the MCT's enrollment eligibility criteria be "direct descendancy" from enrolled MCT tribal members.

I fully support "direct descendancy" as the criteria for MCT enrollment.

I support "direct dependency" to be MCT enrollment criteria

I feel the blood quantum is low and will eliminate a lot of future enrollees. It should be a matter of your family history and facts of who is enrolled (grandparents, parents, etc.)

I believe the enrollments should include all biological children of enrolled members.

I think that if one child out of a family is registered (as I was before the law was passed), then all children should be.

Any blood quantum should be enough, regardless of amount.

It would be nice if all family members from the same parent could be enrolled.

MCT enrollment numbers are not given - I believe if the individuals want to reveal these numbers, they can be contacted to do so! I believe MCT descendants of 1/16 or 1/8 blood quantum should be able to be enrolled. Perhaps as the years go by, those 1/16-1/8 persons could say that any descendant should be enrolled. My wife and I have, at the present time, 3 great-grandchildren who are not enrolled to the 1/4 blood quantum, and I know of others in this area who are in the same position. My wife is 3/4 blood quantum, and as you read, I am 1/4 blood quantum.

I think they should enroll children of current tribal members regardless of blood quantum.

I feel blood quantum level should be extended indefinitely if you can prove through records tribe connections. These people should be recognized and assisted. Thank you.

The blood quantum shouldn't determine enrollment. Rather, proof of descendency should be used.

It would benefit the White Earth reservation to allow children of enrolled members to be recognized as an 'enrolled' member of a MCT. College monies and other benefits would help our young people to secure their future.

I think it should be the same as the South Dakota Pembina tribe. Lineal descent!

Our ancestors were taken advantage of, and I feel we have a right to be a part of the tribe. We are his descendants, and it does not matter what our blood quantum is. We are members of the tribe.

The criteria are a form of generational genocide. It shouldn't matter HOW much Native blood one holds. It should only matter that they are Native!

Please look at lineage options. Side note: Also on the survey or letter no indication of when this was supposed to be turned in.

I would like tribal membership to be based on lineal descendency.

I highly disagree with the MCT blood quantum criteria of 1/4. I believe tribal enrollment should be established by proven blood relation & hereditary.

I believe that if a descendant can prove, through documents from the BIA, that they are a direct descendant of such documents, and these documents go back to ancestors that lived and were known as a member of the Chippewa Indian Nation in the 1800s, with these documents, MCT can work with enrollees with enrolling their children and grandchildren as a member of the MCT.

It's disgusting that MCT uses a federally imposed standard (1/4) for tribal membership. The blood quantum requirement was designed to ensure the tribe would eventually disappear. And, that is happening; our language is almost gone. The traditional way to determine whether an individual was Anishinaabe-Ojibwe was to determine whether he/she lived by the "Anishinaabe Naa Baat So Win" standard; in other words does the individual live the "Indian way of life." The MCT leadership has done almost everything to ensure the federal government's wish comes to fruition. Tribal citizenship should be determined by our traditional ways, not by the federal government's way.

I would like to see MCT's enrollment eligibility based not on blood quantum, but rather, on lineage.

I think it should be just the descendants of a band member.

I've been up there twice, so I don't really know to be honest with you. You mean how they treat you, is that what you want to know? (clarified question: what do you think about the enrollment requirement?) I think the eligibility criteria is fine. Unless they want to go deeper (what do you mean?) If they wanted to go lower they could. But I don't know, I guess I'm 1/3. I think 1/4 is the lowest they should go. (anything else?) Nope, just that I'm proud to be a member of the Bois Forte band.

I think 1/4 is a good number, but the MCT should claim Red Lake blood or any other tribe's blood also.

I believe it is important to maintain the current enrollment standards, but to allow people with other tribal blood quantum to be enrolled at MCT, if their quantum total 1/4.

I would like for my kid to be enrolled for pride sake if nothing else, he is around 3/16. I understand that a line needs to be drawn somewhere and am ok with it staying at 1/4. I don't see any problem with less than 1/4 as being recognized descendants with possible health and education benefits.

I believe the 1/4 blood quantum should stay as eligible enrollment criteria. I strongly believe that, if a child is adopted into a Native family and does not qualify in the 1/4 quantum, they should not be able to enroll that child. It's the blood line that qualifies the individual, not his or her introduction to that family and its history.

Continuing research on ancestral blood line. I agree with the current enrollment requirements, but making sure the blood quantum are correct and true...beginning with ancestors.

My blood quantum is 3/4 and three of my youngest children their mother is 7/8, and then my three children are barely over a half. They have less blood than their parents. They should be somewhere between 3/4 and 7/8. (How do you feel about the 1/4 blood quantum requirement?) I'm okay with the requirement.

I think they are pretty fair, but their elections are not.

The criteria is fine. Grandmother was not allowed to register as full-blood, because grandfather registered as Fond du Lac. Cherokee heritage has the same problem: Grandfather denied his heritage to get employment – was full-blood, claimed 1/2.

I don't think MCT should drop the blood quantum at all to be enrolled. I also think we should be able to use land in blood quantum.

Tribes and the MCT should stay with this 1/4 criteria for enrollment. It's the people in power and their children that are marrying non-Natives and diluting our Native blood.

I think they really treat the elders wonderfully. I don't know. I'm amazed at how good they really are to us. I don't know about the enrollment. I think they're doing good with the enrollment. I don't know how they can give to everybody. My family now, that's left, they really don't have that much blood, and I can see where they would want to care for the ones that had more blood in the families. So it really, I really am amazed at how good they take care of us. (other opinion?) I've got my children but I don't think they're gonna qualify. You'd think I'd want them to lower it, but really, I'm okay with the enrollment. For my children, I think it'd be wonderful if they'd lower it. But can you imagine how many people would be added to the rolls.

I live in [city] but go to White Earth to get all my doctoring, and I'm happy with that. The only thing I'd like to see changed is you have to live on the reservation to get complete health care. I wish the tribe would pay for all my medical. When I had a heart attack, they took me to N.D. I have to pay for that myself, and it's about bankrupting me. I don't want to have to move back to the reservation for that [complete health care coverage]. [Probe - any thoughts about the blood quantum issue itself?] I don't know if they should make any changes in that.

The eligibility criteria is good.

I think 1/4 blood quantum eligibility is too low, as it is. I think it should never drop or be lowered any further.

I've never had any problems with tribal enrollment. (anything else?) No. They should just leave it at 1/4. I saw something on the news today about White Earth trying to change something. That's just my two cents.

I like the current enrollment criteria.

A quarter sounds good to me.

I like it the way it is. It [eligibility criteria] should stay closed, not open like the Cherokee have done. They have too many people enrolled now, and don't take care of their people like we do.

I think the way it is set up is fine. To be set up as Indian, it is fine.

I'm fine how it is

I think the blood quantum should stay at one-quarter and nothing less!

I feel the criteria for enrollment should remain the same, at 1/4 blood quantum.

Keep everything as is.

I'm happy with the current enrollments.

I feel that 1/4 should be the lowest.

Please leave quantum at 1/4. We are losing our Indian population, but maybe by leaving it 1/4, it would encourage more natives to make better decisions about having kids. My comments are not intended to be racist or prejudiced in any way...

Leave it as is.

I think everything's okay. (anything else?) Nope, I'm satisfied with everything that's going on.

I have a lot of respect for MCT, I feel it is a fine job! Miigwetch

Keep everything as is.

It seems like it's going alright, to me. It doesn't affect me or my kids.

You should be at least a 1/4 native to be enrolled.

I think it's a good requirement.

No, it's fine the way it is. (satisfied?) Yes.

No - I don't. (any?) I wish the eligibility criteria stay the same as it is now, which is 1/4.

I do NOT feel the blood quantum should be lowered.

No, I don't know. I think that's fair.

I guess I don't. They tried to lower it, and I don't see fit. Leave it as is. (anything else?) No, actually no, because I've known what they were trying to do like two years ago. I disagreed with it, but you know, that was only one person, I'm only one person, and one person to vote. Because there's more people that were trying to get in with all the six bands that we have in Minnesota. And I disagreed with that.

I don't have any objections about any of this.

No comments, I think it's pretty fair.

One thing I wish they would do is, I've lived here on Mille Lacs all my life. I wish they would bring back the people that are really legally from here through generations. You know, the ones that live elsewhere and that are denied being enrolled because - even other reservations - I wish they would bring them back.

And I wish they would look at the adopted children again. I wish they would look at the adopted children, because a lot of them are half-breeds. Like I said, I'm one of the very few full-bloods on this reservation. A lot of the people my age aren't full-bloods. Then their kids aren't even half, and now their kids are enrolled – and how can they be enrolled when they're not 1/4 bloods? But through adoption, it looks like they are. I wish they would look at that again.

From my family, my mother and my dad were from here, but my mother's biological siblings were born in Cass Lake. Well, there's very few of them left, and they're in their 90s now. Their mother and father were originally from Mille Lacs, but they settled in Leech Lake. The time to enroll them came along in the 30s and 40s, and they were enrolled in Leech Lake, not knowing that they would have a repercussion when they originally came from Mille Lacs. Through the enrollment moratorium they couldn't switch bands. I wish they would look at that and say, "Well, your parents were originally from Mille Lacs" and they settled in Leech Lake. I have a friend in White Earth, her grandmother was originally from Mille Lacs, and her mother settled in White Earth, and that's a time, too, in the 1930s. Well, they enrolled her in White Earth. I wish they'd look at situations like that. I understand the moratorium. There's some through adoption that don't belong in Mille Lacs. It's a small community. You know who's who, and you know what's happening, but through lying - outright lying about the birth of a child - just to enroll them here, isn't right. But they do it anyway.

By the looks of what is happening on Fond du Lac there are more and more Afro/Indian babies being born, which should not be able to be enrolled. There are some that should NOT be enrolled here either, adopted by tribal members or representative.

If the eligibility criteria was reduced and allowed my sons to become enrolled members, then I would hope that one of the benefits as an enrolled member would be affordable education for themselves and their children. I have nieces and nephews that are currently attending a university that provides them with an education that is feasible.

As far as I know, I am just under being 1/2 and it makes my children just under the eligibility criteria for enrollment. It would be nice if my children could have the same rights as a Native American as I do. We still have several family members that live and work on the reservation. I hope the blood quantum criteria will be lowered, so it includes the children of members. Thank You.

It's very sad when a number keeps you from your own Tribe. This method is so "White Thinking", the process of elimination of our people has been so well learnt from the White man that we continue to banish our people without even thinking Traditional. When we became a government of the non-Indian, we became our own worst enemy. My daughter is Native, and by the not recognizing Red Lake degree, she is not enrollable. Yet, her other Tribe, the Sisseton Sioux, has embraced her (not enrolled her) but was more caring than when we went to get her enrolled with my Tribe. The women were very COLD HEARTED and very dismissive – we did not witness Native People that day, we witnessed dark-skinned people wearing a white face! I have lost respect for the administration at the MCT, but I haven't lost faith in who I am as a traditional woman. It doesn't take a piece of paper to tell my daughter who she is. I will have to remind her that the people that denied her are pitiful, and they will have to face our ancestors when they leave this place – it will be a shame if our ancestors will not let them in the great circle of life just to teach them a lesson!

Some blood quantum was lost when my grandmother enrolled through Leech Lake instead of Red Lake. Unfortunately, my kids are now 1/32 short of being enrolled through Leech Lake.

I am 1/4 Ojibway (Leech Lake) and a few drops short of 1/4 Sioux, which makes my children a hair short of 1/4 Indian, which disqualifies them from tribal benefits, especially when it involves their education.

It seems like the US Government's method to eliminate the Ojibwe bloodline. Maybe that was the intent, and maybe not, but it is definitely happening. I can't enroll any children into my tribe, because they aren't part of the MCT network. Seems wrong to me. There should be something that follows the father, for sons, or follows the mother, for daughters, if there is a portion of original blood that can be traced back to the ancestors. Otherwise, the nation of the MCT will collapse. This is a very serious issue, and I hope it gets resolved soon! But it doesn't appear that it is even a discussion. I hope that this survey is part of some larger plan to help increase awareness on the issue and not just another attempt at government data mining to further control and limit our population.

In 1993 when people who were 1/8 blood quantum born between April 14, 1941 and July 4, 1961 were allowed to apply for tribal memberships, 2 of my 3 children were accepted. My third child was born in March of 1962, so he was denied enrollment. I feel having an age requirement was unfair. Those born after July 4, 1961 are Indian. If there is a blood quantum requirement it should include all instead of a birth date requirement. Miigwetch

Someday, I would like to see my son become eligible to be an enrolled member of the MCT Fond du Lac Band, because he is the son of an enrolled member, regardless of blood quantum.

In 2011, we filed an application for enrollment to Fond du Lac for our two sons, and it was denied. We had hopes that, because of our extensive family history and land allotments to our family, from both Fond du Lac and White Earth that enrollment for our sons would be reconsidered.

I tried to enroll my children in the MCT, but was told they didn't have enough blood. I was very disappointed, but at least they are enrolled in a tribe. The same with my grandson, whose mother is white. I tried to enroll him according to the old constitution, which said something about lineage. However, he was turned down, also. So, we tried, and he was accepted into the Winnebago tribe, based on lineage and being voted in by the members. His great-grandparents came from there, and we still have relatives up there. This 'blood quantum' is slowly killing off the Native Peoples of America. Chi Migwitch (Big Thank You!)

1. This has been an on-going issue as to non-inclusion of any other acceptance of blood within MCT, etc. I want my 3 children enrolled along with my grandchildren.
 2. We are systematically eliminating our own people.
 3. Native Americans should not be aligned with inclusion as an animal's purebred. I am unaware of any other culture/ethnic group being "measured" and having to meet a "blood quantum" to be part of a group.
 4. When the parents (biological) are the same for all their children, and due to DOB (1961?) cut-off year, the younger sibling(s) can't be enrolled but their sibling is.
-

Well, the only comment that I guess I would have is that my daughter could be a full beneficiary of the tribe. I consider her a lost tribal member. I just feel that she should have 100% of the benefits - equal to my benefits - of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. And I think that her offspring should also, that they should be eligible for furthering their education and receiving that benefit. They incur huge dollar amounts in terms of going to college, furthering their education, and it's a problem. So I just feel that they also need to receive part of the benefits. If they were interested in applying for those benefits, then they should be included. You know, scholarships. (anything else?) I think that would be it. and just FYI, I do have an adopted son that is Canadian Cree. (Not needed for the purposes of this survey.) He has more identified native blood than my daughter, and has dual citizenship, and his children are also identified or recognized, you know, not by the U.S. government, but in Canada.

I am unable to enroll my daughters, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren due to present policies. I am anxious to see this change in the future.

I feel the Blood Quantum criteria is the U.S. government's way of clearly decreasing the number of Native American peoples - and a way to 'legally' back out of their treaty responsibilities. It should be the MCT responsibility to use the wisdom of those that have gone before us to make sure the seven generations down the path, we still have Native American people. This is not an easy issue, and it is good that you are looking to the people for their words. Mine is that I would, before I die, like to see my children enrolled at White Earth. After I found my way out of being sold into adoption, I had no identity. That had long ago been stripped from me. After beginning 'the long search', a letter came to my door telling me I was enrolled at White Earth/MCT, and that I was from the Mississippi Band. It meant to me that I was accepted by my people. It meant that I wasn't a throw away. It meant that my life had value. It meant that, even though I didn't know anyone, that I had Native ancestors watching and helping me - ever since I was an infant. When I received the letter from the MCT, in the late 1970's, stating I was enrolled, I wept tears of joy. Thus began my journey to discover me. Who my people were? Were they still living? And a million other questions. Thirty-three years later, I have answers to many hundreds of questions, and have more questions to ask. Regarding blood quantum - - Here is an example: My partner is the son of [xxxxx], who was the daughter of [xxxxx], DOB about 1895, born in a wigwam in the bush at Nett Lake - she was a full blood. Her father was from Lac La Croix. Because her mother did not have a birth certificate, and could not produce other necessary paperwork (she did not have paperwork proving her mother) she was not able to be enrolled at Bois Forte. The family (her kids) tried diligently to work with the tribe and MCT, but were told there was not proof, therefore, she could not be enrolled. There are people at Lake Vermillion and Nett Lake who know she is her mother's daughter. We just don't have the white man's paper.

A very similar story follows horizontally regarding my partner's father and his father's beginnings at Nett Lake. My partner's father was [xxxxx], and his father's father was [xxxxx], a full-blood, born about 1879 at Nett Lake, he and some of his half-brothers were sent to Seine River to live with the relatives. His father's mother was also a full-blood, also born about 1879 at Nett Lake. Again, paperwork and other issues interrupted enrollment at Bois Forte. His father's father and mother lived at Nett Lake or in the surrounding area most of their married life. They shared their spiritual beliefs, gifts, and tools to help the people of Bois Forte and far into Canada. They had a huge circle of friends, many of their closest being from Nett Lake, because they grew up together. In the meantime, my partner's mother passed on almost a year ago now, and up until two months before she got sick and passed, she was still hoping to somehow be able to be enrolled in her mom's tribe. Sadly, this never happened. Now, any attempt for my partner to get enrolled at Bois Forte is impossible, since even though we would continue to seek out ways to prove his lineage, his mom was not enrolled before she passed. Ironically, both had their funerals at the community center at Nett Lake and were buried on Nett Lake land. So we have a Native American who is full-blood Indian - 100% from his head to his toes, his first language is Ojibwe, traveled with his parents to ceremonies, knows the cultural belief systems, lives by a traditional Ojibwe belief system, is a drum carrier, BUT IS DENIED ENROLLMENT because he doesn't have the white man's paper. Incidentally, my partner's son lives with his [Native] grandmother and mother on Bois Forte Nation and unless my partner can be enrolled, his son is not enrollable either. In years to come, the current enrollment eligibility criteria are going to fraction our tribes into oblivion. And the white man will have won the war.

I think it would be great if my son was able to be enrolled. As us enrolled members die off, the population will continue to decrease, and eventually, Washington D.C. won't bother recognizing the needs of such a small tribe.

Why would mine say 1/8 and I would be part of the tribe? (explain). I would like to see my kids to be able to be on it to where they could go to school and whatever. Another thing I would like to see is, because we live in [another state], and we live out of the state, we don't get hardly anything. We just now got to where we can go to a federally recognized reservation to be able to get medical, and now we've just gotten to where we can get medications through the state, but we weren't even allowed to do any of that before. I would just like to see us get some of the benefits that the Indians on the reservation get and not be penalized just for basically being off the reservation, when we had no choice, because we moved off the reservation when I was young. (what kind of benefits?) Like they have a fund set up for the elders, and I'm an elder now. They have a fund set up for if you get in trouble or anything like that - \$800 for each elder member - but since we're out of Minnesota we're not eligible for any of that. We're really penalized for not being on the reservation in Minnesota... I just hope I'm not penalized now for being, they know I'm less than 1/4.

I believe I am 1/4, and my daughters are 1/8th. I haven't been able to confirm if I am of a higher blood line, since I live in out of state. I am unable to confirm if their biological father is of Native blood; he lives in Maine.

My father was born in Grand Portage in 1916. I was living in grand Portage in 1941. My children are not eligible to partake of their heritage. Yet children who were born after them are members of the Grand Portage band. My family has been in Grand Portage for over 100 years, and my family ties to Grand Portage will end with my demise! IS THIS FAIR!!

My adopted son's biological parents are both enrolled with Leech Lake. Because of the sensitivity of my case, I cannot enroll my son. His blood quantum would be well over 1/2 Leech Lake. He will not be able to benefit from our reservation as he grows to college level. If someone could help to find out more on this for me and my son, I would very much appreciate it.

My quantum was distorted, due to some selling of land by my grandfather. My children have enough Indian blood to join MCT. They both are proud of our Indian heritage and live their lives that way. They should be enrolled.

My children were not able to be enrolled, because of eligibility requirements. I feel that they should be allowed to enroll. This is all due to blood quantum that should be more than it actually is, on file. Unfortunately, my Dad passed away before he could get it straightened out. One of my ancestors signed papers stating he was not full-blood, to sell land.

I was born out of wedlock. I only have one son, and he is the last on my side. He didn't qualify, due to the lack of information on my father's side. I'm now going to be 59, and he's 39. He has always been considered an Indian, due to his facial features, and has accepted it. It's a shame my own tribe will not consider him.

Because the cut-off date was 1964, my children are not enrolled. I spoke recently to a woman whose children were born after 1964 and are less than 1/4 - and are enrolled. I feel that there are probably a lot of less-than-1/4, born after, who were somehow able to become enrolled. I did try to have mine enrolled in 2010 or 2011, but was denied. I feel this needs to be checked into for fairness. Thank you.

How can I get my own children enrolled in this tribe? Years ago, I always heard that girls were enrolled in their mothers or grandmothers tribe, and boys were enrolled in their fathers or grandfathers tribe. Is this so? I don't know what the eligibility requirements are, if we have blood in Chippewa and Northern Cheyenne. My grandmother was Chippewa, and my grandfather was enrolled in Northern Cheyenne in Montana.

Not really - I would like to get my children enrolled, but don't know how and don't know what the requirements are.

My sister and brother couldn't be enrolled anywhere, and they are Indians. (Reason) In 1963, they changed the blood quantum in order to wipe out Indians across the county. My mother was 1/2 Indian and their brother was from Browning, Montana and 1/2 Indian. My kids, they are Indians, but they are Mexican Indians, and because of the border, they are not considered Indians, because they are Mexican.

I wish they would change the cut-off date, as my nieces and nephews are registered, but because my children are younger they are not.

His grandfather (04/18/1885) was enrolled at White Earth. His mother (approx. 1870). He was sent to a mission school in 1895, and never spoke about his heritage. My mother never spoke of my father, except once, as "that drunken Indian". Our youngest daughter was born too late to be enrolled, but is more aware of her heritage than most folks. She has a major in American Indian Studies. She has worked extensively with "mending the sacred hoop" in Duluth and will receive her law degree this spring.

It just doesn't seem fair that only 3 of my 4 children can be enrolled, when they all have the same MCT blood quantum.

My children were all born after 1961, so they have had nothing to do with the tribe. My children and I, we've talked numerous times, and I have told them about it. And I go back through Missouri almost every year and visit them there - they live in Missouri - then I go back to Minnesota where I have brothers and sisters that are still alive. My brother works on the reservation and we visit my sister in Grand Marais

Three of my 4 children are enrolled members of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. My hope is that they will be eligible to be enrolled with the Grand Portage Band, as this is their home. I feel it is important that we open our rolls to a future generation. Also, I feel it is wrong that some families have exaggerated their quantum to include their children and grandchildren. What's good for one is good for all.

No, I'm thinking, I get the paper from White Earth, and I'm thinking that they're doing something. I feel like it's positive – that they're doing something to better the whole program. (what's positive?) The fact that they're looking into something. (opinion about what they should do?) Yes, I think that they should. This has always been something. One son is able to be enrolled, and I think the other one should be. I think that Mrs. Vizenor is doing very, very good for the tribe. My maiden name was [xxxxx], and I do hear from my relatives. (anything else?) No, the medical benefits, I do get them here, too, the medical benefits for the tribal members. I hope they get this enrollment squared around. I just like the progress that they are making.

It would be nice if my heir was able to be enrolled, so I could leave my home to him, which is located on tribal land.

I have not enrolled my children since was told they weren't enough blood quantum.

I don't know. I think, as the elders die, they should include the children of the next generation that have not been included, like my children, because they aren't included right now. [Note: Respondent's children are 40 & 38 years old.]

I would like to see the blood quantum lowered to allow my children to claim their Indian heritage at Fond du Lac. They are very proud of their family history, which includes the Indian bloodline. Thank you.

I wish they would be able to enroll. You know, like my daughter just being under a quarter and stuff like that. It's a little...I'd like to be able to have people like that enrolled.

I would like to ensure, as part of my family's heritage, that my children, and theirs, be enrolled as members. My grandson, this year, is invited to and will attend a conference in Southern Oregon as part of OMSI, promoting an environmental and science-based project showing how Native Americans are using land and resources but returning to the earth the by-products for reuse. As you can see, we are quite proud of our heritage and wish to pass it on to future generations.

I had three brothers and three sisters. We all had children of the same blood quantum - 1/4 - but my two daughters were discriminated against and not allowed to be Band members.

I hope this comes through so our kids can be enrolled - this business just seems like it's gone on too long.

I need to check other blood from my side of the family and add it to my blood line, so it will bring my blood line up, so my son can get enrolled.

I would like to see my sister's children be able to enroll. Even though they only carry 1/8th blood, they have been raised to stand up and be counted.

I would like to have my children enrolled into the Grand Portage Band as a member.

I think my children should be able to become enrolled members, for many reasons, one being that it would help them to get jobs.

I would like to see my son be able to take my place as a member, even though my son's blood quantum is legally 1/2 of mine. If he can just take my place without the current 1/4 MCT blood quantum.

It was said at one time that my children's blood quantum was 7/32 - and not qualified - at that time.

I think my four children should be enrolled members of Grand Portage.

I wish I would have been able to enroll my daughter, but her blood quantum is not.

I would like my daughters to be included in the MCT enrollment.

I would love to get my two kids enrolled.

I know I'm, like, one degree under, and my kids can't be enrolled.

I would like to see a change, because I'd like to see my children enrolled, and they don't have enough blood quantum.

I would like to enroll my children.

We could use help with schooling, if they were enrolled with the MCT.

I would like to see that our kids can be enrolled, regardless of their blood quantum - we are Indian, so our children should be Indians too.

I have attempted to enroll my oldest child, but was denied, due to his blood quantum. I would like to have both of my children enrolled. I wish that my children's blood quantum would be sufficient to enroll them as members. My blood quantum is 11/32, and theirs would be 1/2 of that which is approximately 1/6th. I believe they should meet the criteria to be enrolled and should be allowed to do so.

I'd like to see if my daughter can enroll.

My father was 31/32. I'm part white, so I believe I'm just under half of part Native. My child's mother is white, so I'm assuming my daughter is just under the 1/4 and unfortunately doesn't meet the enrollment eligibility.

My family's blood quantum was raised to full, so that would have made me 1/2 and all my children 1/4. According to MCT, I can't get my youngest child enrolled. She's missing out of all the benefits my other children have.

I would like to see the children added to the enrollment. It would also be nice if they could get some health care.

I think they should open enrollment to our children.

I received an acknowledgment letter stating they know that I have two biological children, but they are not eligible.

They told me my two children were one point off to be eligible. A lady there told me to keep trying; they will eventually accept them. That they do that all the time.

I just don't understand why Red Lake blood is not included in our blood, because we are all Chippewa. My grandchildren are just a little bit away from being enrolled, but can't get no help from the reservation. Housing is the hardest for my grandchildren.

I think if you're an Indian, you're an Indian, no matter what your quantum is. I have grandchildren who are not enrolled, because they have no quantum. I don't believe what Washington says about your quantum. Don't get me going! My grandchildren go to college but can't get financial help, because they're "not Indian". Getting any type of help for college or education – all of a sudden that goes out the door!

I know it's 1/4, and it's hard. I have several great-grandchildren and grandchildren, and they're not eligible to be on the role, except for a few - six of them - but the rest weren't. They said they didn't have enough blood quantum, so that meant they had less than 1/4. (opinions about that?) I always thought if you were Indian, you were Indian, you know? I didn't think they should go by a quantum. That's my opinion.

My father was full-blood Leech Lake Ojibwe; my mother had a little of something else, that is unknown to me, making me almost full (243/256). Just that fast, my own grandchildren cannot be enrolled in Leech Lake. All my grandchildren were born here and raised here, and when I and my children are gone, my grandchildren will have no place as home any longer. Why do we as Ojibwe, or any other tribe, have to have a pedigree?? Like dogs or horses!!!! We are the only people in the world with a pedigree. Very depressing/oppressing.

It's like we are the last true family to go moose hunting. It's been a family tradition since 1989. Traditions are not being passed down the way they used to be. My grandchildren can't hunt with us, because the tribe won't give them a license. You have to be a certain blood quantum to get a license. We are losing this tradition, because all they can do is watch us.

No, I don't have any comments or questions. My children are barely enough, but my grandchildren aren't, because they married white, which brought their blood quantum down. I had one granddaughter come up here one summer, and I could have put her into the college. The tribe would have paid for her college, but her parents chose to send her back to Kansas, where her parents went to college. I know they helped me at one time with a child issue, the tribe did, and represented me on a grandchild. I have nothing bad to say about the tribe. Now that we have a new chairman, she's slowly, slowly, slowly turning things around, but it's going to take her a while to turn things around from the old chairman. I know that our tribe is very, very broke, but I don't understand why. (other opinions about enrollment criteria?) I know a lot of people are trying to change it where they'll accept under 1/4, but I don't know. That would be spreading us pretty darn thin. I realize that we have married outside - you know, I did - I was raised in Kansas, so I never met any Chippewa or Native American people. I seen 'em, but just the Oklahoma Natives.

No, I'm glad they're making a survey of it, though. (Anything else?) My grandchildren are 1/8, so they're not eligible for the education benefits or anything. It'd be nice if they were - it'd be easier for them to go to college.

It saddens me to think that my grandchildren will not have enough blood quantum to become a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. My sons will be the last for my family.

Both my children have children. I believe all but one is - I don't believe he is enrolled. He is an eighth and, um, I'm not really sure if he would be eligible for school, or if he'd be able to get enrolled. But I would like him to be enrolled and participate in some of the programs.

I'm glad this is being looked into, as my Grandson is close to being enrolled but not enough blood quantum.

Since my kids are 1/4, they are enrolled. But my grandkids, they're 1/8. I don't think they recognize that. (Should they?) I don't know. The 1/8, you would have to ask me that later. It all depends on how they vote at the tribe. (Any opinions?) No, that's all.

None of my children are enrolled with any tribe. How can I see if I can get them enrolled with my tribe (Grand Portage)?

Because I am not sure of my grandmother on my father's side's blood quantum. I am sure there is more Native blood. I truly believe, if the law is not changed soon, there will not be many enrolled Natives, especially from my reservation, and the reservation will be gone - it will die out. I would like to see either the blood quantum lowered to 1/8 - or open enrollment, where, no matter what the quantum is, as long as you have any blood quantum, you are eligible to be enrolled in your reservation.

There shouldn't be a blood quantum. In the near future, we won't have a tribe, with the losing of our elders and youth due to overdoses and suicides. We have children that live and believe in their culture, but cannot become a member - because the government established a blood quantum, not our people. It's time to correct the wrongs of the government. They tried to exterminate our people, but could not do it. Now it's time to change this to descendency. We have some children in the same family that are band members, and some not. As for my family, my brother and I were sterilized as wards of the court, so here the government did accomplish their intent!!

I feel that if we keep with this eligibility criteria, there could soon be very few natives eligible to enroll. We might have to go to using descendency to keep enrollment open to others.

This should be changed, as the Grand Portage Band is getting smaller, and soon there will not be enough members to qualify as a band. It should be open by generation to generation, not blood quantum.

Keep it at 1/4. People trying to get enrolled under 1/4 will overload the Higher Education criteria and Health Services. You do not see the blue eyed and blonde, under 1/4 at Pow Wows, or claiming they are Native. They only want to enroll so they can use Higher Ed and Health Services. I have worked in Education for close to 30 years, which includes enrollment numbers. I see some tribes include other tribes' blood quantum to up the blood quantum. Don't feel sorry for someone because they do not have enough Native blood to enroll. They should be told before marrying a white or non-Native that they will be under 1/2 for their children to become enrolled. If 70-80 years from now, there won't be any Natives, that's because they are having children who are non-Native. If you are only doing this to get more money from the federal government and not benefiting any tribal members but the tribe itself.

In Fond du Lac, the administrator and the enrollment woman were nothing but an obstacle to enrolling my daughter. They dallied around for two years. I don't know why. She has the same blood as my boy. They lie. They tell you to send out something else (other paperwork). They said they didn't get it, and I know I sent it. I faxed it. They don't hardly talk to me. They would only talk to my daughter, if she could get them. The BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs)... was talking to the BIA, and she said Fond du Lac was well-known as being obstinate. The blood quantum criteria are a way for the government to eliminate the Indian nation. They never let up. The tribe can take in 1/8 blood quantum if they want to. The tribe can take in a 1/16, but the U.S. Government has 1/4 as blood quantum, but that don't affect the regulations on the government side. [xxxxx] at Fond du Lac, she knows more than I do, a heck of a lot more. She has talked to me about it. She's 1/4 blood, too. She's my relative.

Well, our son is enrolled there (the MCT), and then they cut the date off so my daughter isn't, and I would like it if she could be in the Minnesota one, but she was born in 1963. Because a lot of the elders are passing away, and if they're born after that, the tribe will get littler if they don't enroll anymore. And my daughter's son is enrolled in Bad River and he's 30 years old. (anything else?) Nothing that I can think of, except that, you know, they should have more people, and open up the enrollment.

If they want to exist in the next 50 to 100 years, I believe they need to change it, yes. If they do, I would like to enroll my son. He doesn't meet the current requirements.

My grandchildren have blood from their grandfather on their mother's side, but they won't let them have access to their birth certificates to prove their lineage. There will be no more Indians in our family, which saddens me and actually makes me sick. We have raised our children and grandchildren to be proud to be Indian, and live and follow the Indian way in all phases of their lives. I pray that something will be done about this. It is crucial that it is done ASAP.

I believe it's time each reservation make up its own mind on how they should deal with enrollment of their own people. Grand Portage is such a small group that in the next 30 or so years, there won't be enough band members. So I think it's time for the band members that have un-enrolled grandchildren to be able to enroll them for the sake of carrying on. The future of Grand Portage depends on it.

My concern is that, with both my parents being 100% Canadian First Nation, that only my mother's ties to Minnesota tribal membership is applied. I have always been told by my elders that I am an Indian and to be proud. They never mentioned 1/8th Indian. I am concerned that my family's Indian heritage has not, in the USA, been passed on to my sons, and even more concerning, none to my grandchildren. Our peoples will vanish without review of measures that identify us as Indian people. Federal governments will enjoy, once again, eliminating us, not through wars, poverty, and social issues, but through a bureaucracy that we participate in.

Is it in our best interest to open it to everyone else with 1/8 blood quantum? Or is it that we do not have enough funds? The federal government always tends to want to get out of the Indian business, and this blood quantum is their way to get rid of us all together. It's a government thing. They did the same during slavery – they said having one drop of African blood made them a slave, and that was good for the government back then to have many slaves to do the work. Now, they measure to have less Indians, which is good for them now - less money to pay.

Conceivably, there will no longer be enrolled tribal members, as blood quantum fractions diminish!

I have concerns about local tribes and bloodlines fading towards extinction...is this survey hoping to address concerns like this?

I think that the pickle the MCT is in with whom they accept as enrolled, the faster the population is going to decrease. There will be nobody left, because it's not physically possible to keep the blood quantum up without intermarriages.

Why are they doing this study? There is going to be a time when they do run out of blood. This is actually pretty good, that they are doing this survey. I can understand why they are doing this.

This type of enrollment is only good for those with the Blood Quantum number. It will dwindle as each generation comes, which then makes no one eligible. Which in turn will make the Tribal members "extinct" and will only leave "Direct Descendants."

It will be hard to keep the Grand Portage enrollment going in 20 years from now without some kind of change, due to the loss of all the Baby Boomers by then.

We need to re-examine how this is done. How they do it now, we will be eliminated, and no one will be able to be enrolled on any reservation.

Well, we need to change this, because this is genocide, killing off our people slowly. Soon, there will be no Aboriginal Natives in North America.

Blood quantum is slowly decreasing as each generation marries non-Native Americans. I highly recommend the eligibility criteria be re-examined in the future, to preserve our culture and the longevity of our people.

I think they should do something about it now, because soon there won't be enough Native blood in the Native community for anyone to be enrolled. Looking ahead, they will have to do something about it.

If we continue to use 1/4 blood quantum, we may find ourselves with no one who would be eligible in the future.

Our people marry interracial/tribal. If things do not change, blood quantum will be our demise.

I think it's not beneficial to our tribe, the way it's set up, because the enrollment records aren't necessarily true. Many elders lied about their enrollment to sell their land, so many defendants aren't showing their true blood quantum on paper. (anything else?) I think it would be beneficial to lower the blood quantum to 1/8. If they did, my children would be able to be enrolled, which they should be. That's it.

My mother is from the Leech Lake tribe, which is how my bloodline of 1/2 has been determined. Enrollment is determined by the mother's lineage. My father is from the Red Lake tribe, and I was told I wouldn't be able to enroll in his tribe, because of the matriarchal rule. Even though I'm full-blooded Chippewa, I will be recognized as only 1/2 Chippewa. Why?

My father was of the Bad River Tribe, and my mother from Minnesota. I'm considered 1/1 in Michigan and Wisconsin. If enrollment should change that would make my son go from 1/4 to his true 1/2 heritage. Thanks for whatever decision is made.

My grandfather is from Bad River Tribe and my grandmother is from Grand Portage. I'm considered 1/2 quantum, but since my grandmother is from Minnesota, I'm only considered 1/4.

An Indian is an Indian. My Grandfather was orphaned, and more research needs to be done to verify blood quantum.

X was recently dis-enrolled from MCT, as X did not have an original certification from the State of MN to verify his father, as his Birth Certificate showed another name than his father. The birth certificate we had for him was from 79 to 94 showed only his last name of [xxxxx]. By the time I learned of this, time had expired to request a hearing, as they wanted original documents, which X didn't have. I later found an original document dated in 1994, but too late to request a hearing. In 1997, his birth certificate had been altered and showed [yyyyy] as his father. We never had blood tests, and I had taken him to court back in the 70's. His name never showed up on X's birth certificate until 1997. His father signed paperwork in 1979 and claimed X. He passed away in 1990. X should still be eligible to be enrolled in MCT, if my blood quantum would be allowed from Wisconsin. My father passed away in 2005 and was enrolled in Lac Courte Oreille, WI. My brother was enrolled at different times, in WI and MN. He passed away in 1999. I should be 1/2 or more Chippewa, depending on what my blood quantum is from WI.

In my eyes, I'm 1/2, and my kids are 1/4... Seems like some easy way to shave an entire generation out of registration!

I currently have two younger brothers and several cousins not enrolled, due to birth dates after 1961 when the blood quantum requirements changed. Also, I'm unsure about my quantum being right, in that we have found out that my grandfather (mother's father - who was adopted - and enrolled but not with the right blood quantum or tribal affiliation as far as we can tell).

Just an FYI. The blood quantum is wrong. It is lower than it should be. Back when the government was buying land back from the Natives, my grandfather, who is the son of full-blood Ojibwe mother and father, was forced to say he was half-white in order to sell his land when he turned 18, so I should be 1/2 Ojibwe. My mother is full-blood, my father is Swedish, me 1/2. Now my daughters have been researching these facts and found out this information is the same as what we have known for a long time, and my mother has tried for years to have it corrected.

My grandmother is 1/2 Ojibwe and 1/2 Sioux. My husband's grandmother was adopted, and her correct blood quantum was not recorded. According to correct blood quantum, all my children would be enrolled members. Her father was from Bena. Can this be fixed?? On the form, I will not give quantum for my children, because they are not correct.

Well, I'm not sure what my blood quantum would be for Red Lake, but I'm not sure why they wouldn't count that. They've got me down for 3/8 for Leech Lake, but everyone on my dad's side is Red Lake. I don't know why they don't take that into consideration, not that that's a bad thing, but I'm as dark as everyone else. (anything else?) Nope, that's it.

I'm going to be honest with you - we tried to enroll our first daughter 20 years ago, my sister and I did. But they denied them, so we never tried again with the others. There was something that we weren't sure of when we tried to enroll our daughters - that was that our father was a full-blooded Indian, and that would make us 50% on his side. We never understood why our daughters were denied, if it were 1/4 blood. That was the only question we had, 20 years ago.

31/32? 15/16? I should be 32/32.

My grandfather and my Grandmother were both full, but unfortunately, to maintain his job position, he had to drop his name from the rolls. My mother was full, and yet, because of my grandfather having to do what he had to do, I am only considered 1/4, and my daughter is only considered 1/8. I feel that this is very unfortunate for me and my daughter. Thank you.

I think they should be over 1/4, and anything under shouldn't be eligible. I see a lot of white people, that should not be enrolled, using all of our funds.

1. I have a lot of documentation that proves that our blood quantum is incorrect. I know that I have 3/16 of blood quantum.
 2. It would be nice to have more services in Anoka and Sherburne counties, because we have to drive four hours per month there, and 4 hours back, just to go pick up our medication. We were told we could only pick up one month's worth at a time.
-

It seems there are people being enrolled at Bois Forte who are not 1/4. How can this be?

They have turned a lot of Indians into white people with this blood quantum.

I have noticed other members with less blood quantum, and their children are allowed to be enrolled and enjoy benefit and assistance, so much needed for all children of Ojibwe descendants.

There is some question on one of my great-grandparents - so we are considered less than it is, actually. I am closer to 1/2, as my father was all American Indian.

I would suggest DNA testing for blood quantum for enrollment purposes.

My children's father is an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation. His blood is unaccounted for. I hope someday this can be changed.

I think my father is part of Red Lake. If they were combined, it would make them enough....

I believe my blood quantum would be greater if my mother had her father's blood quantum taken into consideration, as he was a member of another MTC tribe.

I had tried to enroll my grandchildren. However, the blood quantum that my son's father is not eligible!! So I was very disappointed that his blood quantum could not be found!! :-((

My grandmother and grandfather were full-bloods – but were made to sign off that they were not. My children should be 1/4 as I should be 1/2.

My grandmother has never been recognized as a member of the Ojibwe tribe. My family has tried in the past and has been turned down. Her mother was a member of the Ojibwe tribe. We have no information of grandmother's father.

My mother has been trying to enroll my nieces and nephews. She has been told her mother's parents have Native blood. But, my great grandfather is not listed on her birth certificate. So we don't have his degree of blood. So my nieces and nephews are only descendants. My opinion ..the enrollment should be changed.

You, MCT, have our blood quantum wrong.

My dad has some Oklahoma Indian blood, I've been told

My mother is the enrolled parent. However, I have a letter from the Dept of Interior to social services regarding the well-being of my father as a child. This letter indicates my father was of Indian blood.

I am questioning my quantum. I believe only one side of the family tree has been figured in, which would affect family quantum. Thanks.

I have been trying to get my grandfather's blood quantum, and no-one will give or look that information up (Bureau of Indian Affairs, MCT, relatives).

The only thing I've ever had a problem with is that our blood quantum is probably more than is on record, because of property owner's rights issues.

I've got two grandkids from my oldest daughter, and they can't get enrolled, because they're not enough, so it's kind of hard, you know. I understand the 1/4, but I guess what I don't understand is there's an awful lot of enrolled members that are not 1/4, but they were enrolled before that went into effect. So what I don't understand is, why are they still enrolled, if that's the case, or were they grandfathered in? If it's gonna be 1/4, then it should be that across the board. I would want my grandchildren from my oldest daughter to be enrolled. (anything else?) Even if a person or a child is 1/8 native, we accept them, we accept them as full. So my opinion is that I would think 1/8 would be enough, if they could prove it.

My mother is of the Navajo Nation, and she has married a band member of Bois Forte, which has passed on, and that leaves her without help from the Reservation. Plus one of my nephews are not eligible for enrollment – that leaves him without any Reservation to receive services for. I feel that the Reservation can claim people for grant purposes, but when it comes time for them to receive help or services, they are turned away. My mother is registered as full blood Navajo Nation, and my blood is not counted along with my children. But I would like to see that other blood quantum is counted, not just MCT. My 2 older kids have different blood quantum - I don't know why.

(Any comments about blood quantum requirement?) I was just wondering why they're trying to figure out the blood quantum and stuff, and if it's going to change or anything? The thing that I don't understand is why they say that if you adopt a child or something, they can join the tribe. We have people up here who don't look Native but are members of the tribe. I don't understand that.

I was found to be 13/32 blood. I was 1/4. I am enrolled, so my kids' blood went from 1/8 to 1/4, and I still can't get them enrolled. They were denied, and it wasn't my fault that they found out my grandmother was full-blood Chippewa. So that changed all of our blood quantum. I was enrolled at 1/4, so my kids should be enrolled at 1/4 like I was. I am now 13/32.

The comment that I wanted is about the blood quantum, like the father. My dad's father is Indian, and why they're not taking him as part of the blood quantum because that would make me more Indian. I'm not 1/4 Indian, I'm more than 1/4. (who said you were 1/4) The Minnesota tribe said I was only 1/4, but I'm not 1/4. I'm more than 1/4, because my mother and father are both Indian, and his mother and father are both Indian, and that should make my blood quantum higher. (anything else?) If my children would be eligible for the Minnesota Chippewa tribe, if my blood quantum was higher, they've got me at Kiwani Bay as 9/16, because my dad and his parents were both Indian, and my mother was Indian, my blood quantum should be higher than 1/4. And it's higher, should be higher.

I would like to know if my children can be enrolled. I don't know the criteria, and I'm sure there's a formula, but where can I get that?

I would like to know if my children qualify to become a member. I would like to know my blood quantum, and how they figured that out.

My children were denied members of MLBO because their blood quantum was less than 1/4...I remember looking into a band member file when we were at the office that my mother worked for I believe in 1974. My cousin and I found our blood quantum to be 7/12, which we asked someone (now deceased) and my mother if it was true 7/12 Native blood. "That means we are more than half"... "yes" but then in the 80's I was told different. How is the blood quantum determined? Miigwetch

I think the current enrollment eligibility should be changed, because unless we are mixing with family, our blood will eventually become zero, right?

My eldest child has MCT – Leech Lake blood from me and Red Lake blood from her dad. I cannot get her enrolled in either tribe, but yet HER daughter was able to get enrolled in Red Lake...How is that???

One-quarter blood quantum isn't exactly true. I understand from reading the MCT constitution why I'm eligible at 3/16, but I don't think it makes sense that I have a brother and sister who aren't eligible because of their birthdates.

I would like to know how they came up with these fractions of blood quantum, because my grandparents were 100% blood quantum, and my mom went to 29/32 blood quantum, and her kids went 29/64.

The only comment is I'm number 7 out of 10 kids. My other sisters' children qualify as enrolled, because they're at least 1/4. They get it, and I don't, but it all came from the mother's side of the family. I met my birth family in 1984. If we have different fathers, that should make mine good too. My mother was married to X, and my sisters' kids qualify as 1/4.

I find it exceptionally difficult to understand, out of a family of 5 siblings, how 3 are enrolled and the other 2 are not, yet there are members who are enrolled and not blood related?

I know a lot of my cousins who were born later in the 60's that weren't registered. (Any opinions?) Well, you know, I don't know how they figure all that stuff out. I thought it was kind of messed up, because me and my cousin were the last ones who could be enrolled. I didn't understand why her younger siblings weren't enrolled in the tribe, it seemed kind of strange. (anything else?) I'm happy to be a part of it.

I don't understand the blood quantum. It's messed up if you ask me.

The answer on the quantum is, "I don't". With my enrollment, my grandmother was the only blood quantum used. With my Grandfather not listed on my blood quantum. Grandfather has more quantum blood than Grandmother. I really have no idea. If you find out, please let me know.

If grandfather from Red Cliff was 1/2 or better, and grandmother from Fond du Lac is 1/2 or better, would I be more than 1/4?

Because historical records were so poorly managed, it is difficult to determine true blood quantum for Native Americans. Currently, it is next to impossible to find the proper Dept./individual to assist in this endeavor. Where are the records for descendants to investigate?

No, I don't. (any opinion on the enrollment criteria?) I don't know. Lower it, higher it. I don't know. I guess I don't really understand it.

I am not sure how my blood quantum was quantified. Could a non-blood person become a MCT, if the rules were changed?

My adult sons claim their Chippewa heritage, yet you do not recognize them. That's sad.

Will child #1 and #2's blood quantum change, since mine was changed to full-blood?

There are many people who claim to be Indian people, but they aren't – they do not have the blood quantum required. (anything else?) When you are adopted, you don't know where you came from and what your blood quantum is – now you don't know your children's blood quantum. Where can I go to find out?

Well, for one, my sons have different blood quantum – they have the same parents.

I am 1/8 Chippewa and 1/8 Sioux, so I don't know what that would make my child.

What would be my children's blood quantum

Yes, the enrollment year should be changed, because there are a lot of people that are not enrolled.

I understand that enrollment criteria may need to change in the future, to ensure tribal numbers. Perhaps it could be done by moving the enrollment years up – the cut-off year for enrollment, for example.

MCT tribe, they go by the years, not the blood. My kids gave their sister a lot of flack, because she is enrolled and they are not. 1/16 as long as they are children of an enrolled member. They came out with a letter a while back about this. A lot of the bigger tribes have smaller enrollment. Grand Portage is smaller. Bigger places have bigger revenue from casinos. They want things to stay the same. After 1960, my second two children were denied, because they weren't born on the reservation. That is discrimination. What happens to people with kids born after 1960, who are not eligible or registered because they aren't on the reservation? Give me a break. That isn't right. What is the blood quantum to be a member? Can you tell me? My grandmother was a princess. I'm very proud of my heritage. The mural in Grand Portage has them in it in their visitor's area at the old fort. My grandmother and her mother and the chief in the mural. My family goes back to the 1700's. Gave X's #, because he is following the subject closely. Every other year since 1962, he has sent a letter to get his younger 2 children enrolled, but was denied. He has the proof!

I do have 3 siblings that were not able to be registered, due to their date of birth. Has this date been modified that would allow them to be enrolled? Their birth dates are xxxxx (twins) and xxxxx.

My daughters are just under the criteria of 1/4. I believe they said they were xxx, and I was xxx. My mother is at 7/8.

Child #1 - father is an enrolled band member of Red Lake - his name is xxxxx (DOB xxxxxx). My daughter is enrolled with my reservation. Child #2 - father is xxxxx of Red Lake Indian Reservation (DOB xxxxx). My son is enrolled with Mille Lacs. Child #3 - father is xxxxx of Red Lake Indian Reservation (DOB xxxxx). My child is enrolled with Mille Lacs.

Not really, I don't know anything about that. (Anything?) One-quarter, that's the highest I ever heard anywhere. Is every tribe doing this? Because some people are 1/6 or 1/8. I think the majority of them guys go white; they have blood from two generations ago.

Not really. I don't really associate with the tribe. I've never seen my region. I'm in Georgia. My sister knows more about it. I know they want to cover the quantum. I'm retired Air Force, so I don't need the medical. A lot of Indians need the medical. Not much Indians down here. If I lived in Minnesota, I'd have some of the benefits.

No. (nothing?) I don't know that much about it so...

I don't know all that much about it, so don't feel qualified to say anything about it.

No comment

No.

None

none

none

No comment

I don't

No, I don't.

No comments. (any?) No.

None

No.

none

none

No. (any) No.

No specific comments.

No comments!

I don't have anything right now that I can think of. (Any opinions?) Nope.

No comment

No. (any opinions?) No, I'm not that involved. I've never been there, we were raised in Michigan, and I've never been to the Fond du Lac tribe place, and I don't know anything about it. I do vote, but it's all by guess and by God. (else?) No.

No. (Any opinions about enrollment criteria?) Nope.

None

No.

I don't have any comments. (opinions?) No.

None

None

No comments.

None at the time

No. (Any opinions?) No.

na at this time

No comments

No, not really. (Any thoughts?) Not really.

No.

No

No comments

Nothing to say.

No, I don't have any other comment.

No comments.

I have no children. I have no questions or comments. Miigwetch!

No comments

Well, frankly, I don't have any opinions, but my siblings who live up there in the northern part of the country do. I've never had any problems. Since I don't have any biological children, never tried to get them enrolled.

No. (anything?) No.

No comments

No comment

I don't think so

No, not really.

No comments

None

No.

no comment - there has to be a cutoff somewhere.

No comment

No. (No opinions about the enrollment criteria?) Nope.

no comments

I really don't have any.

No comment.

No, I don't have any.

No. (any?) No.

No. (anything?) Nope.

None

Can't think of anything right now.

no comment

none

No comments

no comment

n/a

None.

No comment

I really don't have anything.

Nope. (No opinions about the enrollment criteria?) No.

No. (Any opinions about the requirement?) No, I don't even know how much blood you need to be accepted. (The req. is 1/4 blood.) So I'm 31/64, and my mother was full-blooded, so I would be half? (According to the tribe, you're just under 1/2.) Oh, okay. (Do you have any opinions about the requirement?) Nope.

Not really.

No

I don't think I got none. (no suggestions for enrollment criteria?) No.

No. (No opinions?) No.

No comments

No comments

The enrollment is based on the Nelson Act, where the army came in and stole all the trees. There's supposed to be a big distributor of money, and the tribal council wanted to put the money into a casino and then into schooling, instead of distributing it out to the members. It's been 8 years, and we haven't seen anything. The head members are the only ones collecting money. Ninety percent of casinos give it out. Ours is the only one that does not distribute the profits out to the members. The tribal members of the other ones get 5 or 10 percent out of it. Our tribe does not do anything with the tribal members. My biggest problem is with the casino stuff. They should be able to get something out of it. It's like you're taking money out of our pockets, and they are the only ones that are getting money out of it.

The other thing with the enrollment is trying to get schooling. What really concerns me is that my son should be able to go to school, and they denied him. (Is he enrolled?) Yes, he's enrolled, but they denied him money for college.

(Any opinions about the one-quarter blood quantum requirement?) One quarter blood quantum. My son got enrolled on it. When we found out that my blood changed, got me up more, I was able to enroll my son. (Anything else?) These people need to get their heads out of their asses and start distributing out the money. The tribal council is just pocketing the money. My uncle, that's all he did was pocket the money. My family did it. My grandpa and uncles did it.

I don't know, I know a lot of tribes, like the Flatheads are going down to 1/16 and 1/32 and all that, which I think is kind of ridiculous. I don't know, I think that eventually blood quantum is going to get lower and lower anyway. I'm not really sure what's going on with the tribe, because it seems like they keep investing and investing, but people aren't getting anything. I think I've gotten \$649. The first payment, I gave it to my parents when I was young. Then one year, I got \$49 for Christmas gifts, and I got \$300 just before Christmas this year. I don't know, the tribe's doing well, the casino's doing head-over-heels, but I don't know what they're doing with the money they're getting. I know they do things for the elders. They're all making money up there.

I would like someone to correct my father's and my quantum. My mother filled out paper – says my grandmother is 1/2, she as full. My race should be 1/2, I should be quarter.

I strongly feel that blood quantum no longer represents what is truly Indian or not. It is a system imposed on Indian people to ensure that there will someday be no eligible members of the Tribe. Also, I feel that it is hugely unfair that certain families are allowed to exaggerate their blood quantum, while others are unable to make changes. What's fair for one is fair for all.

No. (any comments?) Well, I just got married here back in April, and I was wondering, I don't know how you... She's enrolled here at LCO, but I don't know if I could enroll her in my tribe?

The artificial date of birth of 1960 for tribal criteria makes no sense and divides families like ours.

Please consider fixing the families - whereas all children in family have same mother and father, yet, one missed the cut-off date by a few months. Enrollment for this one is left out - should be included in the Rolls.

I would like to see the enrollment requirements changed to include younger siblings of those of us who are 3/16 and have younger siblings who are not enrolled, because the blood quantum changed after they were born. They feel lost and left out, and don't know where they fit in.

Children's mother is 7/32 Grand Portage, born xxxxx. Grandmother not enrolled - died - born to a band member in 1933.

My mother was adopted in xxxxx. Her mother, my biological maternal grandmother, is listed as Chippewa and attended the Indian Nursing School there. I am working to gain further information regarding her Chippewa heritage and blood quantum, in the hope of determining additional family history and heritage. Although this has been a difficult process, I am continuing the effort, as of this writing.

We have recently found evidence that my grandmother's birth mother was full-blood quantum, and her father was half. My maternal grandmother was xxxxx; my great-grandmother was born 1878, died xxxxx. My great grandfather was born 1878, died xxxxx.

I am at least 1/4 MCT, as my maternal mother and her parents were all 3 in the 1940 Census Records (US federal). I was registered upon birth as MCT in 1946.

Sorry that my father was born on Leech Lake but was taken to the orphanage after his mother died and then just given away by the nuns, so we don't know when. His father came to get him, he was gone. We had the birth certificate, and that is the only way we knew, but it was much later in Dad's life.

I don't agree with some people who are band members. My mother's half-sister said my grandfather was her father, just to get her kids enrolled. She lied about who her father is. My grandpa is not the father of my mother's half-sister. My grandpa told me himself. But they got it down on the enrollment forms that he is. And he even told me that he isn't. That is the problem I have - if they can't prove who the people are, how can they be enrolled members? I don't like that, because there are other half-sisters who are not enrolled. My grandpa's birth certificate does not have his name on it. The half-sister to my mother has enough quantum, I guess, but her father was not my grandpa. She lied about her father to get her kids enrolled.

All my children are over the age of 21. All are enrolled in the MCT - Bois Forte Band. All my grandchildren are enrolled MCT - Bois Forte Band. I do not know the tribal enrollment number, or the blood quantum of my children. I tried to get the enrollment number of one of my sons, and was given the confidentiality rule. Unable to finish his application for Bois Forte Contract Health.

I don't know. I know someone from the Upper Skagit tribe, and their requirement is 1/8, whereas I know the Chippewa requirement is 1/4. (How do you feel about the MCT requirement?) I don't know. I guess I look a lot more Caucasian than Native American, but some people see the Native American in my cheekbones. You just never know if someone is or isn't. I met someone from Turtle Mountain in North Dakota. He was 1/8 and not even enrolled, and he looked more Native than me. You just never know what you're going to look like.

I just have to get through some certification. Last time I saw my son, it was when he was 10 months old. I really don't know if I need anything.

My children are all enrolled because we enrolled them by the deadline date. Maybe it was around 1969. I don't remember, but we made it by the date and they are all enrolled members.

I tried to enroll my youngest daughter and was denied.

I have 4 children, and they are enrolled with their mother's tribe; Ho-Chunk of Wisconsin.

Enrollment eligibility criteria of 1/4 is the last successful assimilation program provided by the US government, and we, as tribal nations, have signed onto it. Now, as numbers are drawing to a close, we have to decide what it is that makes each one of us Anishinaabe--blood or wisdom and responsibility of the land and community? As I have said before: Wherever I am standing, I am on Anishinaabe land, because I am the one who is standing there. No matter if it's down south, around the world, or in northern Minnesota, my responsibility to the land and community are no less. This is the teaching I would like to share. It's not about an assimilation program, like blood quantum, that makes me Anishinaabe. Anishinaabe is who I am.

I'm going to see if I can get my grandchildren enrolled, but I first have to straighten out the history on my grandmother's and grandfather's side. A lot of them (older people) didn't have birth certificates.

Proud to be a member of the tribe! Also, that I am very proud to have aunts, uncles, and cousins of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, and to be a small part of that heritage. God bless the American Indian.

I just hope my sons can get their education and the benefit I get twice a year from the tribe.

I keep trying to get a Tribal ID card from them, but I never have. I live in [xxxxx], MN. They say they will let me know when they are in the Duluth area or the Twin Cities area, but they never do. For me, driving to Grand Portage is just too far.

I belong to the Grand Portage band, and we are a very small, dwindling band. A survey was done several years ago that showed our birth rate each year was about 1/2 of our death rate. I know that other bands have a much larger population and totally different needs. Could you please address how each individual band can address their eligibility needs without the approval of all the bands and without dropping out of the MCT. We need each other, but our needs are so different. Thank you for doing this survey and listening to our words. Miigwetch

Well, see, because my father was full-blooded and my mother was half.

I believe my mother is 1/4, she said.

A lot of our children that are being raised as Native American are being unrecognized by this barrier.

I am just 1/8. My mother was 1/4. That makes me think that me and my children will be dropped out. I hope this turns out well for me and my children, and all Indians.

I'm not too sure about my blood quantum for the Red Lake or Leech Lake, but I'm enrolled in Leech Lake. My mother is Red Lake. My father is Leech Lake.

If you are an enrolled member, why do you have to live on or near the Rez to qualify for some benefits....yet I can vote...and I'm counted as a member of the MCT, Leech Lake band?

It's 1/4? ...I didn't know that. Just proud to be a tribe member. (anything else?) I didn't even find out about my mother's Indian heritage until I was 45 years old. I knew she was orphaned and raised in a Catholic school, but she never mentioned a word about the fact that it was on the Indian reservation. When I first got in the tribe, they sent me the booklet. I never realized that that's what was going on. When I got that history, it told about how people during the old days never told their children about it, because of the discrimination against Indians. It made them ashamed to say anything about it. Maybe my mom was ashamed to say anything about it. (How did you find out?) Because my cousins were researching the family tree.

I know we're registered at White Earth. My mom and my grandma never said anything. I didn't even know my mother was a full-blooded Chippewa until I went up to register. My mom was 3/4 and she married my dad, who was a Danish guy, so I don't know. (Any opinions on the enrollment requirement of 1/4 blood?) I don't know. I've read about that in the papers. I think it makes a lot of sense to make the tribe grow. I vote every time they send me information. I know their names, because I've heard of them. I don't know much about 'em, other than what I've heard.

Nope, I'm just paid to be an Indian, 9/32, as much as I am.

Although my children are not enrolled, my girls each got IHS scholarships for college, because they are descendants. These scholarships were greatly appreciated! Because I am employed, my husband's employer will not provide me health insurance (even though we pay for it). Therefore I use IHS in White Earth, and I am very grateful, and I receive excellent care. We cannot afford to pay for health insurance through my job. Thank you!

My Grandma, from my Ma, to me, to my kids. I think my Grandma had married a white man. I don't know how that works. I would like to see all the Indians band together for all these casinos. Some people are getting \$30,000 to \$40,000 a month and some don't get anything. As long as they take care of the kids, that's OK. But every now and then, if we'd get a surprise in the mail, a little casino money, that would be good. If you drive in Minneapolis, you see all the other Indians having a tough go. Some are getting the money, and some are not. Tough times.

My deceased son has a daughter, his only child who has enrolled this summer due to my husband's change in quantum.

My mother is full Chippewa; my father is full Polish. I am half of each.

Blood quantum should not be restricted to ¼, and enrollees living off reservation should have the same benefits as those living on reservation – for themselves and their children.

I wish I knew what is all offered to tribal members.

No baby is going to have 1/4 of MCT blood quantum, due to intermarriages – and that's my only concern. (more?) No, that would be my only concern – that the blood quantum is going to be smaller and smaller.

Would like to find out what blood quantum my children have.

I would like to be returned to the village my family was taken from and enrolled in my rightful Tribe in the Sandy Lake area.

I'd kind of like to see it a little higher than it is.

I get excited whenever I get anything in the mail from them. I am very proud to be part of the particular tribe. I was 3 years old when I was last on the reservation. I am very proud to be able to participate. I am very proud of that part of my heritage. Very proud.

I don't have much to say, just that I'm grateful that we do have MCT. I hope that it goes on forever, so that we can continue who we are. (Else about criteria?) Well, I'm not too sure about that, considering that my daughter is half Spanish, so I really don't know what to say about that.

There is nothing wrong with being quarter Indian.

There is such strong history and family links between the tribes in Wisconsin. The Federal Government put up boundary lines, not the Anishinaabeg. WE are a nation, we are beyond state status. Sovereignty.

Drop the blood quantum requirement.

I have 5 grandchildren. All five are 1/2 Mexican. Will their blood quantum be addressed?

It breaks up a family.
