



Keith Longie **Director** **Bemidji Area** **Indian Health Service**

Keith Longie, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, is the Director of the Bemidji Area office of the Indian Health Service (IHS). The IHS, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care advocate and provider for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Mr. Longie is responsible for providing leadership to the Bemidji Area and overseeing the delivery of health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois. The IHS directly operates two short-stay hospitals, two health centers, and two health stations. The 34 Tribes in the Bemidji Area operate a total of 134 health facilities under the authority of Public Law 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. These facilities range from fully staffed health clinics to walk-in first aid centers. In addition, there are four urban Indian health programs that operate under the authority of Title V of Public Law 96-638.

Mr. Longie began his federal career with the IHS in 1977 as a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS). His first position was in the Facilities Construction Planning Branch in Rockville, Maryland. Mr. Longie then held multiple assignments in the IHS Portland Area, including Assistant Director of the Western Oregon Service Unit and Area Chief Management Information Officer. Mr. Longie transferred to the IHS Phoenix Area to serve as Director of the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Information Resources. He then moved to IHS Headquarters to work as the IHS Chief Information Officer. In 2006, he returned to the Phoenix Area and served as the Deputy Area Director for Field Operations and as the Area Chief Information Officer.

Mr. Longie has received numerous awards during his service with the IHS. These include the USPHS Commendation and Achievement Medal, an IHS National Director's Award, and a Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service. Mr. Longie was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from Southern Oregon State College and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of California in Berkeley.