

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 28TH BOMB WING (ACC)  
ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE SOUTH DAKOTA

APR 12 2013

Colonel Kevin B. Kennedy  
Commander, 28th Bomb Wing  
1958 Scott Drive  
Ellsworth AFB SD 57706-4710

Mr. Kevin Keckler, Chairman  
Cheyenne River Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 590  
Eagle Butte SD 57625

Dear Chairman Keckler

I am the new Commander of the 28th Bomb Wing and would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. Before his departure, Colonel Weatherington and I discussed those topics we felt were most important to the future of Ellsworth AFB, including the relationship that Ellsworth has with the Native American Tribes in our region. It is my intent to keep the relationship between Team Ellsworth and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe strong. To accomplish this, I would like to discuss with you the following:

1. How do we further strengthen and expand our relationship beyond any specific project or undertaking? A long-term, mutually-rewarding relationship recognizes the importance of and takes into account each other's views. For example, we took into account the views the Cheyenne River Sioux and other tribes regarding the importance of Bear Butte. We have implemented procedures to ensure that Ellsworth aircraft do not inadvertently disrupt sensitive cultural practices taking place on or immediately adjacent to Bear Butte.
2. What is your and your staff's preferred means of communication? Ellsworth has had six face-to-face meetings with the Cheyenne River Tribe since 2008: one at Ellsworth AFB, another in Dupree, and four in Eagle Butte. In October 2011, Col Weatherington met with you in your office. My staff and I are willing to host future meetings or travel to meetings you host. I can also offer telephone, written, or e-mail correspondence.
3. At what organizational level of leadership would you and your staff prefer to communicate? If you prefer Chairman-to-Wing Commander level communications, please feel free to contact me directly at 605-385-2801 or via e-mail at [28bw.cc@ellsworth.af.mil](mailto:28bw.cc@ellsworth.af.mil). If you prefer staff level contact, such as our work with Mr. Bryce In the Woods regarding the Draft MOA, your staff can work with my natural and cultural resources manager Mr. John Morgenstern at 605-385-2690 or via email at [john.morgenstern@ellsworth.af.mil](mailto:john.morgenstern@ellsworth.af.mil).

Team Ellsworth is committed to being a good neighbor and a lasting friend of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. We recognize and appreciate the Tribe's contributions to our nation's defense, as demonstrated by so many of your members through their own selfless military service. I would like to thank the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe for working closely with Ellsworth AFB in the past, and look forward to carrying on that tradition. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely



KEVIN B. KENNEDY, Colonel, USAF