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DATE: 08/24/2009

SUBJECT: American Indian Commission Hosts Feast and Public Forum

BY: Pakou Ly

Duluth's American Indian Commission to hold a "Feast and Public Forum"

The Duluth American Indian Commission will host a "Feast and Public Forum" on Thursday, August 27 at 5 PM. The event will be held in Lincoln Park, 501 N. 25th Ave. West.

In case of inclement weather, the Feast and Forum will be held at Harrison Community Center, 3002 West 3rd St.

The free feast will begin at 5:00 p.m. Following the feast, the Commission will host an open and informal Public Forum, where the Commission will listen to all those who wish to share their thoughts, opinions and advice regarding issues and concerns in Duluth's Indian community.

In announcing the "Feast and Public Forum" Commission Co-Chairs Donna Ennis and Ricky DeFoe, said that "The Commission wants to hear directly from Duluth's American Indian residents about what they see as the real issues that are most challenging to their community."

Commission Secretary Michelle Gordon echoed the Co-chairs and said the "Duluth American Indian Commission values all thoughts and comments relating to or affecting the services, facilities, policies and issues that are of concern to the American Indian Community and we hope that many people from the community come out and let their voices be heard."

This evening is part of the Duluth American Indian Commission's ongoing efforts to reach out to the Community. Part of the Commission's mission is to develop recommendations to the City Council and City Administration to ensure that the American Indian community's concerns are considered in the City's decision and policy making process.

"The American Indian Commission plays an important role in establishing a venue for open dialogue on

important issues facing the American Indian community. I appreciate the hard work of the Commission in planning this event and their ongoing contributions to Duluth,” says Mayor Don Ness.

The Duluth American Indian Commission was established by the City of Duluth by an ordinance passed in 2003. The 11 representatives on the Duluth American Indian Commission are appointed by the Mayor and include cultural and spiritual leaders, activists and other Indian Community advocates.

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