From:	Jo Lightfeather
To:	Redistricting2012
Subject:	Support "We All Win"
Date:	Wednesday, March 07, 2012 11:14:23 AM
Importance:	High

Dear Charter Commissioners:

As a Native American community member, enrolled at White Earth Reservation, I support the ward boundaries drawn by Mariano Espinoza in the "We All Win" map - this ward map **honors our American Indian presence** and **allows us to continue to be represented by a Native American Council Member**. All too often, our voices go unheard because we are the minority of the minorities. The Franklin Avenue American Indian corridor is a source of identity and pride for us. Identity and pride is shown over and over again from archived through to current academic literature and is discussed generation after generation of American Indians to be the single most important issue that helps direct our children and adults to live in a good way. Taking away our ability to influence the what happens in our corridor by taking away our ability to figure out who from our community can run for Minneapolis City Council, jeapordizes our American Indian community's ability to be represented by a member of our community.

This map also gives the Latino and Somali community the ability to have an opportunity ward of their own without having all communities of color compete for the same seat in the City Council. There is enough negative issues between our communities as it is. Forcing this representation issue on us will dramatically increase those negative issues.

Miigwetch,

Jo Lightfeather
Director, Learning Center

MIWRC – Learning Center
Ancient Trader's Market
1113 E. Franklin Avenue
Suite 105 & 200
Minneapolis, MN 55404

(612) 728-2031 (phone)
(612) 354-2063 (fax)

jlightfeather@miwrc.org

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