



POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

Bbon gises December 2015

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Don't miss all the December doings.

Afterschool Program focuses on Thanksgiving, emotional health, sage, adulthood

By Daniel Stohrer, youth services coordinator and Rebecca Williams, youth cultural coordinator

The Pokagon Band afterschool program is based upon medicine wheel teachings, meaning during the fall season we focus on the western direction. Some of the western direction teachings we discussed were nutrition, active lifestyles, healthy relationships, and emotional health. We learned about nutrition from registered dietitian Marcy Herbert, who taught our afterschool program participants about what a healthy diet consists of and why it is important to make healthy eating choices. We promoted active lifestyles by walking in nature, playing team sports, and running relay races. Social Services manager Casey Kasper taught the afterschool participants about healthy relationships and the importance of recognizing an unhealthy relationship. Our afterschool program kids were rewarded with a horseback riding field trip.

The youth also received teachings on how to harvest wild rice from cultural coordinator Patty Kublik. Mrs. Kublik

explained the stages of harvesting wild rice by parching, dancing, winnowing and then finally sorting the rice pieces one-by-one to remove any remaining chaff or damaged rice. The kids had the opportunity to participate in each stage of the harvesting process. Clearly the most popular stage for the youth was the dancing process, which removes the hull from the rice.

We also explained sage, one of the four sacred medicines, the medicine of the western direction. We showed the use of sage—smudging to cleanse and balance yourself, spaces, or spiritual objects. The youth had the opportunity to smudge during every session.

In January we will begin to learn about the northern direction. We will be working on bead work, receiving teachings from our elders, making good decisions as well as incorporating fun winter activities. The afterschool program meets on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 6 p.m. If there are any questions regarding the afterschool program, please contact Daniel Stohrer at (269) 462-4225.



Healthy Family program makes a difference in kids' lives

Five years ago, the Pokagon Band received a grant to start a program aimed at helping families establish healthy and stable home environments. Two social workers, Desi Dunomes and Sandy Oram, connect directly with those families to assist with goal setting, budgeting, and other family services.

Dunomes and Oram use proven models of intensive, home-based family mentoring and case-management to develop and implement a program leading to family wellness. They meet with client-families where they are: in the home, at work, at school, allowing them the best opportunity to have a complete picture of each situation and a thorough assessment of a family's physical and environmental needs, as well as the less-apparent interactional needs.

"The goal is that kids are happy, well adjusted, and safe," said Dunomes. "We ultimately want to keep families together, keep kids in their own home."

Through an integrated system of care for its family-clients, the program can address all facets of family needs: physical and behavioral health, housing, education, and justice system assistance.

One of the families that has benefitted from the program has shared some of their success stories. The mother uses a technique she learned from the social worker called 1-2-3 Magic with her grade school aged child.

"1-2-3 Magic has immediate, direct consequences for a child," said Dunomes. "Basically the child gets three chances to get it right, or she or he will have a time out and perhaps a conversation."

Consistent use of this approach has worked really well with this child, according to Dunomes.

"The mother gets to spend more time giving encouragement and praise, and less time in negativity with her child," she said. "Kids and parents can spend more time enjoying each other."

Another practice that has helped this family: making and using a chore chart.

"It's attached to an incentive—an allowance—so the kid sees rewards and consequences."

This helps the child and parent in saving and goal setting.

The grant expired a few years ago, but the Band made this program a permanent, tribally funded service so it can continue to make an impact with the most vulnerable Pokagon citizens.

Domestic Violence Awareness Program receives second grant, offers new services

In September, the Domestic Violence Program applied for their second grant to expand services to more citizens. After Tribal Council approved their application on August 31, they applied and received \$1,000 more than requested, for a total of \$76,000.

This grant opens the door to new services for more women and men and focuses on prevention, under the name Pokagon Band Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative Project.

The Domestic Violence Program (DVP) is expanding its impact, first by providing crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy, behavioral health, and case management to victims of domestic and sexual violence, whereas the program previously offered these services to only adult, female victims of domestic violence.

DVP will also be providing more education about domestic violence and historical trauma for adults and youth and establishing community response procedures.

“If you start with the little ones, then they'll grow up with the idea that abuse is not okay,” said Casey Kasper, victim services manager. “Slowly but surely, we're going to build up the mentality that this is not cultural or okay.”

Social Services and PHS, primarily Behavioral Health, will be collaborating to care for victims, modeling the integrative care effort PHS practices. One area of particular effort will be in treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) with eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR)— a fairly new, nontraditional type of psychotherapy for treating PTSD, according to the grant proposal.

DVP is also integrating appropriate cultural practices into the care for victims, enhancing their social and emotional well being.

The Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative, Division of Behavioral Health, Office of Clinical and Preventive Services, Indian Health Service, and the Department of Health and Human Services funded this grant.




Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language & Culture

Pancake Breakfast

January 10, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail :: Dowagiac, MI 49047

Please join the Language and Culture staff for the kick off to this year's Sugar Season beginning with a pancake breakfast.

If you have any questions please contact Patty Jo Kublick (269) 462-4303 desk or 269-462-5376 Language and Culture Nicole Holloway (269) 462-4325.

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Project LAUNCH Parent Advisory Group

This group meets once a month and is composed of parents and caregivers of children 0–8 years of age. Each Department meets with the Parent Group and discusses ways we can help improve the services for our Pokagon Youth. The Parent Group also receives a cultural teaching from a member of the Pokagon Community.

If you're interested in attending please contact JT Laraway, Young Child Wellness Coordinator, (269) 462-4450.

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Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the established guidelines.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the fourteenth of each month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
Pokagon.Newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Halloween party serves fun and frights

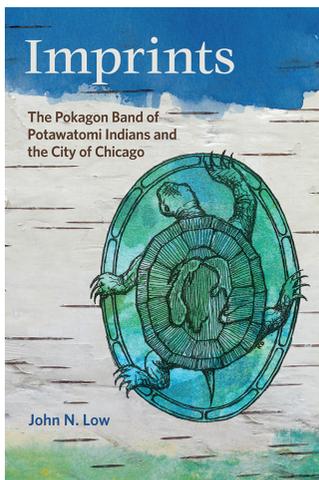
By Rebecca Williams

This year's Halloween party was a huge success with close to 350 attendees. Everyone left with full stomachs and a few scares from the Youth Council's Haunted House. Some of this year's activities included a balloon artist, diving for

doughnuts, a creepy feeling station and a make-and-take your own trick or treat bag. People willing to brave the rain enjoyed a horse drawn hayride and trick or treating through the Édawat Village. Some of this year's costume contest winners included an Oompa Loompa and a homemade claw machine.



Pokagon citizen publishes book



Congratulations to John N. Low PhD, whose book *Imprints: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the City of Chicago* will be published in February. Professor Low is an assistant professor in comparative studies at Ohio State University–Newark where he teaches history and American Indian studies.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians has been a part of Chicago since its founding. In very public expressions of indigeneity, they have refused to hide in plain sight or assimilate. Instead, throughout the city's history, the Pokagon Potawatomi Indians have openly and aggressively expressed their refusal to be marginalized or forgotten—and in doing so, they have contributed to the fabric and history of the city.

Imprints: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the City of Chicago examines the ways some Pokagon Potawatomi tribal members have maintained a distinct Native identity, their rejection of assimilation into the mainstream, and their desire for inclusion in the larger contemporary society without forfeiting their "Indianness." Mindful that contact is never a one-way street, Low also examines the ways in which experiences in Chicago have influenced the Pokagon Potawatomi. *Imprints* continues the recent scholarship on the urban Indian experience before as well as after World War II.

To order *Imprints*, click <http://msupress.org/books/book/?id=50-1D0-33FC#.VktTfXarSUn>



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Education

EDUCATION PORTAL

The Education Department would like to announce that the **EDUCATION PORTAL** is ready to use for fall 2015–2016 enrollment! All citizens completing the Higher Education Scholarship or Vocational Scholarship applications should use the Education Portal to complete the scholarship process. No more emailing, faxing, or bringing in the scholarship paper work. Just send it electronically and enjoy the stress free scholarship process.

If you have any questions please contact Joseph Avance Higher Education Specialist at joseph.avance@pokagonband-nsn.gov or (269) 782-0887 or toll free (888)330-1234.

Please spread the word!

What's that Invasive Plant? Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)



Multiflora rose is an invasive species that is native to Eastern Asia. This species was brought to the United States as early as 1700 as an ornamental planting and began being marketed as a living fencerow in the 1930s. This plant was used for fencerows because it forms dense thickets that have many sharp thorns. However, multiflora rose grows aggressively and produces large numbers of fruits, rose hips, which are eaten and dispersed by birds. The dense thickets then form in natural forest communities and crowd out native vegetation. This prevents native shrubs, forbs and herbs from developing and may be detrimental to some types of native birds.

The plant has many stems, and the flowers have five petals that vary from white to pinkish in color. Leaves branch into five to seven leaflets with toothed edges and a fringed base. Multiflora rose can reproduce by seed and can spread when arched stems touch the ground and make contact, creating a new root system at the point of contact. Similar in appearance to swamp rose or pasture rose with the exception that these species do not have fringed leaf bases. Removal is difficult and requires manual removal and repeated cutting. When treated this species must be watched for multiple years in the same area due to a prolific seedbank.

What's that edible plant? Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*)



Wintergreen is a common plant found among many forest types in Michigan and Indiana, but prefers areas where the soils are more acidic. This plant is also called by other names, including teaberry and deerberry. Wintergreen is a very small shrub found among the flora of the forest floor. As the name suggests, this tiny shrub is evergreen, meaning it stays green year-round. Wintergreen is related to huckleberries and cranberries. The leaves of the plant are leathery, green, and shiny with a slightly toothed edge. This plant has whitish bell shaped flowers that appear in the summer with fruits that follow and last throughout the winter as a source of food for mammals. The berries are pink to red and have a distinctive star shaped pattern on the underside. The center of the berry is typically comprised entirely of seeds, whereas the surrounding flesh is edible and minty. Wintergreen is a common flavor of some items you buy at the store, including gum, candy, and toothpaste. Historically, wintergreen leaves have been used to brew a tea that helped to relieve symptoms including headaches, fever, sore throat, and general aches/pains. Be careful with the use of wintergreen as it has similar qualities to aspirin. Wintergreen flavored extracts can be created and wintergreen oil can be obtained by crushing the leaves in warm water followed by steam distillation. Wintergreen oil has been used to topically treat ailments from arthritis and aches/pains to inflammation and even hair care. Wintergreen extracts, oils and berries can be used in many food recipes as well.

Rodgers Lake outlet pond project finished

If you have been around Rodgers Lake campus over the past month you may have noticed cranes, bulldozers and dump trucks working at the entrance to the campground. The Department of Natural Resources received grant funding to restore the area at the entrance to the Rodgers Lake campground.

Prior to the restoration there was a corrugated culvert, pond, and a couple of perched culverts downstream. The culvert that was in place was not a wildlife friendly culvert; wildlife could not readily cross under the road during movements, they needed to cross the road above which causes a higher probability of them being hunted or hit by a vehicle. A large box culvert with headwalls and wingwalls has replaced the old metal culvert so there is plenty of room for everything from fish and turtles to mice and mink to be able to travel under the road.

The pond had been dug to make a swimming area, however it soon filled with organic black muck. This black muck caused the water in the pond to heat up during the summer and this warm water then meandered down to the Dowagiac River, which is a cool-transitional river. Now, in place of the pond there is a meandering stream with bends, pools, a gravel bottom in places and trees. The trees used for stabilization of the bank reduce erosion possibilities and the trees also create microhabitat areas for the fish and macroinvertebrates to hide and thrive. The area has been seeded with native vegetation and trees and shrubs will be planted in the area in the spring. The culverts downstream of the campground entrance eroded the stream bed and surrounding area to create a perched culvert where no fish could move freely upstream.

By removing the culverts and performing the restoration, the project will benefit many species of wildlife, by creating more habitat and freedom of movement. Guardrails are soon to come; keep an eye out this spring when the trees and shrubs are planted and the plant seeds take hold of their new home.

Pokagon Per Capita Savings Plan suffers setback

The 2015 tribal general election included a Revenue Allocation Plan referendum accommodating the implementation of the Pokagon Per Capita Savings Plan. The Savings Plan, a completely voluntary plan, would have allowed citizens 18 years and older the opportunity to deposit a portion or all of their monthly per capita payment into a tax deferred savings plan which would grow over time, similar to an IRA or 401K.

This referendum failed to garner the required percentage of voters to proceed. A referendum requires majority support with at least 15 percent of the Band's citizens

18 years of age and older casting ballots. The majority of the citizens voted in favor of the referendum, but less than 15% voted on the measure. The referendum was defeated.

The Tribal Council plans to continue providing educational material on the Per Capita Savings Plan and put it on the ballot again for 2017. Per Capita Savings Plan information is available on the tribal website at .

Pokagon service members honored on Veterans Day

The tribe celebrates the service of its ogitchedaw throughout the year, but especially on Veterans Day. At the November 14 citizen meeting, Council arranged for a special tribute recognizing those who've served. Native Americans per capita serve in the military at the highest rate of any ethnic group.

Master Sergeant Ken Garza is currently deployed overseas with the Air Force, and the tribe arranged to send him a care package since he couldn't be in the U.S. for festivities. It contained Pokagon items, Billy Mills' autobiography *Running Brave*, and some candy.

“Thank you so much, it really made my day,” Garza wrote. “I plan on sharing some of the treats with my 'Joes' and they will be more than grateful for it.”

If you have a family member serving overseas, please call (269) 782-8998 to arrange a Pokagon care package delivery.



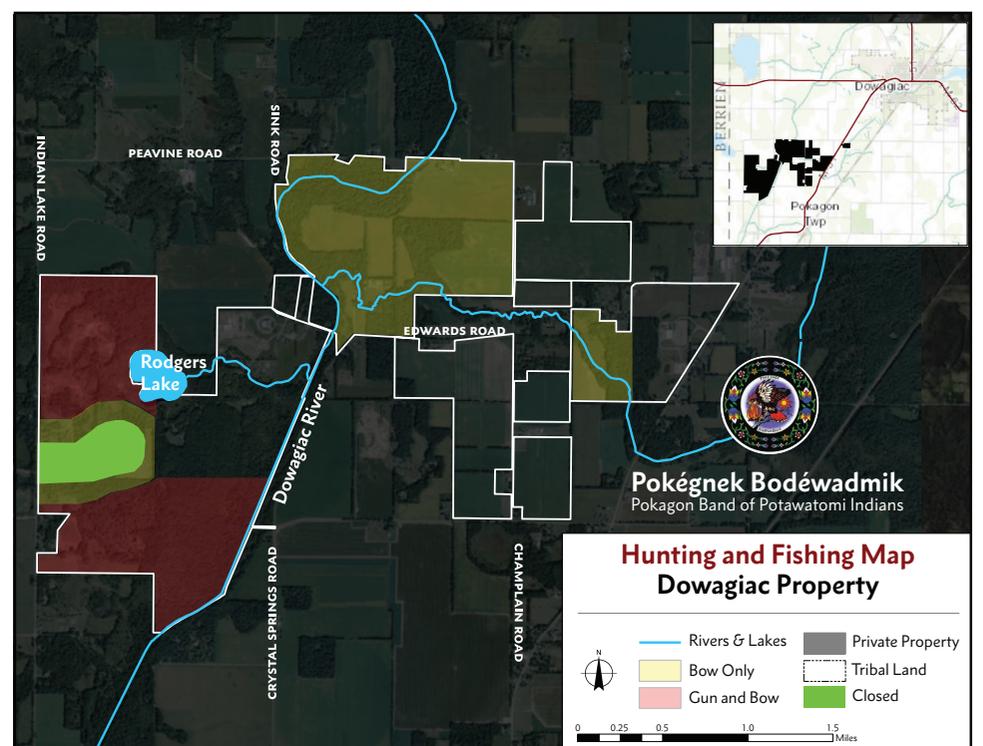
Cultural Building construction closes hunting area at Rodgers Lake

On November 15, 2015, through Res. No. 15-11-09-02, the Tribal Council approved a closure order. This order remains in effect until further action by the Tribal Council. This order closes to hunting the entire area depicted in green on the map. While this order is in effect, no person shall hunt within the closed area. Additionally, this order closes to hunting, except by bow, the entire area depicted in dark yellow on the map. While this closure order is in effect, no person shall hunt except by bow, subject to applicable law.

Under Section 4.04 of the Regulations, it is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm, bow or cross bow within “150 yards of an occupied building, dwelling, house, residence, cabin, barn or any other building, or any ceremonial grounds, camp ground, play area, or any Band gathering place.” However, depending on the circumstances, it may not be unlawful under Section 4.04 of the Regulations to hunt or discharge a firearm, bow or crossbow in an undeveloped area upon which construction activities are occurring.

Construction of the Cultural Building is scheduled to commence within the closed area and bow only area. This closure order is necessary to help ensure the safety of persons, including construction workers, who are present within the closed area and bow only area in connection with the project.

To the fullest extent permitted under federal law, all persons who engage in natural resource activities within Band land, including hunting in any form, are subject to applicable law, including Band law. Any person who violates applicable law, including this closure order, may be subject to criminal and civil penalties.



Are you ready for Michigan Indian Family Olympics training season?

Pokagon Band captured third place in 2014's Indian Family Olympics. The team moved up to a second place finish in 2015. Is 2016 the year for a Pokagon win?

With a bigger team of dedicated Olympians, it is possible. We need your help to make this year the best yet. Planned for Friday July 22, 2016 in Mt. Pleasant, the Family Olympics pits tribes from Michigan against one another in track and field, archery, and basketball events for athletes of all ages and skill levels. The Pokagons fielded a team of 42 in 2014, and that grew to 55 this year. Can we take a team of more than 60 Pokagon participants next summer?

Training sessions will start after the New Year. Visit the website to pre-register and commit to training and participating. Also on the web: a sign in sheet for individuals to record workouts and trainings (to be signed by a coach or a

PHS wellness assistant) to qualify. Each sport a student is in will count as one training session this year; so if a youth plays three sports (dance and marching band count) that will qualify him or her. Coaching will not count, however.

The plan is to schedule six training sessions in Dowagiac and some in Hopkins. Stay tuned for dates and locations, but you don't have to wait to start. Get out and take a walk during the holidays or visit the Wellness Center soon.



To pre-register and commit to training go to www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/citizens/programs/michigan-indian-family-olympics



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language & Culture

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

EVERY TUESDAY

3:30 PM – 6:00 PM

RODGERS LAKE TEACHING CABIN

58620 Sink Road | Dowagiac, MI

Pokagon youth middle school to high school are invited to participate in Language & Culture's after school program. Fall activities included running and walking, warrior games and a variety of sports.

Dinner is available for all youth attending the program.

Once a month, active program participants will go on a field trip. September's field trip is horseback riding. October's field trip is to a pumpkin patch and corn maze.

For more information, please contact Daniel Stohrer at (269) 462-4225
or daniel.stohrer@pokagonband-nsn.gov

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Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Traditions and Repatriation Committee
Department of Language & Culture

Winter Ceremonies & Teachings

Saturday, December 19

Rodgers Lake
58620 Sink Road :: Dowagiac, MI

Sunrise Ceremony | 7:30 am
Longhouse in the campgrounds
Presenter TBA

Sunset Ceremony | 5:30 pm
Longhouse in the campgrounds
Presenter TBA

Please dress warmly and, for evening ceremonies, bring a dish to pass. For information on the ceremonies, please contact Kevin Daugherty at (269) 591-1230.

Please note, ceremonies are restricted to Natives and spouses. There may come a day when ceremonies are open to all, but there is much healing that must take place first within the community. We ask that everyone respect this decision.

Cultural Teachings | Saturday, December 19

10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Language with Christine Morseau :: Teaching Cabin
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | Feast :: Pavilion
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Dave + Punkin Shanaquet :: Long House

Language & Culture is offering teachings to the community between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm. Please bring a dish to pass at afternoon brunch. For more information about these teachings, please contact Patty Jo Kublick at (269) 462-5376 or pattyjo.kublick@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Mens Sweat and Womens Sweat | Friday, December 18

For more information about the sweats, please contact Kevin Daugherty at (269) 591-1230.

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Register for your Kindle for the Elders January workshop Elders December workshop covers health and fitness

The January Elders quarterly workshop will be January 16, 2016 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and held at the Community Center, 27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac, MI. The Pokagon Department of Education will be providing 50 Kindle Fires to 25 registrants that attend the workshop and 25 to those that cannot attend (out of the service area, and/or handicapped).

Please register for the Kindle Fire HD's to receive your Kindle at the workshop. The registration form can be found at www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov; just type in "January kindle workshop" in the Search bar. The deadline to register will be Friday, January 15 at 5:00 pm. (Only those that have not yet received a Kindle may register.)

Any questions, please contact Donald Sumners, educational associate, (269) 462-4237, Donald.Sumners@pokagonband-nsn.gov



To register go to www.PokagonBand-nsn.gov and type in "January kindle workshop" in the search bar

The December Elders workshop will focus on staying fit throughout the year, but mainly the winter months. The workshop will take place at the Community Center Thursday, December 3 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

It is imperative that as we age we focus on our body and keeping it in shape. This workshop will feature stretching exercises and tips for staying fit to increase longevity and endurance. Please wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to participate in some physical but not demanding exercises.

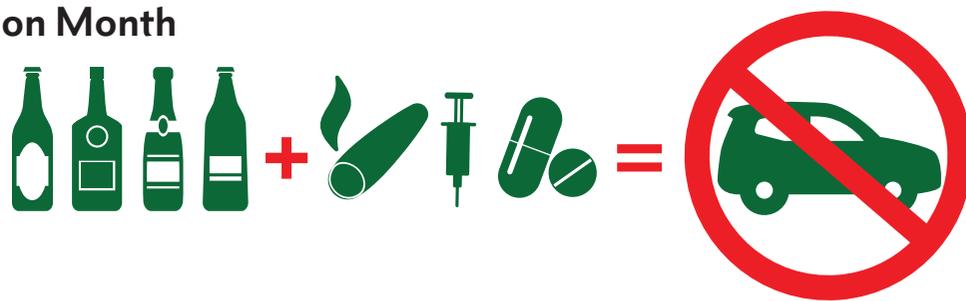
"Every day, we have a very clear choice: we can grow older or we can grow younger." Miranda Esmonde-White, fitness instructor and author of *Aging Backwards*.

December is National Drug and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

According to the Center for Disease Control, each day in the United States 30 people are killed in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. This amounts to one death every 48 minutes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives. In one year, over 1.4 million drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics.

Please plan ahead during the holiday season and all year around. Take the extra time to make arrangements to have a designated driver if you are going to be drinking or using drugs. Parents, please do not let your children drive if you think they may be drinking or using drugs.

Driving drugged not only threatens you and others physical safety but affects many other aspects of your life. Even if no one is injured, your life may change in many ways. Once the law is involved in your life, your whole wellbeing is changed. In many states your license can be taken away, which disrupts many areas of your life such as the ability to care for your family, to get to your job, and you may have a record that will follow you through your life. If someone is injured or killed, you



must also address how that will impact your life.

Pokagon Health Services Behavioral Health program invites you to address any concerns or issues before the above happens to you. Our program is focused on prevention and treatment. We have many ways that we can assist you before something happens. Take control of your own life and protect your family and friends life by being active in preventive measures. It only takes one or two drinks or drugs for something to happen that could impact your life in a negative way. Reach out to the ones who care about you most as we approach the holiday season. You can contact PHS at (269) 783-2476 for more information.

Notification required for Purchased/Referred Care

If you are eligible for Purchased/Referred Care, please remember to notify Pokagon Health Services of your visits outside of PHS. The notification requirements are:

For all non-emergency care, inform your Referral Specialist of your upcoming appointments in advance so that they may be pre-authorized. Please give us as much notice as possible, as some services can take up to two weeks to authorize. A referral from your provider doesn't guarantee authorization.

For all emergency related care, inform your Referral Specialist or leave a message after hours to notify us of any ER or Urgent Care visits. Your visit will not be reviewed for authorization if you do not notify PHS within 72 hours. If you are over 65 years of age or are legally disabled, you have 30 days to notify us of your visit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I have Medicaid or commercial insurance, why should I notify you if they will cover my ER visit?

A: If Medicaid denies or if your commercial plan applies a copay or deductible, PRC cannot cover if there wasn't any notification. You will be responsible for the balance.

Q: What if I go to the ER on the weekend – how do I notify PHS of my appointment when the office is closed?

A: For after hours, call our main number: (269) 782-4141 or (888) 440-1234, and your call will be answered by the Call Care answering service. You can leave a confidential message regarding the nature of your emergency visit for notification purposes.

Q: What if I am not able to call and notify you myself?

A: You can designate a family member or your Provider as your representative to call and notify us of appointments. We will not discuss any of your protected health information unless you have a signed release on file.

Q: I notified you of my visit, but my claim was still denied. What do I do?

A: If your claim was denied for "no notification," and you did call and notify us of your visit within the correct timeframe, you may submit an appeal in writing to: Pokagon Health Services, ATTN: Appeals, PO Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047. Please submit as much information as possible, and your appeal will be reviewed.

PHS expanding to offer services to staff

Pokagon Health Services Clinic will soon serve tribal spouses and employees of the Pokagon Band government, Four Winds Casino, Mno Bmadsen, and their immediate family members. Fee for service and/or copay will be the non-native patient's responsibility and is due at the time of service in the clinic.

PHS Clinic is compiling a list of non-native family members, employees, and employee families who have interest in transitioning primary care to a provider at PHS on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pre-interest registration forms can be picked up at the PHS-rotunda or downloaded from www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/health-services/clinic. All forms should be sent via inter-office mail to Latrice Brooks or given to the receptionist at the PHS Clinic.

PHS Clinic is also offering pre-employment, post-accident, D.O.T. physicals, drug screens, and alcohol testing. Contact Pokagon Health Services manager at (269) 782-4141 for more details regarding the new services offered.



Pre-interest registration forms are available at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/health-services/clinic

Officer tip of the month Eric Shaer

The holiday season is here: gatherings with our families, thankfulness, and seasonal activities near and far. There are those who see this time as an opportunity to take advantage of us, unfortunately, so my holiday tips are about traveling safely and keeping you and all of your belongings—including presents—safe.

Many of you will be traveling for the holidays; make sure you are safe and are vigilant for those who may not be. Be sure your vehicle is ready for your road trip by having it serviced and checking all fluid levels. Check your vehicle's heating and battery/charging systems as winter is hard on batteries. Check your tire tread by sticking a penny upside down in between the treads of the tire; the tread should reach to President Lincoln's head/hair. Lastly, keep an emergency kit inside your vehicle that includes first aid supplies, blanket, flashlight, and battery jump box.

While you are away from home, it is imperative to ensure your home is safe. Ask a friend to stop by the house a few times while you are away to check on the house and put tracks in the driveway. Don't tip off criminals on social media about where and how long you will be gone. Do tell the Tribal Police Department or your local law enforcement that you will be out of town, so officers can keep a closer eye on your home. Lastly, don't leave your lights on the whole time you are



gone. This will drive up your electric bill and not fool anyone. Instead, get a light timing switch that will turn on the lights at certain times creating the illusion that you are still home.

If you stay home for the holidays and are hosting family, keep all valuables in the house by your visitors instead of in a car. If you have large boxes from valuable gifts or purchases, hold on to the boxes until your recycling pickup day. If you are shopping, remember to park in a well-lit area and have your keys in hand with your finger on the panic button when walking to and from your car. Doing this will deter possible criminals from an attack and give notice to others that something is wrong. Place all gifts out of sight.

I am Officer Eric Shaer, the community resource officer for the Pokagon Tribal Police Department. I am Nishnabe, and thunder clan of the Pokagon Band. I really enjoy my career as the community resource officer, where I work with our community through different programs and events. I have come to meet and know many of you through this position, and have come to admire many things about our people. I hope that if I haven't met you I will someday, and I look forward to keeping all of you safe and helping in whatever way I can. Happy holidays to you and your family.

Riddle

October's riddle winner is **Andy Murray** who answered, "Whoever makes me can hear me, but to all others I'm silent. What am I?" The answer was "a thought."

Liz Serba has also won a gift card for her riddle being selected. Check it out:

"What do you use to mend a Jack-o-lantern?"

Mail in or e-mail your correct answer to susan.doyle@pokagonband-nsn.gov and you will be entered in a drawing to win a gift card. Another way to win is to mail or e-mail your own riddle, and the person whose riddle is selected for the next newsletter will win a gift card.

Do you want to receive electronic communications from the Band?



We are working on digitizing citizen communications, which could include e-mails, text messages and phone calls. First, we want to know what you think, and whether you'd like to provide your preferred e-mail address and mobile phone number to our database. Please complete a short webform so we can know how to best communicate Band news and services with you. The

form can be found here: www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/communications.

Not only does this effort save money and target information to the people who need to receive it, but it preserves Mother Earth by reducing paper use and waste. Among the efforts we are exploring are sending the *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* electronically. There are no plans to eliminate printed, mailed copies; we'd just like to know if citizens would rather not get the print copy and would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically. Other possibilities: text alerts, e-mail updates and phone calls about topics that are relevant to you. But rest assured, your privacy and data will be safe with us (see our Privacy Statement at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/privacy-policy) and these communications won't fill up your in boxes with unwanted messages. We'll use it sparingly on an as-needed basis.

Christmas Basket distribution begins December 10

Pokagon citizens can pick up their Christmas Baskets beginning Thursday, December 10 through Sunday, December 13 at the Commodity Building, 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac. Baskets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. After December 13 dates and time are dependent on basket availability.

Hours of distribution

December 10	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
December 11	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
December 12	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
December 13	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Families with one to four household members receive one basket. Families with five to eight receive two baskets. Families over nine receive three baskets. You may pick up no more than four baskets for other citizens with a written, signed permission slip. Questions? Call (269)782-3372 or (888) 281-1111.

The 2015 Christmas Baskets are funded in part thanks to Tribal Council and the University of Notre Dame.



Department of Education Graduation Tree

The Department of Education Graduation Tree is set up, and we would like every Pokagon Band Graduate to be represented on the tree with a leaf placed in their honor for all degrees completed. Everyone who would like to be honored on the tree must submit an application and provide a copy of his or her degree to the Department of Education. Even if you have already provided an application and copy of your degree, another one is required to be submitted as the past documents may have been misplaced or lost.

The Department of Education Graduation Tree is designed to give recognition to students who demonstrate the characteristics which further the mission and goals of the Pokagon Band Department of Education by completing programs that represent standards of achievement and excellence.

Advance directive assistance available at PHS

It is not easy to think about what will happen at the end of your life. The topic of death and dying may seem hard to face, and even harder to talk about with your loved ones. But it doesn't have to be. Taking the time to formally write down your preferences now ensures that in the event you are unable to communicate your wishes you still get the kind of care you desire. An advance directive also helps your family and health care providers make decisions that best honor your wishes.

Advance directives, living wills, or personal directives are names for a legal document that tells your loved ones your health care preferences. It also allows you to appoint someone as a health care advocate—this is the person you would want to make decisions for you when you can't make them for yourself.

One way to approach the topic of an advance directive is to think of it as Five Wishes, which address your health care choices regarding:

- Wish One: The person I want to make care decisions for me when I can't
- Wish Two: The kind of medical treatment I want or don't want
- Wish Three: How comfortable I want to be
- Wish Four: How I want people to treat me
- Wish Five: What I want my loved ones to know

Why should I fill out Five Wishes?

Without an advance directive like Five Wishes, you may have no control over important medical care decisions that will be made if you ever get seriously ill, such as whether to give you life-support treatment or aggressively treat your pain. You may think that your loved ones and doctors will automatically know what you want when you are very ill, but too often that is not the case. During this stressful time, you are less likely to have family conflicts about your health care if you have your wishes in writing. Keep in mind also that completing Five Wishes is a gift to your loved ones so they are not left to guess what you would have wanted.

Who can make the Five Wishes?

People who have chronic illness, suffered a serious injury, or who are at risk for dementia or Alzheimer's should make an advanced directive as soon as possible while they are still able to make their own decisions. You do not need to wait until something happens, anyone over the age of 18 years old can create an advance directive.

When should I make the Five Wishes?

We never know when an emergency or crisis can occur, so patients should prepare their advance directive as soon as possible.

Student Eligibility Requirements:

- Nominee must be Pokagon Band citizen.
- Nominee must have graduated with a Associates, Bachelors, Masters or Doctorate degree.
- Nominee must complete the application
- Nominee must sign the application attesting to its accuracy.
- Nominee must send a copy of their diploma.

Time Frame: Applications accepted year round.

What if I fill out Five Wishes and later change my mind?

An advance directive can be changed at any time, as long as you are able to make your own decisions. Many people review their Five Wishes annually and make any changes then.

What should I do next?

Before deciding what choices are best for you, you should talk over the end-of-life issues with your family and your healthcare provider. The medical social worker at Pokagon Health Services Clinic can assist you with creating an advance directive. The paperwork will be kept in your medical record. The social worker can also help you to update it if you change your plans. PHS works with Michigan Indian Legal Services to answer any legal questions about advanced directives.

To make an appointment or for more information, please call Melody Pillow, medical social worker at Pokagon Health Services Clinic, (269) 462-4441.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Pokagon Health Services

HEALTHY LUNCH

Join Marcy Herbert, Pokagon Band dietician, for a healthy lunch Wednesday, December 16 as she discusses topics around nutrition.

All healthy lunch presentations are 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in the kitchen of the Commodities Building
58650 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

For more information and to RSVP, contact Marcy Herbert at (269) 782-2472 or marcy.herbert@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

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Notice of Open Positions | Ethics Board

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band citizens interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Ethics Board. There are two (2) seats available on the Ethics Board. The Ethics Board, a five member Board, is an instrumentality of the Pokagon Band government created by the Pokagon Band Ethics Code in fulfillment of Article XVII, Section 3 of the Pokagon Band Constitution. The Ethics Board is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Ethics Code by Pokagon Band officials and employees.

TIME COMMITMENT. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Ethics Board meetings and perform the business of the Ethics Board will vary. The Ethics Board meets approximately once each month, depending on the needs of the Board, and will meet at additional times as may be needed to address ethics complaints and other specific matters. Typically, meetings are held in the evening on weekdays at various locations. Ethics Board members will be expected to spend several additional hours per month preparing for Board meetings or engaged in other Ethics Board activities. On average, an Ethics Board member can anticipate a total time commitment of approximately 4 hours per month, outside of any travel time.

COMPENSATION. Ethics Board members will be compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$150 for each meeting and in the amount of \$50 for each hour that a Board meeting exceeds three hours in length. In addition, Board members will be entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Ethics Board business, in accordance with the Pokagon Band's Travel Policy.

ELIGIBILITY. In order to be eligible for appointment to the Ethics Board, one must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- (a) A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or ten (10) years of professional level work experience in relevant areas, such as law, law enforcement, accounting or finance, business management, regulatory and governmental affairs. Advanced degrees and certifications, such as Certified Public Accountant, Juris Doctorate, and Master of Business Administration are preferred, but not required;
- (b) Demonstrated experience in conducting investigations, analyzing and preparing findings and presenting summaries;
- (c) Demonstrated experience in reviewing and interpreting laws, regulations, contracts, and various professional level reports, including financial reports;
- (d) Strong interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills; and
- (e) Demonstrated ability to act with impartiality and to deal fairly, effectively and efficiently with situations requiring fact finding and dispute resolution skills.

In addition, no person is able to serve on the Ethics Board if he or she is:

- (a) Not a Pokagon Band citizen;
- (b) Under the age of twenty-one;
- (c) A Public Official or Public Employee;
- (d) Employed, in any capacity, by the Pokagon Gaming Authority or Mno-Bmadsen, provided, however, that this shall not include independent contractors or volunteers of such entities; or

- (e) Employed or otherwise serves in a position with responsibilities that create a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with the duties and responsibilities of the Board, as determined by the Selection Committee. This subsection does not automatically prevent a Pokagon Band citizen from being appointed.

TERM. The term of office for an Ethics Board member is three years.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Appointments to the Ethics Board are made by the Tribal Council upon the recommendation of a selection committee composed of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Tribal Council and the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Elders Council. All persons recommended by the selection committee who wish to be considered for appointment to the Ethics Board must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the written statements of interest and resumes; provided, however, that the Tribal Council may for good cause waive this requirement. Any person recommended by the selection committee who believes that good cause exists to not attend such Tribal Council meeting should contact the Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, who will share the information with the Tribal Council. Please note that the Tribal Council has not yet established the meeting date at which it will consider appointments to the Ethics Board.

HOW TO APPLY. Pokagon Band citizens who wish to be considered for appointment to the Ethics Board must submit a letter of interest along with a current résumé, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

As stated above, the selection committee will make a recommendation to the Tribal Council regarding the appointments. Therefore, the selection committee may conduct or cause to be conducted on its behalf, an initial screening of those seeking appointment, solely to determine whether the potential appointee meets the minimum qualifications for appointment to the Ethics Board.

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Ethics Board pursuant to any previous posting, and you are still interested in seeking appointment to the Ethics Board, you must reapply as provided in this Notice.

QUESTIONS. Ethics Board, the Ethics Code, or this Notice may be directed to Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council at (269) 782-6323 or Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov. Additionally, you may visit the Ethics Board section of the Pokagon Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/boards/ethics-board. Also, a copy of the Ethics Code may be obtained from the Pokagon Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until filled.

Notice of Open Alternate Position | Traditions/Repatriations Committee

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band Citizens for one (1) alternate member (“Alternate member”) on the Pokagon Band Traditions/Repatriation Committee (the “Committee”). The Committee has the responsibility of advising the Band on cultural issues, and for reviewing and acting on repatriation issues on behalf of the Band. The Committee works closely with the Department of Language and Culture, and serves as the advisory body to the Pokagon Band Historic Preservation Office (THPO).

TIME COMMITMENT. The Committee meets approximately once each month to address general cultural issues and once per month to address issues with the THPO. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Committee meetings and perform the business of the Committee will vary. The Committee may also meet at additional times as needed to fulfill Committee duties. Alternate Members are expected to attend all Committee meetings and will be seated and vote in the absence of a Committee member. Committee meetings are typically held at the Band’s Administration Building located at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan.

COMPENSATION. Alternate members may be compensated as independent contractors for service to the Committee at rates established by the Tribal Council, only if seated at a Committee meeting in the absence of a Committee member. Currently, Committee members are compensated in the amount of \$75 per Committee meeting. In addition, Alternate members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings and for other Committee business in accordance with the Band’s Travel Policy.

ELIGIBILITY. All persons who wish to serve as an Alternate member of the Traditions/Repatriation Committee must be a Band citizen and have an interest in and respect for the traditions, culture, history, and language of the Pokagon Band and the Potawatomi Nation. Familiarity with the cultural teachings and practices of the Potawatomi is appreciated. Prospective Alternate members must be flexible in meeting times and locations, and be able to handle several projects at once.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Alternate members are appointed by the Tribal Council. All persons who wish to be considered for appointment to the Committee must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the letters of interest and résumés; provided, however, that the Tribal Council may, for good cause, waive this requirement. Any person who believes that good cause exists to not attend such meeting should contact the Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, who will share the information with the Tribal Council. Please note that the Tribal Council has not yet established the meeting date at which it will consider appointments to the Committee.

TERM. There is no fixed term for Alternate members. Additionally, there is no limit to the number of terms an Alternate Member can serve on the Committee.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As a Public Official, Alternate members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by contacting Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary at (888) 376-9988 or by visiting the Band’s website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov.

HOW TO APPLY. Please submit letters of interest along with a current résumé to:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

DEADLINE. This posting shall remain open until filled.

QUESTIONS. All questions concerning the Committee or this notice maybe directed to Kevin Daugherty at kevin.daugherty@pokagonband-nsn.gov.



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

Gwkwé'amen
Pokagon Band Holly Fair

Saturday, December 5, 2015
11:00 am – 2:00 PM
Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail | Dowagiac, MI 49047

Bring the family to enjoy some holiday shopping, crafts, refreshments, and meet Santa!

In order for your child to receive a small gift from Santa, please register online by November 25.

For a description of the full meaning behind Gwkwé'amen, please see www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/education




Mitten Making Workshop

December 5 + 6, 2015
11:00 am – 4:00 PM
Language + Culture Workshop
58653 Sink Road | Dowagiac, MI 49047

Join Barbara Ann Warren for this mitten making class. The first come, first serve class is limited to 25 people and the cost is \$25 per person. You must RSVP by November 24 to guarantee your spot in class.

Payment for class is due at time of RSVP and we will void your place in class if payment is not received by November 30. A waiting list will begin after the first 25 people to RSVP. Next on list after a cancellation will be called and given the option to start first class. You must make both classes. Material for uncompleted mittens will not be permitted to leave the class until last day.

Please contact Patty Jo Kublick or Language and Culture to confirm your spot at (269) 462-4325 or pattyjo.kublick@pokagonband-nsn.gov. Migwech!



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE + CULTURE

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Bbon gises De

Ne'me gizhek SUNDAY	Ngot gizhek MONDAY	Nizh gizhek TUESDAY	Apta gizhek WEDNESDAY
		1 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba L&C Dowagiac Drumm
6 L&C Mitten Making Workshop Art Extravaganza	7 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	8 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba L&C Dowagiac Drumm
13 Christmas Basket Distribution EDU Holiday Fun Day Exclusive Pokagon CirqueDreams Holidaze show	14 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	15 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	PHS Healthy Lunch pro L&C Hartford Language Zumba
20	21 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class PHS Blood Drive Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	22 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba
27	28 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	29 Lean Lunch Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba L&C Dowagiac Drumm

December 2015

WEDNESDAY	Nyew gizhek THURSDAY	Nyano gizhek FRIDAY	Odanke gizhek SATURDAY
2 Age Class ing Class	3 Fit Kids Lean Lunch EDU Elders Workshop: Personal Development L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class L&C South Bend Language Class Circuit Training	4 Red Road to Recovery Group	5 L&C Mitten Making Workshop EDU Gwikwé'amen Holly Fair
9 Age Class ing Class	10 Fit Kids Lean Lunch Mishkowze: Drugged + Drunk Driving Prevention Awareness L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	11 Christmas Basket Distribution Red Road to Recovery Group	12 Christmas Basket Distribution Tribal Council Meeting
16 resentation ge Class	17 Fit Kids Lean Lunch L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	18 Red Road to Recovery Group	19 Bear Clan Winter Ceremonies L&C Winter Solstice Celebration & Round Dance
23 ge Class	24 Government offices closed in observation of the Christmas holiday	25 Government offices closed in observation of the Christmas holiday	26
30 ge Class ing Class	31 Government offices closed in observation of the New Year holiday	Jan 1 Government offices closed in observation of the New Year holiday	Jan 2

Notice of Open Positions | Family Welfare Commission

POSITION DESCRIPTION. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by ordinance and resolution, on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed, not only, to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: www.pokagon.com under Tribal Codes and Ordinances.

COMPENSATION. Family Welfare Commissioners, appointed at-large are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$150, for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

QUALIFICATIONS OF COMMISSIONERS.

- A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.
- B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:
 1. childhood education;
 2. childhood development;
 3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
 4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
 5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.
- C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved, with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.
- D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMISSION.

- A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.
- B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.
- C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved, with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.
- D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by Tribal Commission. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

HOW TO APPLY. Please submit application, which may be obtained through the Department of Social Services to:

Mail: Mark Pompey, Director of Social Services
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission, may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at (269) 462-4277 or mark.pompey@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics, which includes certain limitations in § 8.15 on appointments and employment applicable to Public Officials. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by contacting Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary at (888) 376-9988 or Edward Williams at (269) 783-0970

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until filled.

Notice of Open Positions | Pokagon Rights Board

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band citizens interested in serving on the Pokagon Rights Board (the “Board”). There is one Alternate Member position that is currently vacant. The Board is an instrumentality of the Pokagon Band government that was created through enactment of the Pokagon Rights Board Code (the “Code”). As provided in the Code, the Board’s duties include: (a) researching and investigating aboriginal rights, treaty rights and sacred sites; (b) compiling and cataloging information and documents related to aboriginal rights, treaty rights and sacred sites; and (c) making recommendations to the Tribal Council regarding aboriginal rights, treaty rights and sacred sites. The Board is comprised of five persons as follows: (a) the Director of the Band’s Department of Natural Resources; and (b) four Pokagon Band citizens. Additionally, the Board has two Alternate Members who are also expected to attend all Board meetings and will be seated and vote in the absence of a Board Member. The Code is available on the Pokagon Band’s website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

TIME COMMITMENT. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Board meetings and perform the business of the Board will vary. The Board meets approximately once each month and at additional times as may be needed to fulfill Board duties. Board Members and Alternate Members are expected to attend all Board meetings, which are typically held in the evening, during the week at the Band’s administrative offices located at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan.

COMPENSATION. Board Members and Alternate Members are independent contractors and compensated for service to the Board at rates established by the Tribal Council. Currently, Board Members are compensated in the amount of \$150 per Board meeting. Alternate Members are compensated only if seated at a Board meeting in the absence of a Board Member. Board Members and Alternate Members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings and for other Board business in accordance with the Band’s Travel Policy.

ELIGIBILITY. All persons who wish to serve as Board Member or Alternate Member must be a Pokagon Band citizen who: (a) is at least twenty-five (25) years of age; and (b) possesses expertise, knowledge, skills, and professional and personal experience which will contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes and duties of the Board.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As Public Officials, Board Members and Alternate Members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by from the Pokagon Band’s website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

HOW TO APPLY. Pokagon Band citizens who wish to be considered for appointment to the Board, either as a Board Member or Alternate Member, must submit a letter of interest (identifying whether you are seeking a Board Member or Alternate Member position) along with a current résumé, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Board pursuant to any previous posting, and you are still interested in seeking appointment to the Board, you must reapply as provided in this Notice.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Board Members and Alternate Members are appointed by the Tribal Council. All persons who wish to be considered for appointment must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the letters of interest and résumés, provided that the Tribal Council may for good cause waive this requirement. Any person who believes that good cause exists to not attend such meeting should contact the Tribal Council Executive Secretary who will share the information with the Tribal Council.

TERM. Term of office for Alternate Members is three years. There is no limit to the number of terms one may serve.

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until filled.

QUESTIONS. All questions concerning the Board, the Code, or this Notice may be directed to Steve Winchester, Council Member and Board Chairman, at (269) 591-0119 or Steve.Winchester@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Guidelines for *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* Submissions

Enrolled citizens of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for publication in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* are not original.

Anonymous or “name withheld” submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band’s or a supervisor’s authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no political campaigning is allowed.

Notice of Open Alternate Positions | Land Use Board

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band Citizens to fill two (2) Alternate Member positions on the Pokagon Band Land Use Board (the "Board"). The Board is an instrumentality of the Pokagon Band government that was created by the enactment of the Pokagon Band Land Use and Conservation Code (the "Code"). As provided in the Code, the Board's duties include: (a) researching, preparing and making recommendations to the Tribal Council regarding the classification, reclassification, transfer and acquisition of Pokagon Band land; and (b) researching and developing a Long Term Land Acquisition and Development Plan to guide future growth and to establish goals and priorities for the use of Pokagon Band land. The Board is comprised of five (5) Board Members and two (2) Alternate Members.

TIME COMMITMENT. The Board meets approximately once each month and at additional times as may be needed to fulfill Board duties. Board Members and Alternate Members are expected to attend all Board meetings, and Alternate Members will be seated and vote in the absence of a Board Member(s). Board meetings are typically held at 3:30 p.m. at the Band's administrative offices located at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan. Board Members and Alternate Members also are expected to spend several additional hours per month preparing for Board meetings or engaging in other Board activities. The Land Use and Conservation Code is available on the Pokagon Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

COMPENSATION. Alternate Members may be compensated as independent contractors for service to the Board, at rates established by the Tribal Council, only if seated at a Board meeting in the absence of a Board Member. In addition, Alternate Members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings and for other Board business in accordance with the Band's Travel Policy.

ELIGIBILITY. All persons who wish to serve as an Alternate Member of the Board must: (a) be a Pokagon Band Citizen; (b) be at least twenty-five (25) years of age; and (c) possess expertise, knowledge, skills, and professional and personal experience which will contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes and duties of the Board.

Notice of Open Position | Chi Ishobak, Inc.

POSITION DESCRIPTION. Chi Ishobak is seeking letters of interest from Pokagon Band citizens to serve as a member of the Chi Ishobak Board of Directors. Chi Ishobak is a Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that serves the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians whose mission is to provide Tribal citizens with access to affordable capital for small-business loans, small-business development, consumer loans, and individual financial development through collaborative and education-oriented lending services, and to practice responsible lending in order to protect loan capital for future generations of Tribal citizens. The Board meets approximately once a month, depending on the needs of the Board. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Chi Ishobak office in the Community Center.

COMPENSATION. Chi Ishobak Board of Directors does not receive compensation. Board members will be entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Alternate Members are appointed by the Tribal Council. All persons who wish to be considered for appointment to the Board must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the letters of interest and résumés; provided, however, that the Tribal Council may for good cause waive this requirement. Any person who believes that good cause exists to not attend such meeting should contact the Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, who will share the information with the Tribal Council. Please note that the Tribal Council has not yet established the meeting date at which it will consider appointments to the Board.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As Public Officials, Alternate Members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances

HOW TO APPLY. Pokagon Band citizens who wish to be considered for appointment to the Board, either as a Board Member or Alternate Member, must submit a letter of interest (identifying whether you are seeking a Board Member or Alternate Member position) along with a current résumé, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Jessica Swisher, Tribal Council Administrative Assistant
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Jessica Swisher, Tribal Council Administrative Assistant

Email: Jessica.Swisher@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Board pursuant to any previous posting, and you are still interested in seeking appointment to the Board, you must reapply as provided in this Notice.

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until filled.

QUESTIONS. All questions concerning the Board, the Land Use and Conservation Code, or this Notice may be directed to Steve Winchester, Council Member and Land Use Board Chairman at (269) 591-0119 or Steve.Winchester@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. All Directors will be appointed by the existing Directors in office.

HOW TO APPLY. Please submit letters of interest along with a current résumé to:

Mail: Joe Silvia, Chi Ishobak Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 766
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

DEADLINE. The letter of interest and resume must be received by 4:00 p.m. January 15, 2016.

Notice of Open Alternate Positions | Pokagon Promise Committee

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letter of interest from Pokagon Band Citizens to fill 1 seat on the Pokagon Promise Committee (1 Alternate). The Pokagon Promise Committee is responsible for assuring that Traditional Native American philosophy be a part of all Departments of the Pokagon Band. A main goal is to assure a level playing field between community institutions and the Band. The Pokagon Promise Committee meets the third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration Building. Including meeting preparation, other Pokagon Promise Committee business, and time spent at meetings, members will spend approximately 2 hours per month to fulfill their responsibilities. The responsibilities of the positions being filled include:

- (a) One position is open on this committee. Members must have sufficient background to be able to contribute to development of programs and services within the Tribe. As important is the melding of Native services with those in the broader community.
- (b) The position is an Alternate position to fill in when a quorum cannot be established.

COMPENSATION. Pokagon's Promise Committee members are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$75.00 per meeting unless the individual holds Chairperson Position (\$112.50 or Secretary position \$93.75). In addition, Pokagon Promise Committee members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Pokagon Promise Committee business.

ELIGIBILITY. To serve as a member of the Pokagon Promise Committee, a Band member must be a tribal citizen in good standing.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Pokagon Promise Committee members are appointed to office by the Tribal Council. There is currently 1 seat on the Pokagon's Promise Committee.

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Pokagon Promise Committee pursuant to any previous posting announcing a vacancy, and you are still interested in seeking appointment to the Pokagon's Promise Committee you must reapply as provided in this notice.

HOW TO APPLY. Pokagon Band citizens who wish to be considered for appointment to the Board, either as a Board Member or Alternate Member, must submit a letter of interest (identifying whether you are seeking a Board Member or Alternate Member position) along with a current résumé, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Questions concerning the Pokagon Promise Committee or this Notice may be directed to Kelly Curran at 1 (888) 376-9988 or by e-mail at Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until filled.

QUESTIONS. All questions concerning the Board, the Land Use and Conservation Code, or this Notice may be directed to Steve Winchester, Council Member and Land Use Board Chairman at (269) 591-0119 or Steve.Winchester@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As a Public Official, Pokagon Promise Committee members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by contacting Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary at 1 (888) 376-9988 or by visiting the Band's website.

Notice of Open Position | Traditions/Repatriations Committee

POSITION DESCRIPTION. The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band Citizens for two (2) Committee member positions and one (1) alternate position on the Pokagon Band Traditions/Repatriation Committee (the "Committee"). The Committee has the responsibility of advising the Band on cultural issues, and for reviewing and acting on repatriation issues on behalf of the Tribe. The Committee works closely with the Department of Language and Culture, and serves as the advisory body to the Pokagon Band Historic Preservation Office (THPO).

TIME COMMITMENT. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Committee meetings and perform the business of the Committee will vary. The Committee meets approximately once each month to address general cultural issues and once per month to address issues with the THPO. The Committee may also meet at additional times as needed to fulfill Committee duties. Committee Members are expected to attend all Committee meetings, which are typically held at the Band's Administration Building located at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, Michigan.

COMPENSATION. Committee Members are independent contractors and compensated for service to the Committee at rates established by the Tribal Council. Currently, Committee Members are compensated in the amount of \$75 per Committee meeting. In addition, Committee members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings and for other Committee business in accordance with the Band's Travel Policy.

ELIGIBILITY. All persons who wish to serve as a Member or Alternate of the Traditions/Repatriation Committee must have an interest in and respect for the traditions, culture, history, and language of the Pokagon Band and the Potawatomi Nation. Familiarity with the cultural teachings and practices of the Potawatomi is appreciated. Prospective members must be flexible in meeting times and locations, and be able to handle several projects at once.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Committee Members are appointed by the Tribal Council. All persons who wish to be considered for appointment to the Committee must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the letters of interest and résumés; provided, however, that the Tribal Council may for good cause waive this requirement. Any person who believes that good cause exists to not attend such meeting should contact the Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, who will share the information with the Tribal Council. Please note that the Tribal Council has not yet established the meeting date at which it will consider appointments to the Committee.

TERM. There is no limit to the number of terms a member can serve on the Committee.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS. As a Public Official, Committee members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained by contacting Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary at (888) 376-9988 or by visiting the Band's website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov.

HOW TO APPLY. Please submit letters of interest along with a current résumé to:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

DEADLINE. This posting shall remain open until filled.

QUESTIONS. All questions concerning the Committee or this notice maybe directed to Kevin Daugherty at kevin.daugherty@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Notice of Open Positions | Election Board

The Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest and résumés from Pokagon Band citizens who are interested in filling one Alternate member position on the Election Board. The Alternate member appointment is for an approximately three year term that will expire January 31, 2019. Provided below is information regarding the Election Board and how to be considered for an appointment.

ELECTION BOARD AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. The Election Board is a five person Board with two Alternates whose members are appointed by the Tribal Council. The Election Board is responsible for conducting Pokagon Band elections, maintaining a list of registered voters, and reviewing membership petitions, initiatives, and referendums. Alternate members are expected to attend all Board meetings and will be seated and vote in the absence of a Board member.

QUALIFICATIONS. To be eligible for appointment to the Election Board, either as a Board member or Alternate member, a Pokagon Band citizen must:

1. Be an eligible voter of the Band;
2. Be at least twenty-five (25) years of age;
3. Not be incarcerated for any criminal conviction;
4. Not be presently a member of or candidate for Tribal Council, the Tribal Judiciary, the Ethics Board, or the Salary Commission; and
5. 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.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS. Election Board members and Alternate members are appointed by the Tribal Council. All persons who wish to be considered for appointment must be present at the meeting at which the Tribal Council will review the letters of interest and résumés, provided that the Tribal Council may for good cause waive this requirement. Any person who believes that good cause exists to not attend such meeting should contact the Tribal Council Executive Secretary who will share the information with the Tribal Council. Prior to any appointment, Tribal Council will make a determination whether the interested person meets the qualifications required to serve on the Election Board. In order to make this determination, all persons seeking appointment to the Election Board must undergo a limited criminal background check to be performed by the Pokagon Band Tribal Police to ensure that the candidate meets the qualifications to serve on the Election Board. Thus, all persons interested in an appointment must complete an Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background. **You must contact Kateri Dayson or Katy Morseau, the Election Clerks, at (269) 782-9475 or (888) 782-9475 to obtain an Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background Check Form.**

TIME COMMITMENT. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Election Board meetings, conduct elections, and perform the business of the Election Board will vary. The Election Board is typically more active during the time leading up to and during the General Election and

Elders Election. Additionally, there may be Referendums, Special Elections, Petitions, and Recalls that will require Election Board action. General Elections occur on the second Saturday of July and Elders Council Elections occur on the second Saturday of November. The dates of the Election Board meetings vary, but typically occur after 5:00 p.m. and are held at the Pokagon Band's administrative offices at 58620 Sink Road in Dowagiac, Michigan. On average, a Board member or Alternate member can anticipate a time commitment of approximately 10 to 25 hours per month, with the busiest time being the months of May, June, July, September, October, and November.

COMPENSATION. Board members and Alternate members are independent contractors and are compensated for service to the Board at rates established by the Tribal Council. Board members receive a stipend for each meeting and Election attended. The amount of the stipend varies, depending on the seat held, however, Board members receive a minimum stipend of \$150 per meeting. Alternate members are compensated only if seated at a Board meeting in the absence of a Board member. Board members and alternates are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings and for other Board business in accordance with the Pokagon Band's Travel Policy.

ETHICS REQUIREMENT. As Public Officials, Board members and Alternate members are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Pokagon Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

TERM. The term of office for an Ethics Board member is three years.

HOW TO APPLY. If you are interested in serving on the Election Board, you must provide a written statement of interest (identifying whether you are seeking a Board member or Alternate member position) along with a current résumé, and a completed Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan

Fax: (269) 782-9625
Attn: Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to Tribal Council

Email: Kelly.Curran@Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Board pursuant to any previous posting, and you are still interested in seeking appointment to the Board, you must reapply as provided in this Notice.

QUESTIONS. If you have questions concerning the Election Board, please contact the Election Board office at (269) 782-9475 or (888) 782-9475. For additional information about the Election Board and the election process, you may also consult the Band's Election Code, which is posted on the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances.

DEADLINE. This posting will remain open until both positions are filled.



POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI
POKAGON HEALTH SERVICES

CLINIC EXPANDING SERVICES

Pokagon Health Services Clinic will soon serve tribal spouses and employees of the Pokagon Band government, Four Winds Casino, and Mno Bmadsen and their immediate family members.

Fee for service and/or co-pay will be the non-native patient's responsibility and is due at the time of service in the clinic.

PHS Clinic is compiling a list of non-native family members, employees, and employee families who have interest in transitioning care on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pre-interest registration forms can be picked up at Pokagon Health Services.



Please contact PHS at (269) 782-4141 for more details or one-to-one consultations about medication questions and the new services offered.

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Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language & Culture

Native Nations Youth Council

Pokagon Band Native Nations Youth Council encourages all Pokagon youth who are seeking to contribute to their community as well as to Indian Country to join.

As a Pokagon youth between the ages of 12 to 24 you can be a representative voice and further your development as a future tribal leader.

Junior and Senior Youth Councils meet on the second Saturday of each month between the times of 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Meeting locations are announced on the Pokagon Band website.

Please contact Rebecca Williams to join or for more information at (269) 783-9265 or rebecca.williams@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

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Elders Lunch Menu | Bbon gises December

monday

7 **language**

Buffalo Sloppy Joe
Baked Fries
Veggie and Relish Tray
Dessert

14 **language**

Buffalo Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Asparagus
Garden Salad
Fruit
Roll

21 **language**

BBQ Pork Chops
Baked Fries
Tomato Salad
Broccoli
Fruit
Roll

28

Buffalo Tips in Gravy over
Mashed Potatoes
Collard Greens
Coleslaw
Dessert
Roll

tuesday

1

Sausage W/ Red Potatoes,
Onions, and Cabbage
Garden Salad
Cornbread
Dessert

8

Pork Loin in Noodles and
Gravy
Carrots
Garden Salad
Dutch Apple Pie
Roll

15

Parmesan Crusted Tilapia
Rice Pilaf
Tri-blend Vegetables
Coleslaw
Dessert
Roll

22

Buffalo Chili
Broccoli Slaw
Cornbread
Veggie Tray
Dessert

29

Chicken Parmesan
Whole Grain Noodles
Asparagus
Garden Salad
Garlic Bread
Tiramisu Cupcake

wednesday

2

Tortilla Crusted Tilapia
Spanish Rice
Green Beans
Jell-O W/ Fruit
Roll

9

Turkey Stuffed Peppers
Mashed Potatoes
Garden Salad
Fruit
Roll

16

Pizza Day

23

Chicken Gumbo Soup
Pinwheel Sandwiches
Relish and Veggie Tray
Dessert

30

Beef Liver and Onions
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Carrots
Cottage Cheese and Sliced
Tomatoes
Dessert and Roll

thursday

3

business meeting

Buffalo Goulash
Brussels Sprouts
Garden Salad
Garlic Bread
Fruit
Birthday Cake

10

Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, and
Cheese Casserole
Veggie Tray
Melon Salad
Rye Bread

17 **closed for staff party**



24 **closed for xmas eve**



31 **closed for new year's eve**



friday

4

Sliced Ham with Pineapple
Mashed Sweet Potatoes
Peas
Garden Salad
Blueberry Pie
Roll

11

Sea Bass
Baked Potato
Brussels Sprouts
Garden Salad
Brownie
Roll

18 **elders christmas party**

Prime Rib and Chicken
Baked Potato
Stuffing
Carrots
Ambrosia Salad
Dessert Also, Shrimp

25 **closed for xmas**

dec

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals. (269) 782-0765 or (800) 859-2717. Meals subject to change. Meal service begins at 12:00 Noon. Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, and Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers. **Business meetings are held at the Community Center. Business and social luncheons are potlucks. Please bring a dish to pass.**

Per Capita News

The Enrollment Office needs the following individuals to update their addresses so that these payments can be mailed. If there is an X in the column(s) by your name, you have either a Christmas check and/or per capita payments due to you. Please contact Beth Edelberg in the Enrollment Office at (269) 782-1763 or Kim Boswell in the Finance Department at (269) 462-4209.

Enrollment #	Name	Christmas 2014	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	
1986	Cristian M Cobb	x	x
2717	Zachary T. Huffman		x
4227	Scott Brewer Jr	x	x
4442	Mason Tyler Currey	x	

Please note - you must have a deliverable address on file.

Attention 18 to 20 Year Olds | Per Capita Information

Attention all high school seniors who are graduating from high school or individuals who may be completing their G.E.D. If you are at least 18 years old and have achieved either of these you are now eligible to receive your monthly per capita checks. All you have to do is send a copy to the Enrollment office. You may either mail or fax this. The address to mail to is:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Attn: Enrollment Office
P O Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047
OR fax to: (269) 782-1964

The document must be received by December 4 in order to make it on the January 2016 check run. Anything received after December 4 will be processed on the check run for February 2016. If you have any questions please call the direct per capita phone line at (269) 462-4209 or (269) 462-4200 or toll free (800) 517-0777.

Are you eligible for certain Michigan tax exemptions?

If you are an enrolled Pokagon citizen, and you live in the tribe's Tax Agreement Area (as is defined in the State Tax Agreement between the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the state of Michigan), then please fill a Resident Tribal Member (RTM) Application to see if you are eligible to start receiving these benefits. The application is available online here: www.pokagonbandnsn.gov/departments/finance/state-tax-agreements

Please read the Tax Agreement Overview (www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/departments/finance/state-tax-agreements) to learn about these benefits and see a map of the Tax Agreement Area. You will also find individual township maps at that link. If you think you may live inside the Tax Agreement Area boundaries (green shaded areas), then you may be able to register with the State of Michigan and get relief from certain taxes.

In order to get registered, you must apply by filling out a Resident Tribal Member (RTM) Application and returning it to Julie Rodriguez in the Finance Department. Upon review of your application, we will notify you of your eligibility status.

If you have any questions, or comments regarding the Tax Agreement or your RTM status or benefits, please do not hesitate to contact Julie at (269) 462-4210 or Julie.Rodriguez@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions Received by Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Thursday, January 15, 2015	Thursday, January 29, 2015	Friday, January 30, 2015
Friday, February 13, 2015	Thursday, February 26, 2015	Friday, February 27, 2015
Friday, March 13, 2015	Monday, March 30, 2015	Tuesday, March 31, 2015
Wednesday, April 15, 2015	Wednesday, April 29, 2015	Thursday, April 30, 2015
Friday, May 15, 2015	Thursday, May 28, 2015	Friday, May 29, 2015
Monday, June 15, 2015	Monday, June 29, 2015	Tuesday, June 30, 2015
Wednesday, July 15, 2015	Thursday, July 30, 2015	Friday, July 31, 2015
Friday, August 14, 2015	Thursday, August 27, 2015	Friday, August 28, 2015
Tuesday, September 15, 2015	Tuesday, September 29, 2015	Wednesday, September 30, 2015
Thursday, October 15, 2015	Thursday, October 29, 2015	Friday, October 30, 2015
Monday, November 2, 2015*	Tuesday, November 24, 2015	Wed, November 25, 2015
Friday, December 4, 2015*	Thursday, December 17, 2015	Fri, December 18, 2015

* Please note, in 2015, the November deadline for changes is November 2 and the December deadline is December 4. This is due to time limitations on all the events that occur at this time of the year.

Per Capita Direct Deposit & Tax Withholding Forms

For those tribal citizens receiving per capita checks in the mail and who do not have direct deposit, enclosed with your check you will find a direct deposit and a tax withholding form. These will be included with your check every month until we achieve 100% direct deposits.

The tribe is currently having mandatory direct deposit for per capita checks. In the case of individuals not being able to set up a bank account, the tribe is offering a cash card on which the per capita checks will be loaded onto every month. We are making efforts to give everyone a chance to set up a bank account of your choice and on your own.

As always, the tax withholding form is not mandatory although highly suggested as per capita payments are subject to federal and state taxes. The tribe only withholds federal taxes with a completed form, state taxes are the responsibility of the citizen.

If you have any questions, please call the direct per capita phone line at (269) 462-4209 or (269) 462-4200 or toll free (800) 517-0777. The per capita phone line and my extension both have lengthy messages listing various per capita information. Please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible. Both of the above stated forms are available online at www.Pokagonband-nsn.gov

Once you turn in a direct deposit form and as long as I receive it by the 15th of the month, the information will be entered into the system and the first month is always a test run to the bank, so the check will still be mailed to you. The following month, as long as I do not receive any errors from the bank, will be direct deposit. As earlier stated, you will continue to receive the two forms in with your checks every month. If you have completed a form, no need to fill out another one.

Tribal Council December Calendar of Events

- 1 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 7 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 8 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 12 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 14 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 15 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds Hartford, 10 a.m.

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov, or call (888) 782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Can't get to Elders Council business meetings? Participate via webcast

Business meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at the Community Center in Dowagiac. For your convenience the meetings are now broadcast on the internet to listen in on what is going on with the Elders. If you are able to take advantage of this—please do!—Elders business meetings are called to order at 11:00 a.m. Visit the Pokagon website to access the webcasting: www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/citizens/web-casting. Any questions, please call Stanley Morseau, Elders Chairman, (269) 783-6828.

Tribal Council January Calendar of Events

- 4 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 5 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 9 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 11 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 12 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 19 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds Hartford, 10 a.m.
- 25 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 26 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov, or call (888) 782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Don't forget our social lunches held every third Thursday of the month. On these days we may have holiday parties, special events, or games. Every weekday a hot lunch is served at the Elders Hall. You are welcome to come to meet new elders you may not know or visit your friends.



REGALIA 101 CLASSES

Have you ever wanted your own regalia to dance at powwows but didn't know how to make one? Then this is your program! We are inviting individuals who want to learn basic sewing, beading or other skills to start and finish their own unique regalia.

Barbara Ann Warren will lead this year's classes. Additional presenters will be coming in to present on topics such as beadwork, quillwork, sewing, fur work, copper work. Some material will be available. If you have your own material to bring, please do so.

Language and Culture will provide drinks and attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to pass to this workshop.

January

Sunday, January 10
Sunday, January 31

February

Sunday, February 7
Sunday, February 21

March

Sunday, March 6
Sunday, March 20

April

Sunday, April 3
Sunday, April 17

May

Sunday, May 15
Sunday, May 22

All classes are 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail
Dowagiac, MI 49047

For more information, contact L&C at (269) 462-4325 or email at pattyjo.kublick@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

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Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Honoring Our Children



Pokagon Band Parenting Bundle

Kickoff event **Monday, January 11, 2016**
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Community Center

Join us to learn more about classes offered for traditional parenting techniques. Dinner will be served.

Please RSVP at pokagonband-nsn.gov.

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POKAGON.COM

Tribal Office Directory

Administration

Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Commodities

(269) 782-3372
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269) 782-7814

Communications

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Compliance

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Chi Ishobak

27043 Potawatomi Trail
(269) 783-4157

Education

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887
Toll Free (888) 330-1234
FAX (269) 782-0985

Elders Program

53237 Townhall Rd.
(269) 782-0765
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
FAX (269) 782-1696

Elections

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Enrollment

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763
FAX (269) 782-1964

Finance

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Head Start

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866) 250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

Health Services

58620 Sink Road
(269) 782-4141
Toll Free (888) 440-1234

Housing & Facilities

57824 East Pokagon Trail
(269) 783-0443
FAX (269) 783-0452

Human Resources

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998
FAX (269) 782-4253

Language & Culture

58653 Sink Rd.
(269) 462-4325

Mno-Bmadsen

415 E. Prairie Ronde St.
(269) 783-4111

Natural Resources

32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602
FAX (269) 783-0452

Social Services

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

South Bend Area Office

3733 Locust Street
South Bend, IN 46614
(574) 282-2638
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 282-2974
(269) 782-8998

Tribal Council

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-6323
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
FAX (269) 782-9625

Tribal Court

58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505/
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police

58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232
Toll Free (866) 399-0161
FAX (269) 782-7988

Tribal Council Directory

(888) 376-9988

Chairman

John P. Warren
(269) 214-2610
John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Vice-chairman

Robert Moody, Jr
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Treasurer

Eugene Magnuson
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Secretary

Mark Parrish
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Member at large

Steve Winchester
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Member at large

Becky Price
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Member at large

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Roger Rader
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Member at large

Matt Wesaw
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Elders Representative

Judy Winchester
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Executive Secretary

Kelly Curran
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Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Elders Council Directory

Elders Hall (800) 859-2717 or (269) 782-0765

Chair

Stanley Morseau
(269) 783-6828

Vice Chair

Maxine Margiotta
(269) 783-6102

Secretary

Audrey Huston
(269) 591-4519

Treasurer

Clarence White
(269) 876-1118

Member at Large

Cathy Ford

Senior Youth Council Directory

Chairman

Michael Gamache
Michael.Gamache@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Treasurer

Ronald Puruleski
Ronald.Puruleski@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary

Vacant

Member at large

Mahogan Shepard
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Member at large

Skyler Daisy
Skyler.Daisy@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Rebecca Williamst

Youth Culture Coordinator
(269) 462-4325

Junior and Senior Youth Council Members Wanted

Both Senior and Junior Youth Councils are open to any Pokagon youngster. Anyone can join, and eventually run for the executive board. Besides the age divisions, there are differences between the two groups. The Junior Youth Council provides a voice for native youth between the ages of 12 and 18. The Council promotes the development of future tribal leaders through educational attainment and Potawatomi language, culture, pride, and identity. The Junior Youth Council also coordinates community service projects and provides opportunities for native youth to interact for fun and friendship.

The Senior Youth Council provides a voice for Pokagon citizens between the ages of 18 and 24. The Senior Youth Council also coordinates community service projects and provides opportunities for Pokagon young adults to interact for fun and friendship. The Council mobilizes members toward positive goals, promotes the development of future tribal leaders and educates native youth about tribal government.

Bbon gises December Citizen Announcements



Happy Birthday 12/26
Lillianna Williams! We love you and hope you have a GREAT day! Keep up the good work!

Love your fam and clan,
Dad, Robin, Joe, Brittany,
Jade, Jack, Grandma
Williams, Aunt Patti, Aunt
Stacey Dakota, Zephyr and
Minnie ♥♥

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

4th Annual
Holiday Fun Day

This holiday season, give your kids the gift of fun while you go Christmas shopping or finish holiday preparations. The Department of Education has a day of holiday cheer planned for kids ages 4-12 registered in our PreK-12 program and children of employees. Christmas crafts/gift making and other fun activities will keep them busy until you return. Lunch will be provided.

Sunday, December 13
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Community Center
24703 Potawatomi Trail
Dowagiac, MI 49047

THERE IS LIMITED SPACE. Register online at PokagonBand-nsn.gov by December 4 to reserve your spot.

ART EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, December 6
Noon - 5:00 pm
Community Center

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Food will be available for purchase. Interested vendors should contact **Angie Rice at (574) 273-8828** or **Jessica Howell at (574) 304-5388**. Vendors please plan on bringing your own table.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language & Culture

Round Dance
+ Graduation Celebration
of CMU Graduate, Stormie Frees

Saturday, December 19 | 9:00 pm
Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail | Dowagiac, MI 49047

Join us in singing, dancing, and laughing as we celebrate our ancestors who have traveled through the Western Door and also our relatives who are among us today. Pokagon Band is also happy to be co-coordinating this event with help from Stormie Frees who will be celebrating her graduation from Central Michigan University among friends, family, and proud fellow natives.

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm: Round Dance Singing & Dancing
11:00 pm - ? am: Late Snack of Pizza and Drinks
Northern, Southern, & Womens Back Up Singing Competition
Hand Drum Singing and Dancing to commence after competitions and games to finish the night's celebrations

MC: Jason S. Wesaw
Stickman: Joe Syrette
Featuring: Invited Pokagon and Great Lakes Singers

Invited Great Lakes Native vendors will be selling their art or regalia supply items to interested buyers

Photographer with backdrop for group photos

LIVE stream and recording of singers by Powwow Jamz

A Round Dance is a time to celebrate the community and enjoy each other's company while remembering loved ones who have passed on. Our teachings tell us that the spirit world has daytime during our night time therefore, we Round Dance into the night to celebrate with the spirits of those who have passed on. All Round Dances are memorable nights of singing, dancing and feasting with the spirits.

For more information, please contact the Department of Language and Culture at (269) 462-4255.

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