



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

Election Board

Official 2019 Elders Council Election Notice

Posted: August 09, 2019

The Election will take place at the Pokagon Band Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail (off Dailey Road), Dowagiac, MI 49047
November 2, 2019 | 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

In accordance with the requirements of Pokagon Band law, the Election Board has established Saturday, November 2, 2019 as the date to conduct the 2019 Elders Council Election. This year, two Elders Council seats are up for election.

This Election Notice will provide additional information about the November 2, 2019 Elders Council Election. Included with this Election Notice are the following: Event Calendar, Description of Duties, Official Candidate Declaration Form, Candidate Statement Acknowledgement Form, Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background Check, Official Voter Registration Form and Absentee Ballot Request Form. Please refer to the Event Calendar for all of the deadlines in this Elders Council Election.

The following seats are up for election in this Elders Council Election:

Vice Chairperson, Treasurer.

The Election Board is now accepting Candidate Declarations for the upcoming election. Declaration for Candidacy must be made on the Official Candidate Declaration Form supplied in this Election Notice or at the Election Board office. Please note that all candidates for elective office must undergo a limited criminal background check performed by the Pokagon Band Tribal Police to ensure that the candidate meets the qualifications to serve. Thus, in addition to completing a Candidate Declaration Form, a candidate must complete an Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background Check. **The Candidate Declaration Form, Candidate Statement, Candidate Statement Acknowledgement Form and the Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background Check must be received by the Election Board through U.S. mail, hand delivery, fax or email no later than 4:30 P.M. on August 30, 2019 at the following address:**

Mail:

Pokagon Band Election Board
P.O. Box 696
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Hand delivery:

Pokagon Band Election Board Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Fax: (269) 462-4308

Email: election.board@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Late or incomplete Candidate Declaration Forms or Authorizations to Conduct a Criminal Background Check will not be accepted.

Qualifications for Elders Council Members

(As provided in the Elders Council Code, Section 9)

To be a candidate for the Elders Council, an Elder must:

1. Not currently be incarcerated for any criminal conviction; and
2. Must not have been convicted within the last ten (10) years of a crime subject to imprisonment for a term of one (1) year or longer, excepting those crimes determined by the Election Board to relate to the furtherance of the Band's tribal sovereignty rights; and
3. Not be an employee of the Band; and
4. Not hold a Pokagon Band elective office other than the one for which a seat is being sought or sit as a judge on the Pokagon Band Tribal Judiciary, or be a member of the Election Board, the Ethics Board, or any Personnel Committee the Tribal Council may establish.

Voter Registration

You must be registered in order to vote in this election. You need to re-register if you have had a legal name change since you last registered. Voter registration for this election shall remain open until 4:30 P.M. on October 3, 2019.

Meet the Candidates

The Election Board will be conducting a Meet the Candidates Forum ("Event").

The Event is an opportunity for Pokagon Band Citizens to meet the Candidates, for the Candidates to answer questions, state their qualifications and platform. The Event will be held on October 05, 2019 at the Pokagon Band Community Center located at 27043 Potawatomi Trail (off of Dailey Road) in Dowagiac, MI. The Election Board will open the Community Center doors for the audience to begin arriving for the Event at 9:30 A.M. and the Event will commence at 10:00 A.M. The Event will also be webcast live for Pokagon Band Citizens. Those Pokagon Band Citizens who would like to view the Event by webcast may visit; www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/citizens/webcasting and enter their tribal ID number, last name, and birthdate to log on and view webcasting. For additional information about the Event, please contact the Election Board Office.

Absentee Ballot

If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, you must complete and return the Absentee Ballot Request Form. You may return your completed Absentee Ballot Request Form to the Election Board by mail, fax or email, or you may hand deliver it to the Election Board Office. If you choose to return your completed Absentee Ballot Request Form by mail, fax, or email, it must be received by the Election Board no later than 4:30 P.M. on October 28, 2019. If you choose to return your completed Absentee Ballot Request Form by hand delivering it to the Election Board Office, it must be received by the Election Board no later than 2:00 P.M. on November 1, 2019. When returning your Absentee Ballot Request Form, you must ensure that you have allowed enough time to receive and return the absentee ballot.

If you have any questions, please contact the Election Board Office at the number below.