

2018 Accomplishment Report

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Pokagon Band of Potawatomi



Census Roll of 1901 of the Pokagon Band of the Pottowattamie
 Indians of Michigan and Indiana, U.S.A. Thomas Topash and Joseph
 H. Cushway, Enumerators, - Ed. B. Stark, Assistant.

	No.	Name	Age	Nativity	P. O. Address
Oct. 26	1	Joseph Augusta	39	P. & F.	South Bend Ind.
	2	Mary Jane "	28	P.	" " "
	3	Alice "	3	P. & F.	" " "
	4	Louisa "	2	P. & F.	" " "
	5	Nancy L. "	Infant.	P. & F.	" " "
	6	Sarah White	33	P.C.&F.	" " "
	7	Goldie M. White	7	P.C.&F.	" " "
	8	Henry "	5	P.C.&F.	" " "
	9	Albert "	3	P.C.&F.	" " "
	10	Thomas Topash	42	P.F.&M.	Dowagiac Mich.
	11	Mary "	43	P. & G.	" "
	12	Louis Topash	15	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	13	Levi "	12	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	14	Cecilia "	9	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	15	Joseph To "	7	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	16	Francis "	5	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	17	ElizabethJ "	3	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	18	Bernard "	8 Mo.	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	19	Daniel "	33	P.F.&M.	" "
	20	CeciliaS. "	34	P. & G.	" "
	21	Agnes "	3	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	22	John "	3	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	23	John "	3	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	24	CatherineC. Topash	5 Mo.	P.F.M.&G.	" "
	25	Peter Persons	31	P. & G.	Duchanan Mich.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi) will respectfully promote and protect the culture, dignity, education, health, welfare and self-sufficiency of our elders, our youth, our families and our future generations while preserving Mother Earth. We will strive to give Pokagon citizens a better quality of life. The Band will also strive for successful economic strength thus assuring the sovereignty of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi.

Table of Contents

Abercrombie, Clara
Daughter
(Formerly married to . A. Keillor, Deceased)

Children:

Reginald Farris Keillor, Age

August Daniel "

James Archie " i Letter from Chairman

Thomas Charles " ii Treasurer's Report

iii Elders Council

Alexis, Arthur

Son of David Alexis

iv Tribal Court

Program and Service Statements + Statistics

Alexis, Gene Olin

~~Gene Olin~~

Son of Albert Alexis

Address unknown

4 Department of Education

7 Department of Facilities

Alexis, Leo L.

Son of Patrick Alexis, Senior

Granger, Ind., 53,363 Hickory Road

8 Department of Finance

9 Pokagon Health Services

Alexis, Robert J.

Son of David Alexis

Dowagiac, Mich., Rural Route

11 Department of Housing & Community Development

13 Department of Language & Culture

Alexis, Robert L.

Dowagiac, Mich., Rural Route

15 Department of Natural Resources

Ance, George E.

Son of Peter Ance

Dowagiac, Mich., 307½ Orchard St

17 Department of Social Services

19 Pokagon Tribal Police

Antisdell, Louise

Daughter of Arthur Alexis

Dowagiac, Mich., 112 Singer St

21 Acknowledgments

Children:

Mary Louise Antisdell, Age

Shirley Ann " "

Robert Eugene " "

Richard " "

Martha Lucille " "

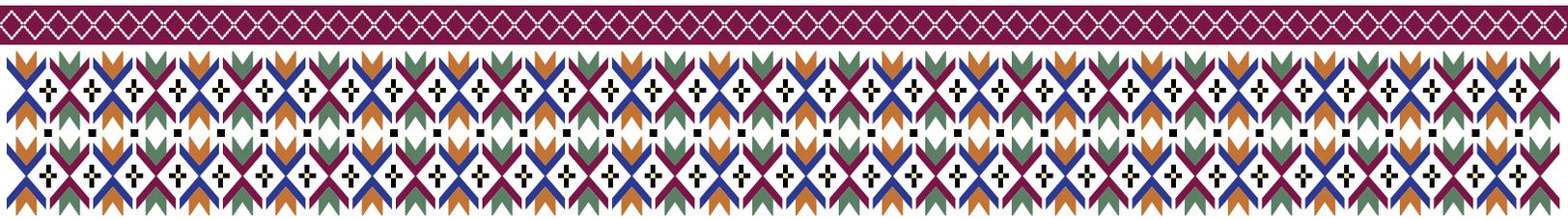
Patricia Sue " "

Kenneth Lee " "

Tribal Council



Colin Wesaw Elders Representative, Kelly Curran Secretary, W. Alex Wesaw Treasurer, Acting, Andy Jackson Member at Large, Matthew Wesaw Chairman, Deborah Williams Member at Large, Steve Winchester Member at Large, Becky Price Member at Large, Gary Morseau Sr Member at Large.



Boozhoo citizens of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi,

It is with a great sense of pride I provide you with the state of our tribal nation. It has been several years since I have enjoyed this privilege and honor, but I am happy to report upon entering our 25th anniversary year of reaffirmation, things are going very well. I hope you share the same sense of pride in the tribe's accomplishments as your elected leadership does.

You, the tribal citizen, have been influential in the success of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians by participating in your government. No matter what the level of your contribution, Tribal Council appreciates your involvement and your comments as we work together to meet our vision and values.

"The Pokégnek Bodéwadmi are a proud, compassionate people committed to strengthening our sovereign nation, a progressive community focused on culture and the most innovative opportunities for all our citizens."

In January we celebrated the first anniversary of Four Winds South Bend, our fourth property. Our land was taken into trust more quickly than we have experienced with other parcels, and the building was constructed ahead of schedule. That was an exciting accomplishment given the difficulties we have encountered along the journey. We all owe a great *chi migwèthh* to several people for their work in making this a reality.

With the completion of our fourth property, the Pokagon Gaming Authority authorized a feasibility study last fall to identify potential future growth for the tribe. The study has been completed, and the Authority is currently in the process of reviewing the options available to determine our next step(s). The focus is on New Buffalo and South Bend as they present our best opportunities for growth.

Regarding our next steps in South Bend, it is important to improve our relationship with the administration in Indiana. I have had the privilege of meeting with Governor Holcomb on several occasions. Things are going well and when the time comes, if the time is necessary, to begin negotiations on a gaming compact, I am comfortable we will have gained their respect.

I am proud of the fact we place a high priority on maintaining and improving our integrity and credibility with the governments with which we are engaged.

This trust can only be developed by living up to our agreements. While others may approach this differently, at the end of the day, our WORD is what will define us as a people and government.

I would like to bring everyone up to speed with what is happening at the government complex. The construction of the addition to Pokagon Health Services and the Justice Center are on schedule and on budget. They should be completed, barring any unforeseen events, by Fall of this year. We had hoped to add some homes, but the bids are just too high. One four-plex came in at double the cost of the last one built, which amounted to around \$1.2 million. That is a cost we just cannot afford at this time.

Other opportunities Council is evaluating are a pepper farm and a pharmacy. Both ventures, if undertaken, will produce revenue and a few jobs for our citizens. This is not to mention the due diligence being conducted on the idea of entering the cannabis industry. Now that the approval process has been completed and cannabis is legal in Michigan, a workgroup is diligently evaluating our involvement.

We as Pokagon citizens should be very proud of what we have accomplished thus far, but we cannot rest today. We must roll up our sleeves and pack our lunch because there is endless work to do as we prepare for the next seven generations. The Council appreciates the involvement of all our citizens, Boards, Commissions, and Committees, and especially the contributions of our elders. There is much to learn from their experiences, and their willingness to share has not gone unnoticed.

On a more personal note, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all the Pokagon Band citizens for allowing me to serve as your Chairman again. I firmly believe that we have built a solid foundation for continued growth. I would like to think that each citizen, in self-examination, can say that the future of our tribe and our people is brighter and better today than it was yesterday and will be even brighter tomorrow. If future elected leaders will build and improve on the foundation that has been established, our capability to continue to improve the quality of life of our people will only be enhanced.

Migwèthh,

Chairman Matthew Wesaw

Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Pokagon Band Finance Board, I am pleased to submit the treasurer's report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.

Following the tribal general election, Steve Winchester was the only returning member of the Finance Board, so Tribal Council had to appoint four new members to the Finance Board. Currently, the members of the Finance Board include Andy Jackson, Deb Williams, Colin Wesaw, Steve Winchester, and myself.

In November 2018, Tribal Council amended the Finance Board Ordinance to now require there to be a public comment period for the tribal government's annual budget. This will be our citizens' opportunity to voice how they feel about the proposed budget in November each year. Additionally, the Band will now keep the annual budget, after it is approved by Tribal Council, on the Pokagon Band website, in the citizen-only secure documents area. If there are amendments to the budget, they will be posted, with justification, to the website with the budget on a quarterly basis.

Also, in 2018, the Band closed on a \$25 million bond. The bond is being used to construct our Justice Center, which will house the Tribal Court and the Tribal Police Department, and to expand our Health Services facility. If things stay on schedule, we are anticipating a move-in around Fall 2019.

This year, the Band launched the deferred Per Capita Savings Plan. The program allows those who wish to participate the ability to save a portion or all of their monthly per cap and have it invested on their behalf. Also, related to per capita, the Finance Board is looking into ways for citizens to roll over all or a portion of their minors trusts into the Per Capita Savings Plan as well as provisions to protect those who are mentally incompetent / protected persons.

Speaking of minors trusts, Providence First is rolling out online access for trust beneficiaries where you can view your trust balance, investment performance, asset allocations, and you can download applications, brochures, or account statements. This is different than logging in to a bank account; you cannot conduct transactions because these funds are held in trust. It is a view-only account. You can access your online account at myaccount.providencefirst.com.

I am pleased to report that the Pokagon Band continues to enjoy a strong financial position, as reflected in the enclosed financial statements, the auditor's report, and the report on investments. We ended the fiscal year exceeding a very challenging budget, and this has been recognized by our audit firm RSM.

Over the next year, I am planning to continue to push the Finance Board and Tribal Council to conduct short-term and long-term planning with tribal government leadership so that we may develop a strategic roadmap for the programs we provide to citizens and the infrastructure we may need to provide services to citizens.

Migwétth,



W. Alex Wesaw

Tribal Council Treasurer, Acting



Elders Council Report

The number of Elders continues to increase every year with the projected number (55 years of age +) at 698 by the end of 2019.

Our Elders have had an eventful year. Three excursions with two charter buses included a 5-day trip in June to Wisconsin and Michigan's upper peninsula, an 11-day trip in August to Montana to the Crow Fair celebration, and a 4-day trip to Chicago in December. Each of these outings included multiple rich and unforgettable native cultural experiences and activities.

The snow removal program served 46 citizens in 2018. It is available to any Pokagon Elder regardless of zip code residence. The policy was recently changed to increase the season maximum amount to \$200 per Elder household.

Participation in the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) continued with Elders traveling by bus to three conferences: in April the Little Traverse Bay Band hosted in Petoskey, MI, in July Hannahville hosted in Harris, MI, and in October the Grand Traverse Band hosted in Williamsburg, MI. MIEA education incentives and college scholarship matching awards were distributed as usual.

Significant to mention is that the Elders Council passed a single-use plastics resolution to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic products wherever possible. This document was forwarded on to the Tribal Council with a recommendation that tribal operations follow suit. As a result, the Pokagon Band Government Manager assembled an inter-departmental team to study options for implementation at all tribal government facilities.

In 2018, Elders emergency fund monies were provided to two citizens with urgent needs.

The Elders Council staffed a tent at both the May Veterans and the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa pow wows to provide refreshments and raffle prizes to event attendees.

The annual Elders picnic, Christmas party, and holiday luncheon at Four Winds were organized and well attended, as were numerous monthly social lunches. Our monthly business meetings are increasingly popular and include speakers and subject matter of interest to Elders such as cultural teachings, tribal department information, and service providers from the larger southwestern Michigan community.

Elders represented the Pokagon Band at the annual Mt. Pleasant Boarding School remembrance event and the Potawatomi Gathering in Kansas.

In September, Pokagon Elders hosted their first dinner/dance: a Prom Night collective celebration with Gun Lake and Huron Band Potawatomi Elders. This was decided to be a semiannual event going forward. Pokagon Youth groups joined in by coordinating, decorating, judging contests, cleaning up, and dancing and having fun.

Elders 2019 calendars were created and 650 were ordered. Four hundred and fifty jackets were custom-ordered with the new Elders logo, offered free of charge for enrolled Elders. One hundred Potawatomi language dictionaries were ordered as an aid and incentive to Elders engaged in learning the language.

As mentioned in previous reports, Elder citizen participation is growing exponentially, and the Elders Hall facility is no longer a suitable venue for activities. Lunch tables are crowded and the building climate is difficult to control as occupancy increases and the kitchen appliances are in operation. Recently we were informed that Elders Hall is being looked at to accommodate office space for two new Social Services employees. Parking is insufficient and spaces are not demarcated. Citizens periodically are forced to park along Townhall Road, which is a safety concern. We have outgrown this building and property and recommend that Tribal Council reevaluate the decision to delay the project and expedite plans to construct the new Elders facility. If we are to grow our community, we need to have adequate space.



Also, with more Elders participating, the workload for employees assigned to Elders Hall has also increased. It is incumbent on the Tribal government to reassess the staffing compliment along with expectations and duties assigned so as not to overload and burn out the existing workforce.

We truly appreciate the opportunity to reclaim language, culture and community that was interrupted by colonization and events of history. This includes stewardship of the environment, learning, teaching, and encouraging others to lift our families up in a way consistent with our mission statement and the spirit of our ancestors.

Chi Migwëthh,

Judy Winchester *Julie Dye* *Judy Augusta* *Clarence White* *Catherine D Ford*
Judy Winchester Julie Dye Judy Augusta Clarence White Catherine Ford
Chair Vice-Chair Secretary Treasurer Member-At Large

Tribal Judiciary

The Judiciary is an independent branch of government established by the Constitution of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. The Tribal Court system consist of two levels: the trial level (Tribal Court) and the appellate level (Court of Appeals). The Pokagon Band Judiciary has been an Indian Country model of stability and continuity. Each of the judges have continued to serve in the Judiciary since inception of the Pokagon Band courts in 2003.

The Tribal Court Judges

Chief Judge Michael Petoskey (*Grand Traverse Band*) is a Michigan attorney with over 30 years experience developing and implementing tribal courts in Michigan. He has served on the tribal courts for each of the seven federally recognized tribes in the lower peninsula of Michigan. Associate Judge David M. Peterson is a retired 5th District Court Judge for Berrien County, Michigan and practicing Michigan attorney.



Michael Petoskey
CHIEF JUDGE



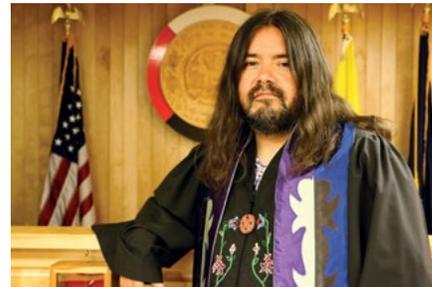
David M. Peterson
ASSOCIATE JUDGE



Robert T. Anderson
CHIEF JUSTICE



Jill E. Tompkins
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE



Matthew L. M. Fletcher
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

The Court of Appeals Justices

Chief Justice Robert T. Anderson (*Bois Forte Band*) is a professor of law and the director of the Native American Law Center at the University of Washington School of Law, and also the Oneida Indian Nation Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. Associate Justice Jill E. Tompkins (*Penobscot*) is the director of the Penobscot Nation Judicial System. Associate Justice Matthew L.M. Fletcher (*Grand Traverse Band*) is a professor of law and director of the Indigenous Law & Policy Center, Michigan State University College of Law.

Annual Joint Meeting of Tribal Council and the Judiciary

Each year Tribal Council and the Judiciary, as separate branches of tribal government, meet face-to-face to collaborate in order to ensure that the needs of the Band, as a sovereign nation, and its citizens are met. Each updates the other on its accomplishments over the preceding year and shares information about its work in progress, needs and future plans. It has been an exemplary best governmental practice and tradition.

Overview of the Work of the Court

The work of the Court involves: (1) meeting the needs of the tribal government because it is a federally-recognized sovereign nation; and (2) providing an independent, fair forum for resolving disputes, conflicts and adherence to tribal standards. Some of the duties and responsibilities are mandated by the tribal Constitution. Other duties are the result of laws passed by Tribal Council. Yet, other duties are the product of court rules, administrative orders or required by the inherent authority of the Judiciary as a branch of government. The Court meets these responsibilities by: (1)

establishing general rules of practice and procedure before the courts; (2) collaborative governmental development for the implementation of the laws of the Band, Court Rules and Administrative Orders; and (3) the judicial processing of actual cases transferred or filed in the courts.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Constitution mandates that the Court of Appeals establish and amend general rules for practice, procedure and evidence in the Tribal Court and Court of Appeals. Court rules provide standard process and procedures: (1) for the practice before the Tribal Courts; and (2) the judicial processing of cases.

1. Court Rules and Administrative Orders

The Court Rules and Administrative Orders of the Tribal Courts can be obtained from the Pokagon Band's Tribal Court webpage at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/tribal-court and from the Court upon request.

2. Collaborative Development and Development of Infrastructure for the Court

a. Collaborative Development

The Chief Judge, Associate Judge, and Court staff collaborate with Tribal Council, the Office of General Counsel, the Prosecuting Attorney, Tribal Police and departments to develop the processes and procedures needed within the Court to build good working systems. The Tribal Court will continue to collaborate in all projects and with all departments in any way needed to further the development of the Pokagon Band community.

b. Development of Infrastructure for the Court

The Chief Judge and Court staff has developed necessary court forms and response letters to assist individuals and entities to function properly within the procedures outlined in the Pokagon Band Tribal Court rules and laws of the Band. The Chief Judge and Court staff devote a significant amount of time toward infrastructure development. Forms can be obtained at the Tribal Courthouse and at the Pokagon Band's Tribal Court webpage at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/tribal-court.

3. 2018 Strategic Initiative Focus of the Judiciary

a. Completion of Procedural Enforcement of Tribal Court Orders in South Bend Court/Indiana

b. Development of community justice/probationary services:

c. Continue the Native Justice Initiative journey along three (3) separate strands:

- Develop culturally appropriate judicial tools for use by the Court;
- Develop a community conflict and resolution forum; and
- Continue raising community awareness and provide on-going Native Justice Initiative educational opportunities

The Court completed its setup of the South Bend Administration Office to hold court hearings and for use of dedicated office space. Currently the Court holds hearings once a month or more when needed. 128 hearings were docketed at the South Bend Administration Office in 2018.

The Court is committed to assisting citizens. In the last year it was discovered during a Court hearing that the citizen involved in the hearing, who lives a long distance from the service area, did not understand the potential monetary benefit of filing taxes. The community justice officer was assigned to assist this person by seeking out and providing resources both in the service area and their local area to assist in filing of taxes and receiving a potential tax return. The community justice officer continues to touch base with them monthly to determine where they may need assistance the most at the time. Other ways this is accomplished is by working with Pokagon youth who may need additional support to connect with their peers and community, and to grow as young men and women. Ensuring Pokagon youth are establishing and maintaining connections to their community is vital. The Court does this by connecting youth to necessary services, assisting in educational needs, transportation, and participating in programs and events with the youth to enhance relationship building with Pokagon youth and their community.

In continuing the work in developing judicial tools for the Court, the Court in collaboration with the Department of Language and Culture and the Native American Rights Fund held its annual Native Justice Gathering in June of 2018. This year the focus was on weaving tradition and justice. The participants gathered in making baskets with instruction led by Jennie Brown. In addition to making baskets the gathering consisted of much needed conversation regarding how our traditions can be utilized in how individuals seek justice within this community.



Cheryl Demmert Fairbanks, Native American Rights Fund (NARF) Indigenous Justice Project advisory board member, facilitated discussion over the two-day gathering regarding how our lives as native people are reflective of the weave of a basket because we are all connected in everything that we do. Every piece that you weave into a basket influences the outcome of the next weave that you do, much like in our communities where every action that one of us makes

can have an effect on those to come, as well as those who are currently around us. The gathering concluded with a vision circle where participants were able to share their vision on the next steps for the Native Justice Initiative.

If you would like to become involved in the Native Justice Initiative, please contact Stacey Rock at (269) 783-0505.

4. Judicial Processing of Cases

The Pokagon Band Tribal Court is a court of general jurisdiction. Tribal Court continues to develop with the growth in the community. The Judiciary and court personnel are committed to providing a court system that reflects the values, culture and spirit of Pokagon Band Tribal community. The following graphs help to illustrate case work by the Tribal courts.

FIGURE 1: NUMBER OF CASES FILED PER YEAR

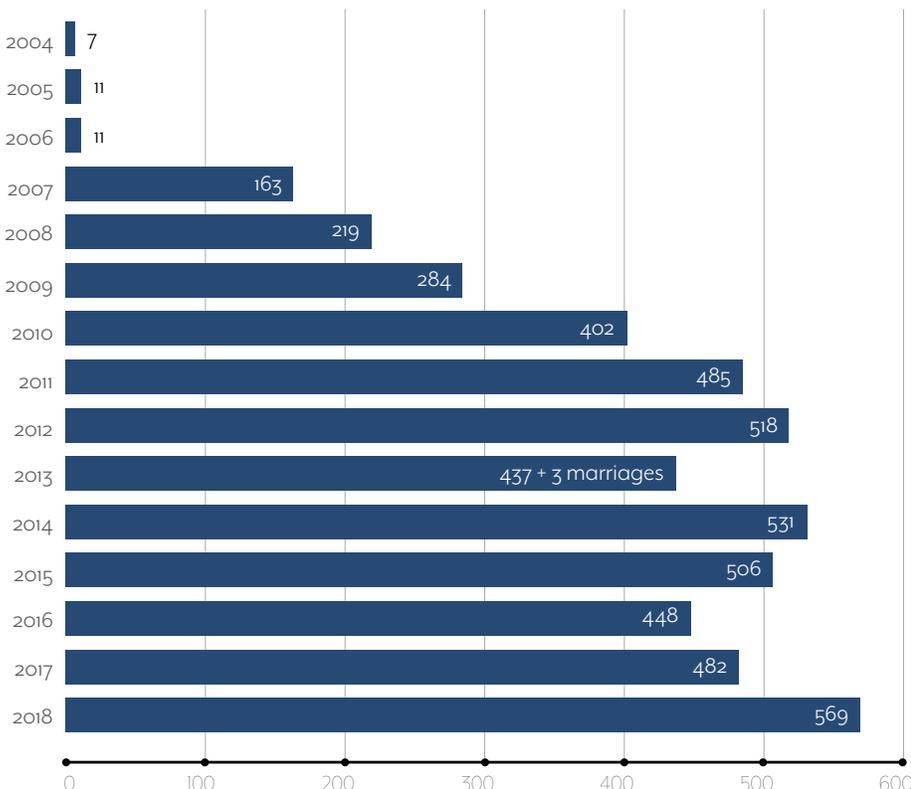
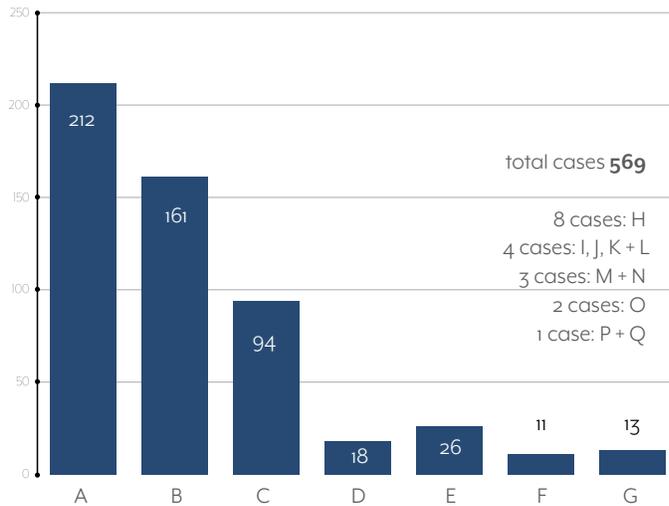


FIGURE 2: TYPES OF CASES FILED



- A. Civil Infraction
- B. Child Support Recognition
- C. Per Capita Distribution for Delinquent Child Support
- D. Foreign Judgment Garnishment
- E. Recognition and Entitlement of Enforcement of Foreign Judgment
- F. Civil Infraction Traffic
- G. Recognition and Entitlement of Enforcement of Foreign Subpoena
- H. General Civil
- I. Criminal Offense
- J. Bankruptcy Deduction
- K. Garnishment of Per Capita Distribution for Debt to Tribe
- L. Guardianship - Minor
- M. Personal Protection Order
- N. IRS Wage Garnishment
- O. Student Load Wage Garnishment
- P. Landlord Tenant
- Q. Adoption

FIGURE 3: COMPARISON OF ALL CASES FILED AND LOCATION

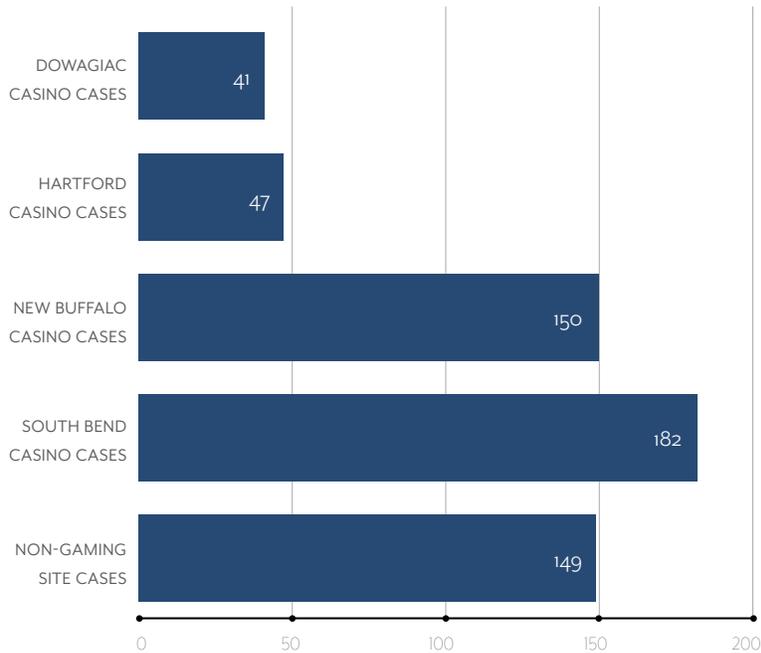
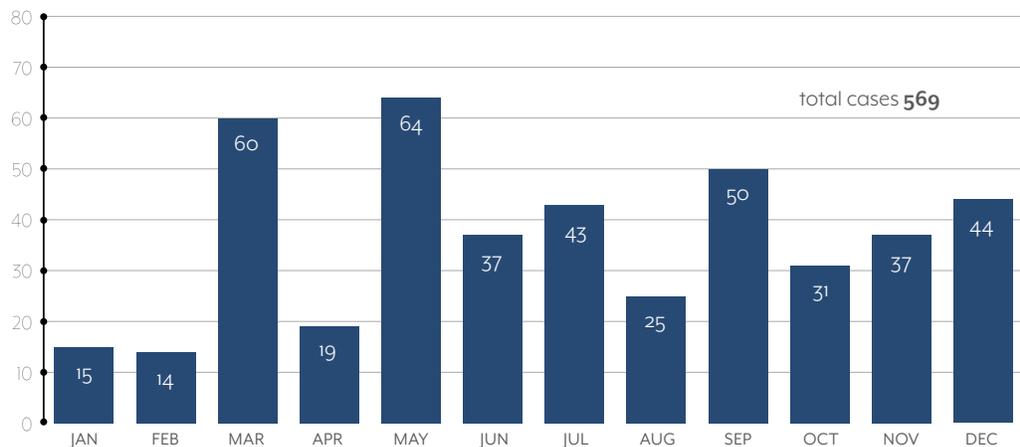


FIGURE 4: COMPARISON OF ALL CASES FILED AND LOCATION



Bodéwadmí Gdawmen [the tie that binds us all]

This statement references the connection we all have to each other regardless of time in between generations or distance between citizens.

We are Potawatomi

In village days, the Pokagon Potawatomi were connected linguistically, spiritually, and geographically. The ensuing decades shifted those connections, stressing them, sometimes severing them.

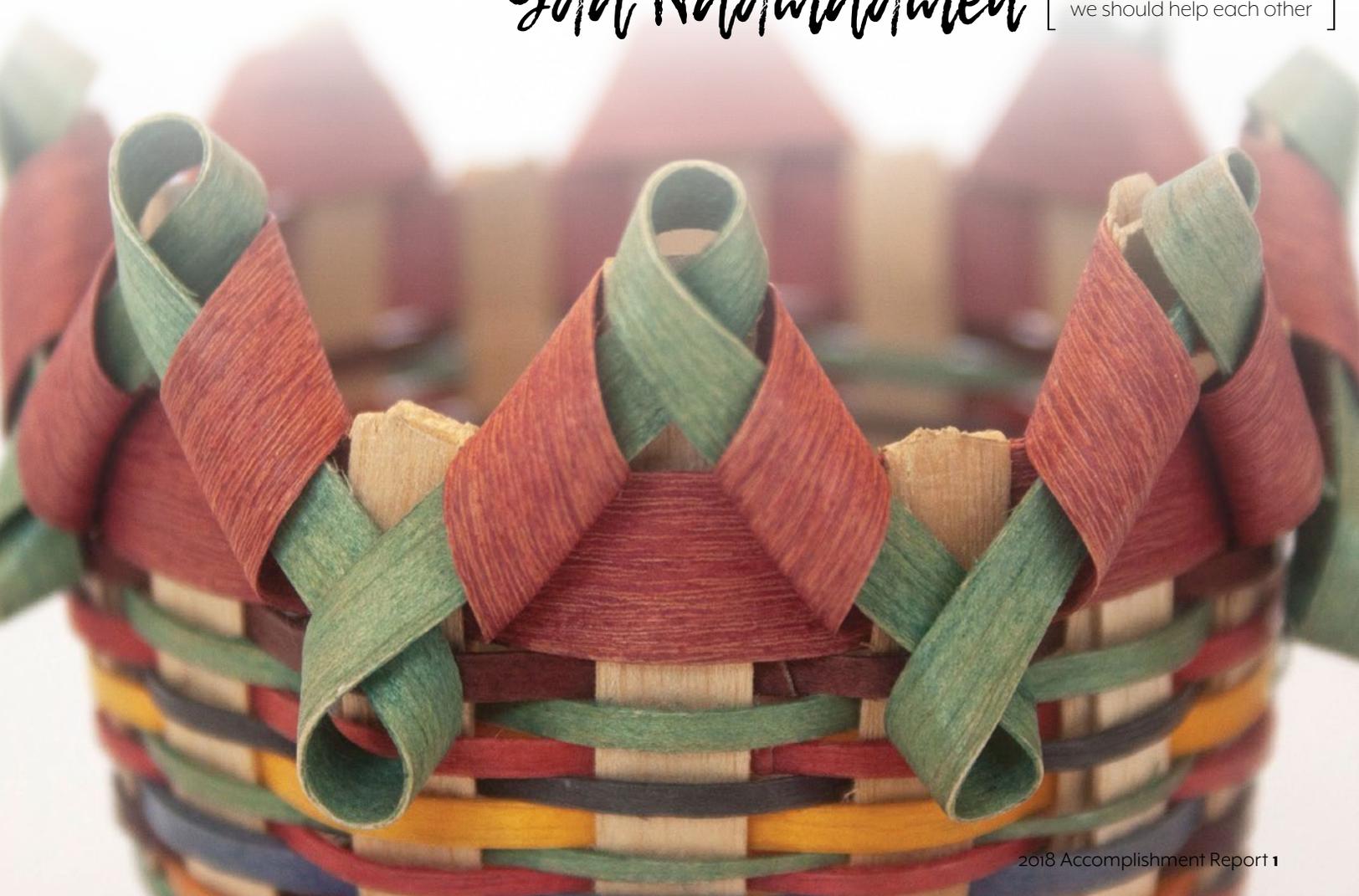
Today the tribal government is working to rebuild those ties. Using contemporary and cultural means, Pokagon people are reconnecting.

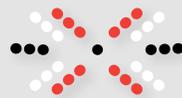
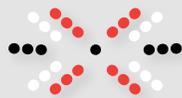
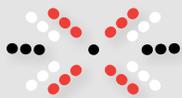
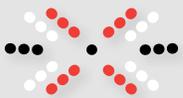
2018 saw the second tribal census, which asked Pokagon citizens to list their needs and priorities. This was the year the Band invoked its educational sovereignty by launching its own preschool, Zagbëgon. In 2018 our two language apprentices took on their own apprentices, doubling the efforts to reconnect to Bodwëwadmimwen and the number of fluent speakers. This year we launched Wiwkwëbthëgen, the online archives collecting oral histories, language information, art, photos and items of culture and heritage.

Employing both tradition and technology, we are connecting with community near and far, from past and present.

Whether connection to the past or connection across distances, the ties that unite our people are becoming stronger.

Gda Nadwadmen [we should help each other]





Program and Service Statements + Statistics



Department of Education

2018 was an exciting year for the Pokagon Band Department of Education as we continued to strengthen programs and services by developing our strategic partnerships with all stakeholders of Indigenous Education. Internally, we focused our collaboration efforts with the Departments of Language and Culture, Natural Resources, and Information Technology.



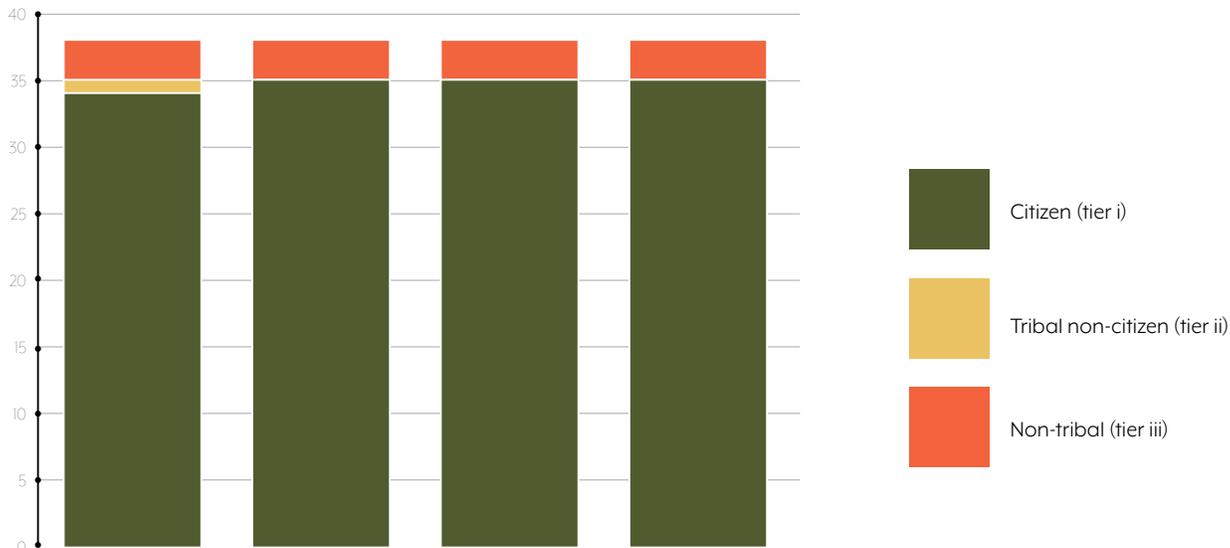
Zagbëgon: An Early Learning and Development Academy

After a strong 17-year Head Start relationship with Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, the Pokagon Band exercised our educational sovereignty by opening our first tribally owned educational institution. Zagbëgon, which means “sprouts” in Bodewadmiwin, officially opened its doors in September and follows our tribe’s initiative of promoting our sovereignty by determining how and what our children learn in school. The curriculum blends western models with indigenous ways of knowing and learning through culturally relevant content in Bodewadmiwin. Zagbëgon attendance rate in 2018 was an impressive 87.12%

Zagbëgon serves students between ages 3–5 and operates on a tiered enrollment system:

- Tier I: Pokagon citizens and siblings (living in the same household)
- Tier II: Other federally recognized tribes,
- Tier III: all other applicants.

FIGURE 5: ZAGËGBON TRIBAL STATUS BREAKDOWN

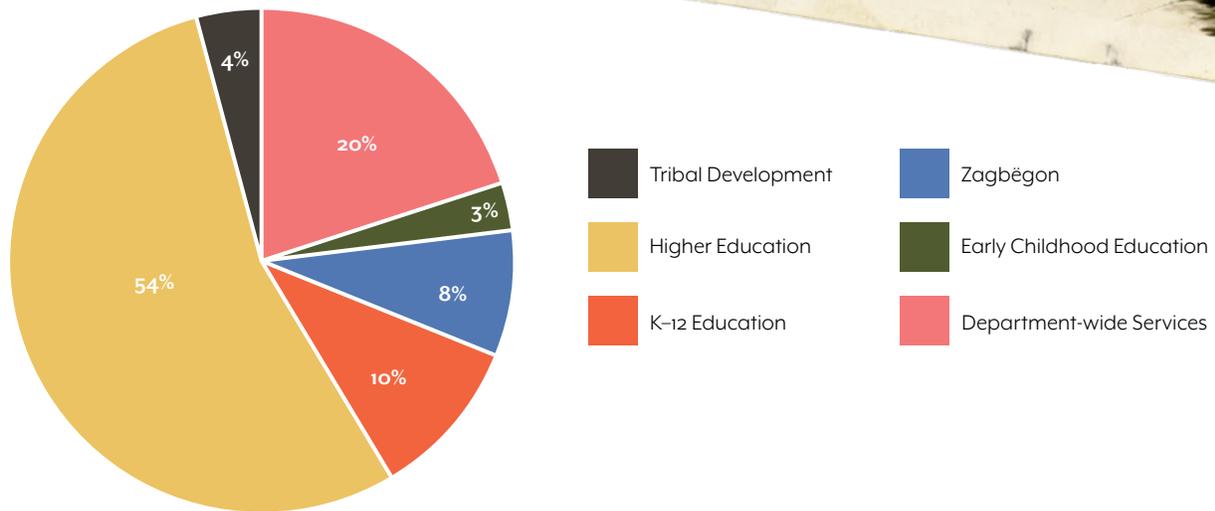


Higher Education Assistance Program

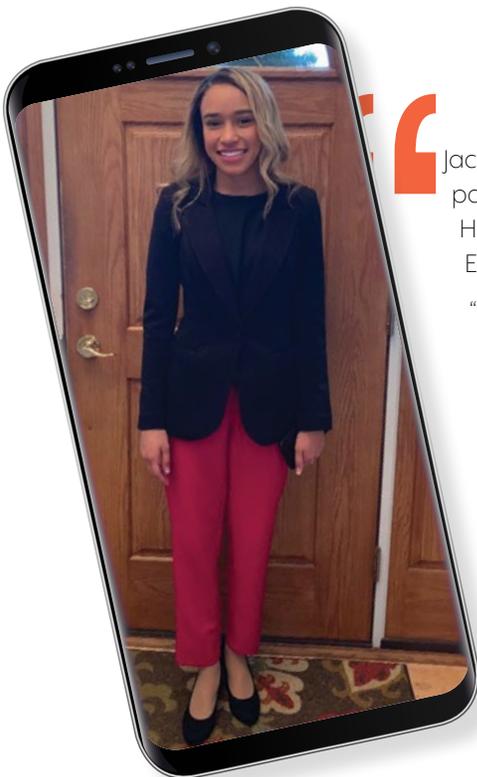
We were able to strengthen workflows and processes by implementing the Higher Education Assistance Program. We continue to update and expand citizen database and the higher ed portal and have begun to analyze internal and external data to develop a five-year strategic plan. This will ensure fiscal responsibility as we continue to prepare for the expected significant increase in demand of higher education resources.



FIGURE 6: DISTRIBUTION OF TRIBAL FUNDING



wnakwnawan wa zhëwëbêk [they are planning for what will happen]



Jackie Winchester-Jones keeps busy. When she's not in school, she's a dance instructor and a participant in the Miss Dowagiac Pageant. Being dually-enrolled in both Dowagiac-Union High School and Southwestern Michigan College gives her time to get it all done. The Dual Enrollment Program is offered through the Pokagon Department of Education.

"It's a very big help for students like me who are still in high school," the senior says.

She attends high school in the morning and business marketing and art appreciation classes in the afternoons at SMC. And Fridays she has no classes.

"The college program gives me a lot of time to do my homework and study, and I'm saving future tuition money by getting these classes out of the way."

Winchester-Jones hopes to study business management at either Ball State or Grand Valley State with the aim of becoming a professional sports agent, something she's already got a head start on with her dual enrollment.

The funnel graph to the right represents the number of students by grade level that were served during the 2018 fiscal year. A high number of students started their educational endeavors. Seniors and graduates make up more than half of the freshman count, indicating that our higher education graduation rates are strong.

Business, nursing, psychology and education are the most sought fields of study.

Accounting 3 / Actuarial Science 1 / Animal Science 1 / Anthropology 1 / Art 7 / Arts and Science 1 / Automotive 2 / Aviation 1 / Barber/Beauty 1 / Biology 5 / Business 41 / CDL 1 / Chemistry 2 / City + Regional Planning 1 / Communications 2 / Computer 8 / Construction 1 / Cosmetology 4 / Criminal Justice 10 / Criminology 1 / Economics 3 / Education 21 / Engineering 5 / English 3 / Environmental 1 / Exercise Science 1 / Family Therapy 2 / Finance 1 / Fine Arts 1 / Food Industry 1 / Forensics 1 / Furniture Design 1 / Graphic Design 4 / General Studies 4 / Health 14 / History 1 / Horticulture 1 / Human Services 1 / I.T. 5 / Illustration 1 / Integrated Studies 1 / Interior Design 1 / International 2 / Japanese 1 / Journalism 1 / Juris Doctorate 2 / Kinesiology 1 / Liberal Arts 5 / Library 2 / Life Skills 1 / Literature 1 / MA Teaching 1 / Management 2 / Marketing 5 / MBA 4 / Media 3 / Medical 5 / Ministry 1 / Music 6 / Native American Studies 1 / Neuroscience 1 / Nursing 22 / Pharmacy 3 / Philosophy 1 / Physical Therapy 1 / Physics 2 / Political Studies 3 / Pre-Med 4 / Psychology 14 / Public Administration 1 / Radiography 1 / Radiology 4 / Renewable Energy 1 / Science 4 / Sign Language 1 / Social Work 10 / Speech Pathology 1 / Sports Management 2 / Theology 3 / Travel Agent 1 / Undeclared 43 / Zoology 1

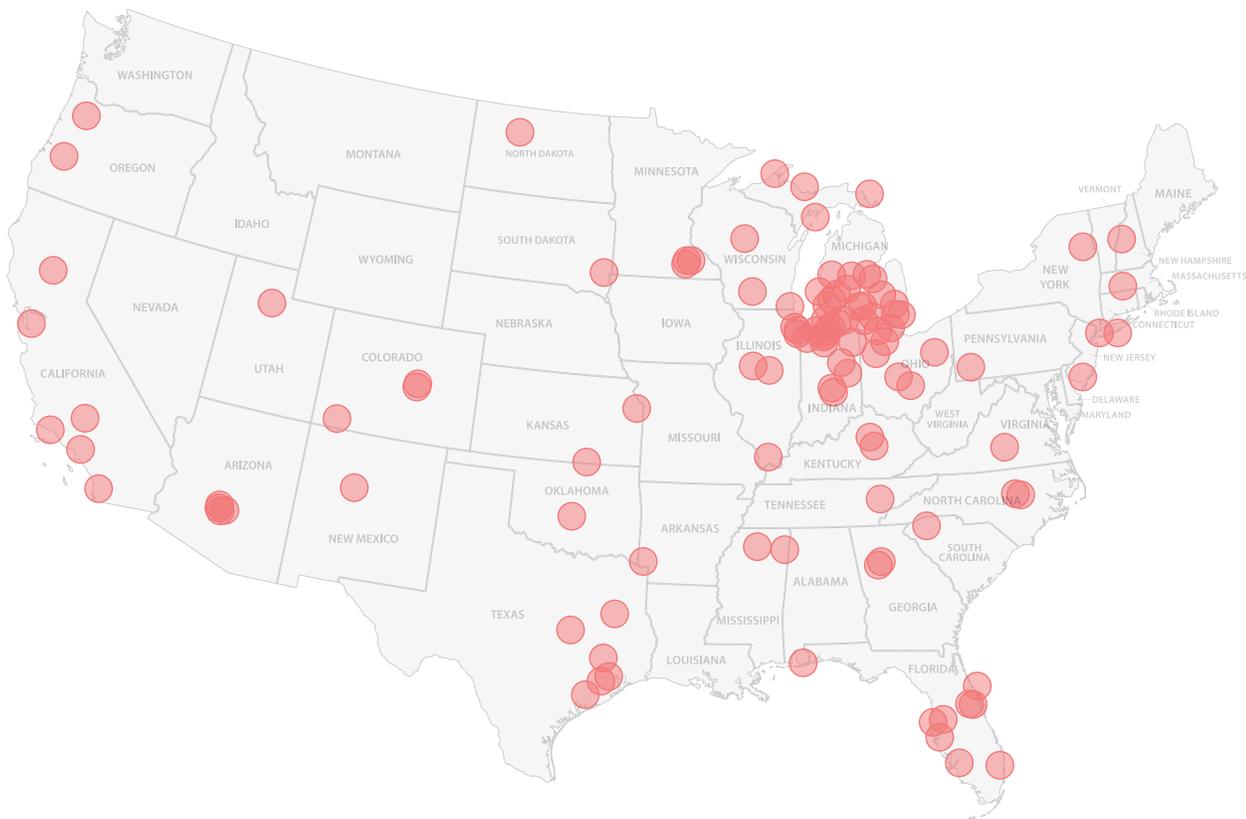
FIGURE 7: HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT BY GRADE LEVEL



Our growing partnership with the Michigan Department of Education will be entering into new, exciting ventures that will significantly increase transparency, responsiveness, efficiency, and effectiveness in providing services to all indigenous students in the state of Michigan. We are also in the final stages of a data sharing agreement which will allow both the DoE and MDE to be more responsive to indigenous students.

FIGURE 7: POKAGON STUDENTS ATTENDING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Each dot represents a Pokagon student at a higher education institution. The darker the dot, the more students attend a university in that area.



Department of Facilities



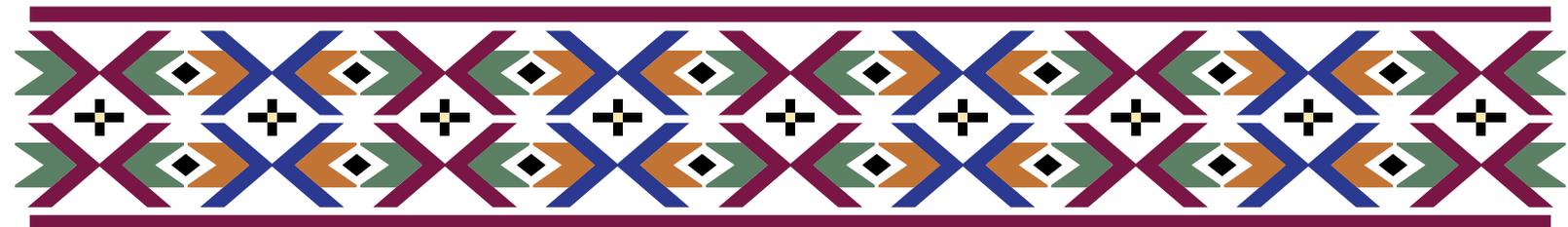
Mnesthegēwen [to put things in order]

When the Pokagon Band resolved in May to exercise its educational sovereignty and create its own preschool, the clock began ticking to get the Zagbëgon building in shape and ready for kids on the academy's first day of school September 4.

The Facilities Department was on the job, helping ensure Zagbëgon was up to Pokagon building codes and licensing standards for child care facilities. The team deep cleaned the entire place, stripping and waxing floors, shampooing carpets, and painting walls on a tight deadline before new furniture was moved in. They resurfaced and repainted the parking lot, creating a bus lane for pick up and drop off.

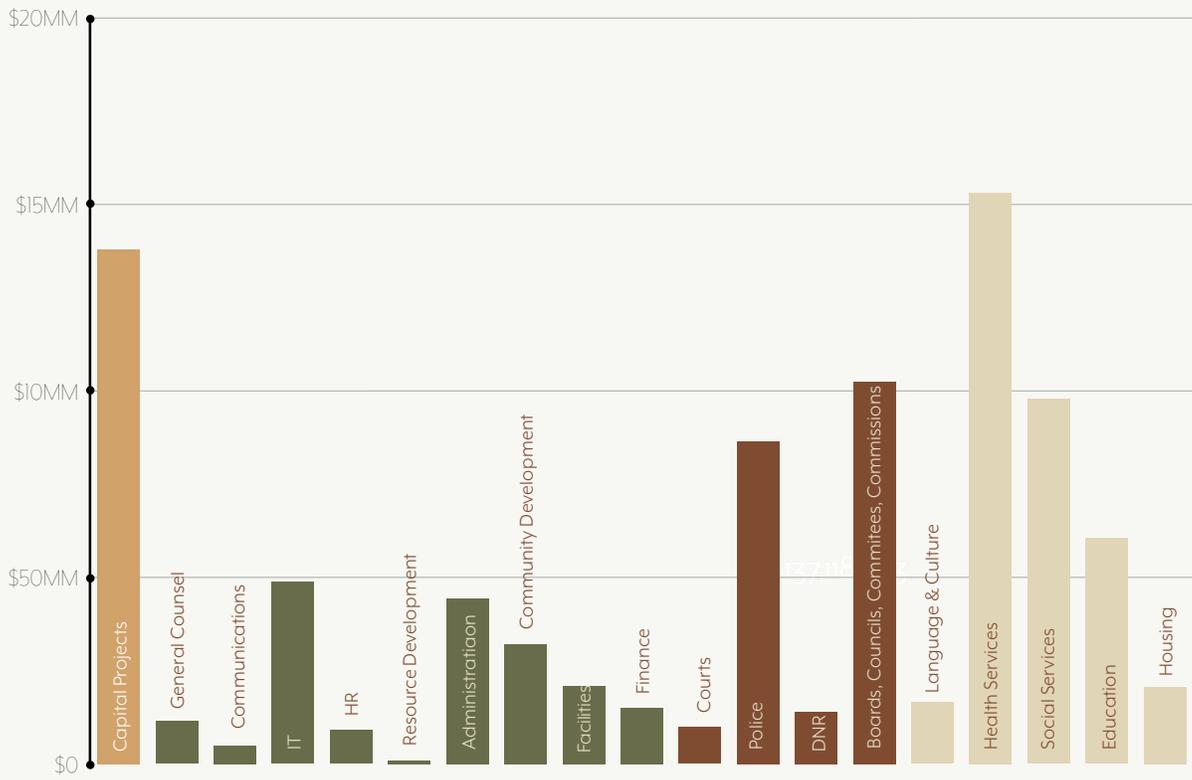
One of their tasks was vital to the prioritization of culture in the academy curriculum: they helped the Zagbëgon team construct the lodge building, where the students begin and end each week with a fire and prayers.

"The Facilities Department was integral in the opening of Zagbëgon," said Liz Rinehart, program manager. "They provided support, shouldered the brunt of this work load, and freed me up to concentrate on curriculum and hiring teachers to get ready for students."



Department of Finance

FIGURE 8: EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT



Pokagon Health Services

FIGURE 9: TOTAL PATIENTS VISITS

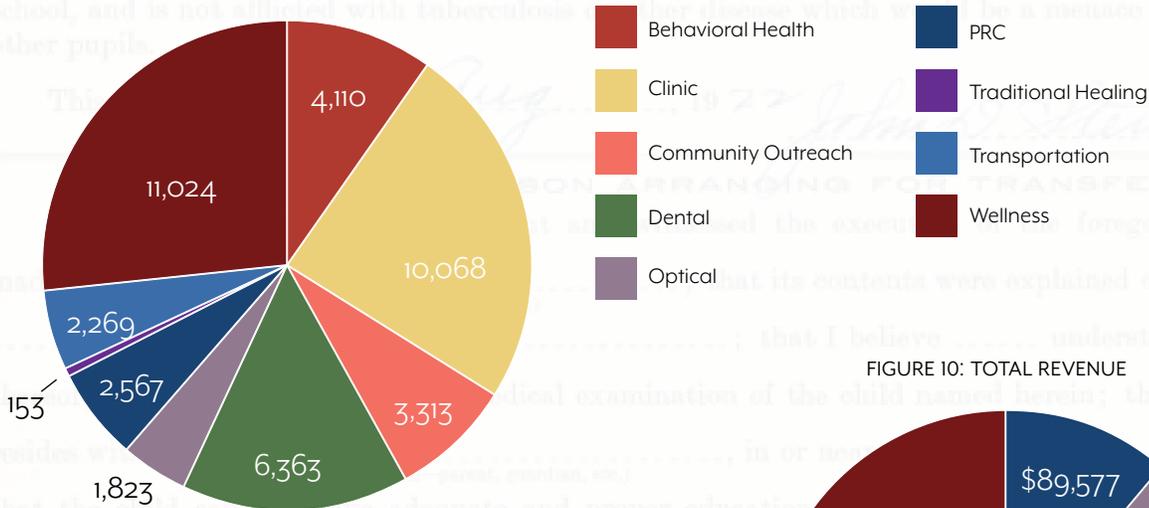
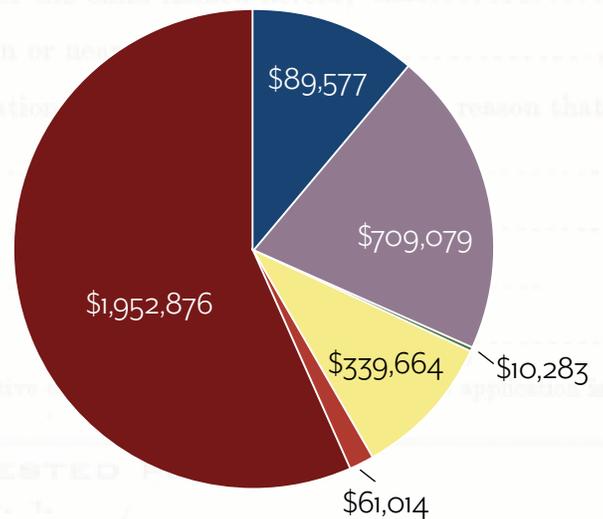


FIGURE 10: TOTAL REVENUE



Nado'wen [healing]



Sally Clausen fell in love with Indiana on a visit to see an old friend. She packed up her California home and created a new one here, leaving behind broken relationships with her children and grandchildren. Sally was looking for happiness in her new community, but she never expected to completely transform her life and her family members' lives after one simple visit to Pokagon Health Services (PHS).

"They put me on with Michelle," Sally explained, talking about Michelle Cockey, medical provider at the PHS Clinic. "Godsend, that girl is. She seemed open and thorough. I remember feeling safe."

Sally came to this visit with her boyfriend at the time, who soon after, broke her arm in a violent outburst. PHS helped get Sally into see a surgeon, while also setting her up with a counselor in Behavioral Health.

Jennifer Ervin coached Sally through contacting her family, sharing with them everything that had happened, and rebuilding those relationships.

"The healing can't start until you take responsibility," Sally said. "That phone call to my kids—that helped me honestly take the responsibility that I hadn't taken. I had done some changing, but there was much more changing I needed to do."

Sally's granddaughter is now living with her; Sally speaks with her children regularly and spends Christmas in California with them every year.

PHS has since guided Sally through a bladder cancer diagnosis and treatment, sleep apnea, and precancerous skin spots.



FIGURE 11: TOTAL NUMBER OF PRESCRIPTIONS

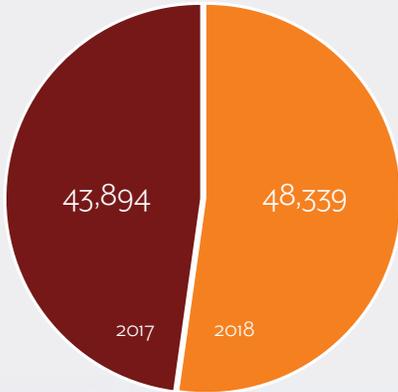


FIGURE 12: TOTAL PRC CLAIMS PAID

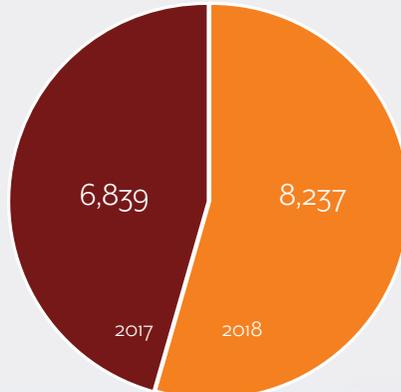
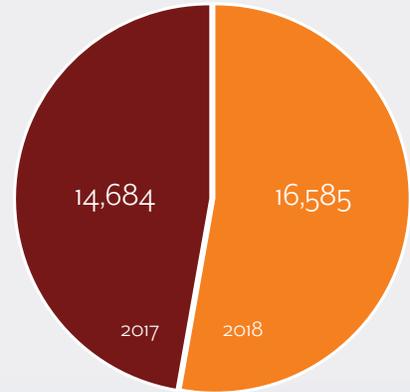


FIGURE 13: TOTAL PRC ELIGIBLE PATIENTS



Department of Housing & Community Development

GiWÉ [He/she goes home]



Before he moved to Dowagiac Édawat in June into one of the town homes, Jared Wesaw was living in a studio in Portage while taking classes at Western Michigan University.

“It never felt like home. I could always hear traffic from 1-94,” he said. “I didn’t know what home felt like. I’ve wanted to move closer to Dowagiac, into a bigger place.”

He was almost ready to sign another year’s lease on the studio when he got the call from the Pokagon Department of Housing that a spot had opened in the village.

“That was an amazing feeling,” he remembers. “It’s really close to my aunt, who raised me. She lives in a town home right by mine. It is closer to everyone I know.”

Wesaw says the Housing team made the process easy, and that the cost helps him focus on writing; he’s working on a novel and a career in writing.

“It’s a lot quieter here. My living room now is as big as my studio was. It feels a lot more like home.”



Housing

Fielded **3,469** telephone calls through front desk

Conducted **1,179** Housing Counseling sessions

Processed **938** rental payments

Sent out **1,464** monthly rent statements

Took court action against **6** former rental tenants to recover funds owed to the Band

Evicted **4** rental tenants for various lease violations

Provided Rental Assistance funding to **79** citizens

Provided Emergency Assistance funding to **39** citizens

Assisted **14** citizen home buyers with down payment and closing funds

Assisted **22** citizens with Homeowner Repair Reimbursement funds

Provided Well & Septic funding to **18** citizen home owners

Provided loaner air conditioners to **8** elders/others in need

Provided Rental Housing to **74** citizen families

Provided Self-Storage Units to **48** citizens

Provided **12** Self-Storage RV parking spaces

É daygo [Where we live]

Madeline White was living with her parents in Sister Lakes when she reached out to the Pokagon Band Housing Department for help to purchase her own home. She was open to any type of assistance, and staff there told her she met the requirements for the Down Payment Assistance Program.

The program provided the 20 percent down payment Madeline needed to purchase her very own home, five minutes from work, still near her family, and close to the tribe's Dowagiac campus where Madeline accesses health and other services.

"They all were really helpful and on top of it," Madeline said of the Housing staff.

Kim Cushway, housing occupancy specialist at the Housing Department, worked with Madeline to determine how Housing could help her reach her goals. Kim says Madeline thought she was too young at just 21 and didn't have a good enough credit score to purchase a home, but Kim told her she actually could buy her own house.

"After looking at her credit score and looking at her income, we realized that her best option would be to purchase a house rather than renting, that it would be more affordable," Kim said.

Kim often guides citizens through the process of deciding what type of housing is best for their individual situations, and she's impressed by the number of tribal youth purchasing homes in the area, further planting themselves in the Pokagon community.



Wa ndëwëndëmwat [What the people want]

"Our tribal census is important to me because it tells our government how to best serve our people now and in the future. It tells us how we are doing serving our people, and at the same time, sets the framework for future programs, services, developments, and investments that will sustain us as a people and as a community."

J. Scott Winchester, Pokagon citizen and project manager/tribal liaison for Seven Generations Architecture & Engineering, LLC



Department of Language & Culture

Overall, with all L&C's events, classes, programs, presentations, etc., we serviced **1,294** people from the community, government, and outside local communities.

Language Program

163 Potawatomi translation requests

Hosted **921** Language classes, events, and programs

Cultural Program

Answered **142** cultural questions

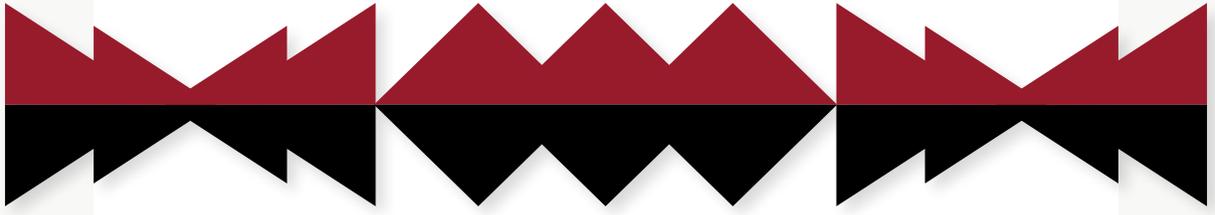
Hosted **122** cultural classes, events, programs

Youth Cultural Program

Hosted **80** events or programs



È yawygo [Who we are]



“

Last year, Carla bought a skirt so she could participate in the annual Water Walk, but something seemed off, and she felt incomplete.

This feeling stuck with her, so when the next iteration of the Regalia Class began, Carla joined and completed a camp dress, ribbon skirts, pucker toe moccasins, applique skirts, birch bark medallion, red tail hawk feather fan and hairpiece, and likely more.

Carla didn't grow up with this culture, didn't talk about it or experience it, so the first few classes, she sat paralyzed, too unsure to cut material or sew an applique. Two months later, this changed, and Carla was completing projects at home.

“I don't want to die not ever knowing who I am. And that's why I'm doing this.”

Carla is spending her retirement learning her culture and unexpectedly finding herself through the classes she's attended from the Language & Culture Department and relationships she's developed there.

Carla danced in her camp dress at the Grand Entry of the 2018 Oshke-Kno-Kewéwen Traditional Pow Wow, and she finally felt complete.

“Anything that's offered—I'm there.” Carla said. “I've just thrown myself into it. I decided that's it. Enough of wanting to do it. The only thing worse than not doing it for 56 years is not doing it for 56 years—and another day.”



From top, left to right: Girl's hair ties for fancy shawl, women's applique shawl, womens camp top, women's traditional blouse, women's traditional applique skirt and women's camp skirt.



Department of Natural Resources

During 2018, Pokagon Band DNR continued to complete surveys to further determine natural resource management needs. Surveys completed this year include those for macroinvertebrates, fish, water quality, E. coli, turtles, birds, small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects and plants, including native and invasive species.

During electrofishing surveys this year, DNR found **23** species of fish in tribal waters and found a significant number of brown trout reproducing within a tribal stream.

Our turtle monitoring program this year was able to identify turtles from **eight** different species, two species were of state concern and another state threatened. Finding these rarer turtles on tribal properties helps us to determine what types of habitats are needed to support rare species and informs us that we have some local areas of high-quality habitat.

Staff continues to monitor water quality on tribal properties; quality and erosion is monitored during high rain events to determine if there are runoff issues or nutrient issues in tribal waters.

The composting initiative entered its first full year during 2018, where the DNR continued to educate tribal youth and the tribal government about composting. A total of **685** pounds of compostable waste was diverted from a landfill and instead was converted into rich compost soil. DNR worked with IT to re-instate issuing non-paper licenses; we were able to re-issue all **238** previously issued licenses and new tribal licenses in August under the re-established license system for a total of **298**.

FIGURE 14: 2018 STREAM E-FISHING SURVEY RESULTS

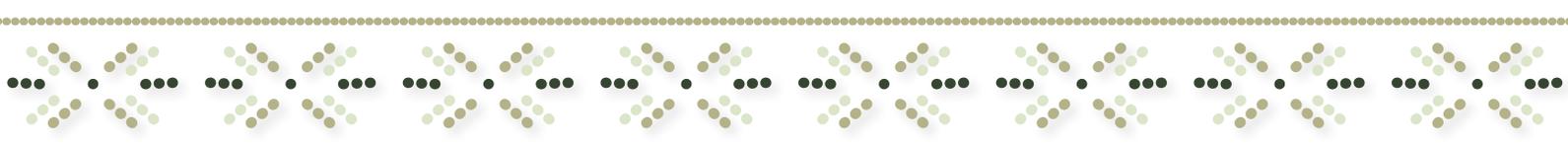
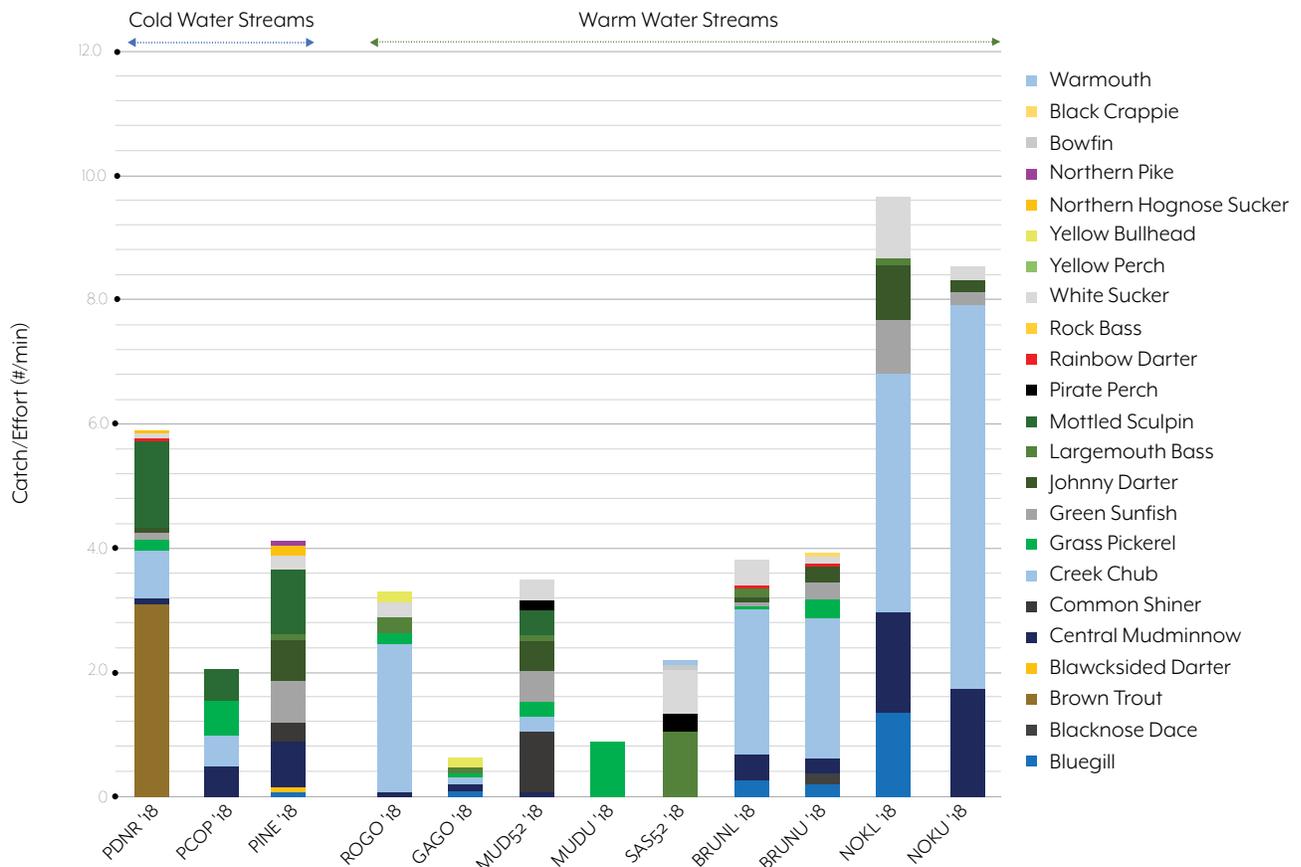


FIGURE 15: TURTLE SPECIES ON TRIBAL LANDS

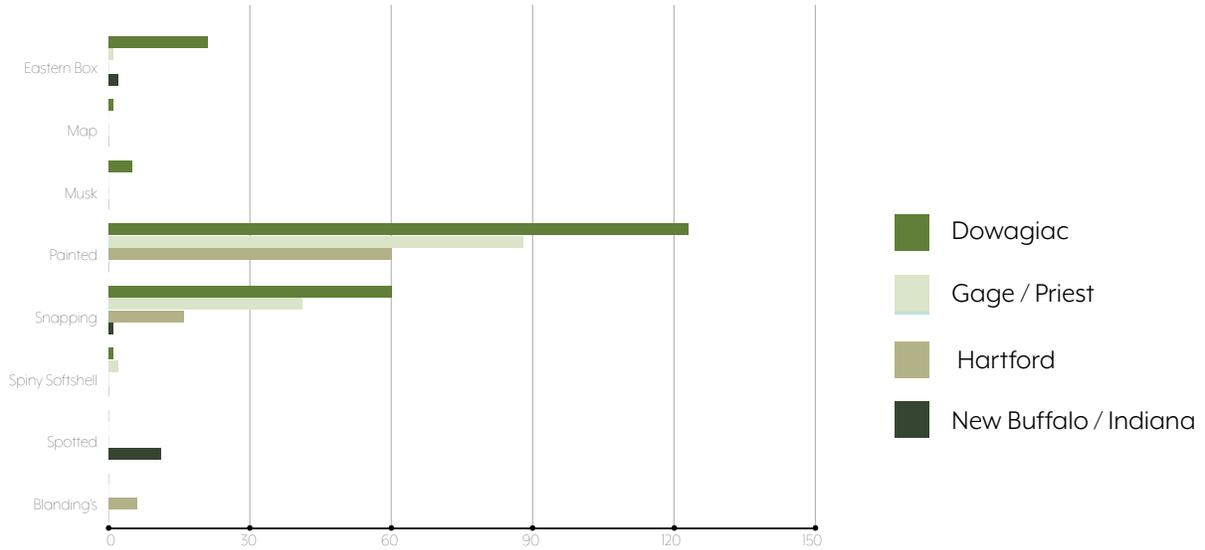
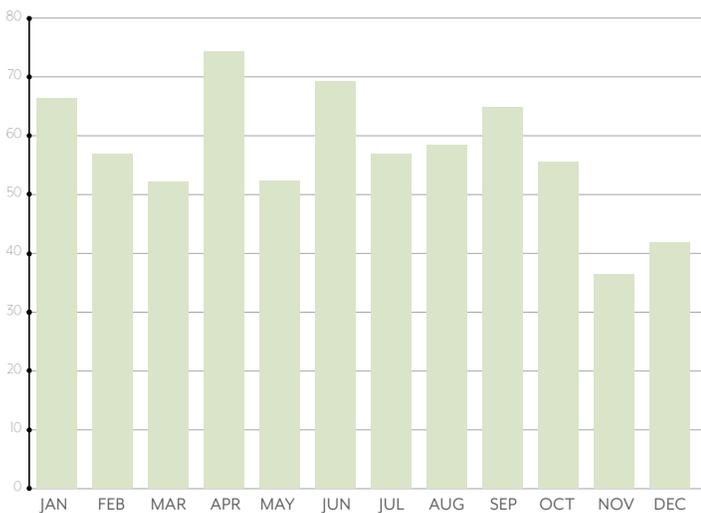


FIGURE 16: POUNDS OF COMPOSTABLE WASTE BY MONTH



Department of Social Services

Social Services Mission

The mission of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Department of Social Services is to assist families in maintaining a strong family in a healthy community structure. The scope of work for the department is to provide assistance in solving problems experienced by children, parents and the elderly in the majority community. Those receiving services include tribal citizens who request or on whose behalf services are requested. All those individuals who are members of federally recognized tribes residing within the service delivery area will receive information and referral. Specific grant programs may be restricted to prescribed eligibility criteria, and citizenship status in the Pokagon Band.

For 2018, we addressed the following three strategic initiatives:

Strengthen Domestic Violence program and processes | program reporting, documentation, collaboration, training

1. Received new Office of Violence Against Women Grant for collaboration with child welfare
2. Provided training for 30 team members
3. Organized a very successful domestic violence awareness month campaign
4. Provided a web-based training for other tribal grantees throughout the country as part of recognition for outstanding program facilitation

Strengthen child welfare systems and processes | notifications, documentation, protocols

1. Restructured staff alignment and the assigning of cases
2. Attended all Tribal State Partnership Meetings with Indiana and Michigan | 6 in total
3. Completed in service training with local counties and central office | Michigan
4. Implemented the use of SharePoint for file management purposes
5. Re-engaged the report tracking system with the assistance of IT
6. Received new Office of Violence Against Women Grant for collaboration with child welfare

Integrate the Veteran Services Administrator into the department | policies, training, location, overall structure

1. Finalized roles and responsibilities
2. Created platforms of communication and documentation
3. Monthly reporting of activities and events
4. Aligned budget with activities

Mnosthegéwen [good doings that benefit others]



In village days, the community cared for its own. families, clans, villages worked together to provide for all.

Though it may look different tha how it used to, the Pokagon Band still does this today. From celebrating with gatherings and meals to working to make maple sugar, some of the old ways are returning.

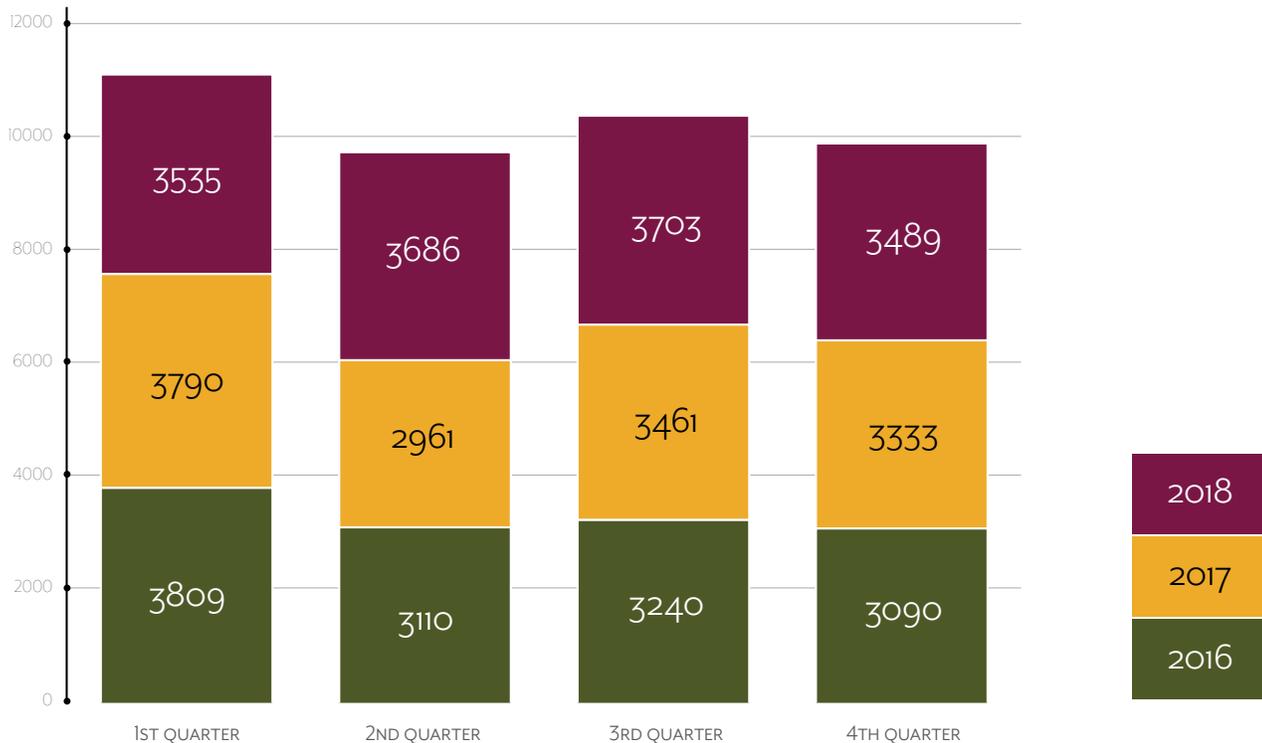
Daniel Dick and his family live in Lawrence, Michigan and own J&B Dick Orchards, a tree fruit and vegetable farm. Nuisance deer do a lot of damage to their farm, and if allowed to multiply, chronic wasting disease could become a problem for the herd. So, Daniel, a student at Michigan State, has a license that allows him to hunt deer out of season with the stipulation that the meat must be used for food.

Daniel is a good shot. He's been doing this for eight years. Sometimes he donates the meat to aunts and grandparents. This year he harvested two deer and provided 200 pounds of meat from the deer to the elders food program and the emergency food program.

"It's nice to see people eating deer meat I've harvested," he said.



FIGURE 17: UNITS OF SERVICE BY QUARTER



Pokagon Tribal Police

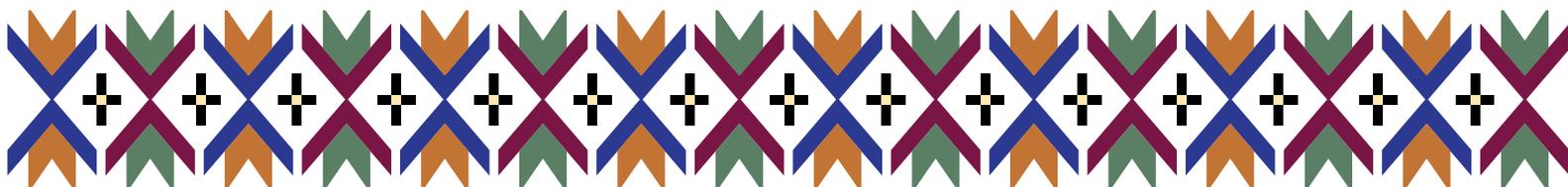
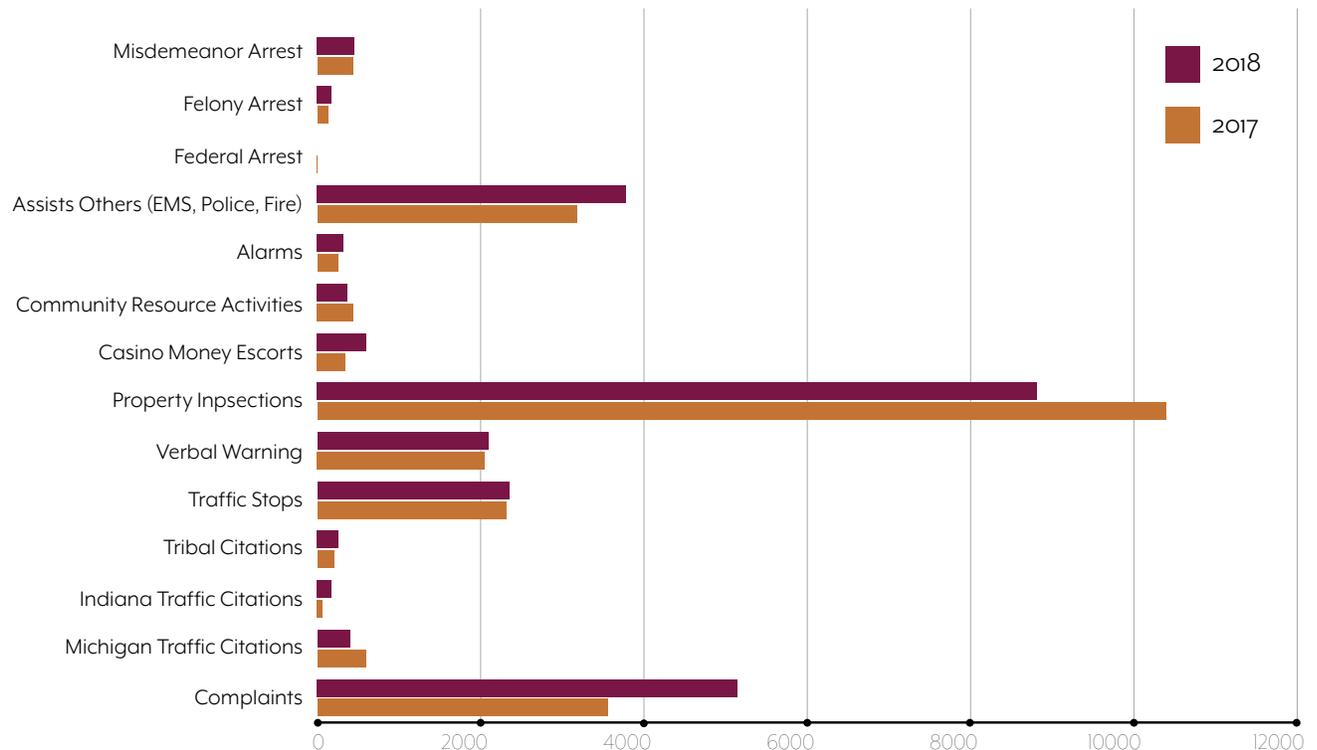
The Tribal Police Department started 2018 off with the opening of Four Winds South Bend. Due to the opening, the Police Department added personnel including plain clothes police officers working inside the casino. An initiative was to implement a South Bend Law Enforcement plan. The Police Department has a cross-deputation agreement with the St. Joseph County Police in which all officers are sworn as Special Deputies. The Department also entered into a mutual aid agreement with the South Bend Police Department. The Department also assigned a member to the St. Joseph County S.W.A.T. (Special Weapons and Tactics Team). All of these helped work with the South Bend law enforcement community and be ready for full law enforcement operations when the casino opened. The law enforcement operations in South Bend continued to go smoothly throughout the year and with the opening of the casino.

Due to the Department growing to 53 officers over the past two years, the Department also implemented a training division and assigned a Lieutenant to head the training division. Another initiative to strengthen community policing included supplying community policing training throughout the government, all of the casinos, and the housing villages. The Emergency Manager continues to build, plan, and meet to implement an Emergency Plan for the entire Pokagon Band community.

The following initiatives were successfully implemented in 2018:

- Implement South Bend Law Enforcement Plan including plain clothes officers in casinos
- Execute and educate an all encompassing Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Strengthen community policing

FIGURE 18: UNITS OF SERVICE



Acknowledgments + migwèthh

design: beth salman

writing + editing: paige risser, kyla carneiro

archive items curated by blaire topash-caldwell

select archive photography by jennifer marcussen

