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Secretary Newson Visits New Job Center in Lac du Flambeau, Highlights Partnership with Lac du Flambeau Tribe, Connecting Job Seekers to Jobs

LAC DU FLAMBEAU – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today visited a new Job Center office in Lac du Flambeau to highlight an expanding partnership with the Lac du Flambeau Tribe, a collaborative effort to connect job seekers to jobs.

“Whether it’s the Wisconsin Working initiative or other steps he has taken, Governor Walker is committed to improving Wisconsin’s business climate so that individuals in communities throughout the state have employment opportunities,” Secretary Newson said. “That includes the Lac du Flambeau community, and I am pleased that we were able to partner with the tribe in opening a Job Center office. This is another example of our efforts to connect job seekers to jobs and help meet the needs of employers.”

Earlier this year, during the annual meeting of state and tribal government leaders, Secretary Newson and Joni Theobald, Education Director of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe, discussed the possibility of opening a Job Center satellite office on the reservation. That initial discussion set in motion a plan to have a DWD Job Service representative spend one day a week in Lac du Flambeau.

“The Lac du Flambeau Job Center does much more than address barriers of distance and job skills development for community members,” Education Director Theobald said. “It exemplifies the collaborative efforts between the Lac du Flambeau Tribe and Department of Workforce Development to develop shared goals, address real needs and move toward innovative solutions for all community members. Secretary Newson not only heard our tribal leaders, but listened and took action. This is where genuine sincerity lies, accountability is real, which builds and sustains positive relationships.”

On Wednesday, July 11, Linda Larson-Schlitz, an Employment and Training Counselor at the Wausau Job Center, began regular Wednesday visits to Lac du Flambeau. The Job Center satellite office is located in the Gikendaasowin Tribal Education Department Building at 562 Peace Pipe Road. The tribe has provided space and use of computers. Larson-Schlitz conducts workshops and helps job seekers individually in developing resumes, preparing for interviews and other steps to succeed in gaining employment.

The new Lac du Flambeau satellite office is now one of six that Wausau Job Center staff visit on a regular basis. According to Tom Younger, Job Service Director for the North Central Region, the Wausau Job Center staff also provide outreach services in Eagle River, Minocqua, Rhinelander, Wautoma and Wisconsin Rapids. In addition, job seekers have a free, user-friendly resource online, <https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/>, which currently has more than 38,000 job openings posted statewide. Job seekers can register, post their resume and get help connecting with employers.

“We are reaching out to communities and we have enhanced our online Job Center of Wisconsin site, adding social media accounts, to better connect job seekers to jobs, meet employer needs and advance Wisconsin’s economy,” Secretary Newson said.