

OJIBWE WORD PARTS & DEFINITIONS

IND IZH I NI KAAZ – IS MY NAME.

IND – I ME OR MY – FIRST PERSON PERSONAL PREFIX.

IZ ZHI – IN A CERTAIN WAY.

NI KAAZ - BE NAMED.

IND OON JI BAA – IS WHERE I AM FROM.

IND – I ME OR MY – FIRST PERSON PERSONAL PREFIX.

ON JI – FROM A CERTAIN PLACE.

ON JI-BAA – COME FROM A CERTAIN PLACE.

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

GAA WAA BAA BI GAN I KAAG.

GAA – PLACE NAME MARKER.

WAA BAAB I GAN – WHITE CLAY.

I KAAG – LOTS OF.

ISH KO NI GAN ING – RESERVATION LOCATION.

TWIN LAKES

GAA NIIZH O GA MAAG.

GAA – PLACE NAME MARKER.

NIIZH O – THERE ARE TWO.

GA MAAG – LAKES JOIN EACH OTHER OR LAKES TOGETHER.

RICE LAKE

MI NOO MIN I KANZH I KAANS ING – LOCATION.

MI NOO – GOOD.

MIN – BERRY.

I KANZH – STALK OR PLANT.

I KAAAN – LOTS OF.

SING – LOCATION.

WAUBUN

WAA BAN – BE DAWN

Leonard “Sonny” McDougall a White Earth elder had a passion for teaching the language, he always emphasized that the language is alive, it’s within us. The lessons are in the language, as you can tell by his work above there is a lot of description and meaning in a single word.