



POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

Kché Mko gises January 2016

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Tribe's construction projects moving along

You've probably noticed—or will notice soon—some changes around Pokagon land in the next few weeks.

The first phase of the Cultural Center is progressing. The road from the pow wow arena at Rodgers Lake to the building is cut, excavation and grading around the foundation are complete, and the foundation is in progress (below left). In early January workers will finish the under slab plumbing and electrical work. The main entrance to the Center will be on Indian Lake Road, and the plan is for building completion in mid 2016.

As for the Hartford Village development, the framing, sheathing, and site work is complete (except landscaping) on the four townhomes. Roof trusses, sheathing, and rough plumbing and electrical are all in progress. For the four duplexes, workers have finished the framing of the ADA-compliant duplex and all site work is complete, except landscaping. Next to finish: the roof trusses and sheathing.

Three fourth year Pokagon apprentices are working directly for 7Gen Construction, while four other tribal preference workers are onsite with contractors. This means Pokagons hold 35 percent of the construction jobs on this project.

When Indian Health Services funding became available for alternative energy projects, the tribe decided to install solar panels at Pokagon Health Services. The array of solar panels have been set up over the past months, and testing and start up is scheduled for early January. Solar energy will provide 20 percent of the PHS facility's energy consumption.

At the Community Center, the kitchen will undergo an upgrade from a warming kitchen to a commercial kitchen in the New Year. Starting after the meeting Saturday, January 9 and scheduled to finish before the Saturday, February 13 meeting, this project will let caterers prepare and cook food right at the Community Center.



Holly Fair celebrates the season

The Early Childhood Education program, in collaboration with Project LAUNCH, hosted the Gwikwé'amen: Pokagon Band Holly Fair on Saturday, December 5. More than 145 people gathered at the Community Center for the fun, an increase of over 70 attendees from the previous Gwikwé'amen workshop.

Families could register their children to receive a gift from Santa. Behavioral Health staff provided educational materials on tips for handling holiday stress. Everyone could enjoy holiday shopping from various vendors. Children made crafts and there was hot chocolate and cookies for all.



Elders: Have you registered for the January 16 Kindle workshop?

The Pokagon Department of Education will be providing Kindle Fires to 25 registrants who attend the January 16 workshop and 25 to those who cannot attend (out of the service area, and/or handicapped). The Kindle workshop will be from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Community Center, 27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac.

Please pre-register for the Kindles online to receive the Kindles at the workshop. The registration form can be found online at the Pokagon Band website 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 p.m. (Only those that have not yet received a Kindle may register)

Should you have any questions please contact Donald Sumners, educational associate, (269) 462-4237 or Donald.Sumners@pokagonband-nsn.gov.



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

Elders health & fitness classes scheduled

At the December 3 elders meeting, many elders expressed interest in exercise classes to focus on staying fit. Elders will meet at the Community Center Monday and Wednesday, January 25 & 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for stretching exercises and staying fit in order to increase longevity and endurance. If enough attend we can schedule accordingly every week thereafter.

It is imperative that as we grow in age that we focus on our body and keeping it in shape throughout the year, but especially the winter months. As fitness expert Miranda Esmonde-White says, "Every day, we have a very clear choice: We can grow older or we can grow younger."

Provide your comments on the hunting, gathering and fishing regulations

January 13, 2016 | 5:00 pm–7:00 pm
DNR Office

32142 Edwards Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047

The Pokagon DNR is holding a meeting to receive final comments regarding hunting, fishing, and gathering regulations. The meeting will be open to all comments and the DNR team members will be available at the DNR office on January 13, 2016 between 5:00 pm–7:00 pm.

Theresa Ruth Shagonaby McFall is Elder of the Month



I was born at home in Hartford to George and Rachel Gowens Shagonaby. My paternal grandparents were George and Theresa Morsaw Shagonaby. When I was in Mt. Pleasant, we went to the Indian school and I found my dad's name in the books. I found a Shagonaby name too, in memory of the child who lost his life there. It was quite an experience.

I married young and had three boys: John, Peter and Andrew Bennett. My boys were raised around demolition derbies in the summers. Both

their father and I were drivers. It was so much fun.

In 1991 I met my first love again, and in seven months we were married. I am blissfully happy. He had two daughters Lisa Renee and Tracy Michelle. Sadly we lost Lisa about two years ago.

After my dad passed away, my sisters and I decided to dance in pow wows in his honor. We all went and bought deer hides to make our own buckskins. My sisters, their husbands and my Leon made my regalia, moccasins and a purse. To this day that regalia is my favorite.

I'm not really up on the native ways because dad didn't share anything with us. But since I've retired, I've started coming to elders lunches, meetings and some trips. I was on the Election Board for a while and truly enjoyed it. I really have a great respect for that Board. I've tried to get a spot on the Elders Council as member-at-large, but it just didn't happen yet. That's ok; I'll keep trying. I've learned a lot being around the elders; it makes me happy to be an elder too. I think we have a good Council and I really enjoy the meetings, lunches and trips.

My husband found out how much fun I had at the pow wows and he started going too. Now he goes to all that I go to, plus he's a vendor (known as the knife man).

Thank you for letting me share a little of my history with you, and I pray we all continue this good life as an elder. Miigwe'ch.

Elders Program provides insight and ease for Pokagon elders

The Elders Program, a facet of the Social Services Department, helps Band elders navigate the government and take advantage of services available to them. The program does this through educational and social gatherings.

Elders Hall is the gathering place for our local elders. Inside, the group could be eating lunch, playing bingo, learning Potawatomi, or decorating Christmas cards for the children at Head Start.

The Band offers lunch Monday through Friday, with a menu available in the newsletter and on the website. A year ago, sometimes only four elders came out for lunch a day; now, they serve close to 30.

Elders share popcorn every Friday for a movie to start the weekend. The Wii video game system gets lots of use as the elders bowl through the TV screen. Tennis is coming next. Arts and crafts are a regular activity, including beading and other traditional Native arts.

Beth Warner, elders specialist, noticed our elders were mostly utilizing the services from the Elders Program, though, and not from other departments.

"The elders will come out here and they'll mingle, and that's it," Warner said. "This is their comfort zone so they don't really reach out and interact with other departments."

To make the other departments more visible and comfortable for the elders, representatives from government departments are presenting monthly to the elders, with information on what the department can do for them.

"Once they see more people and know more people, they are more apt to participate," Warner said.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the elders have trapped turtles together, and the DNR is considering supplying wood duck boxes and regular birdhouses to the elders soon. At Language and Culture's workshop, the door is open to elders to come and work on their arts and crafts projects. Education is still offering Kindles to elders inside and outside of the service area.

Community Resource Officer Eric Shaer from the Tribal Police Department offered such travel tips to the elders as locate medical facilities in the place you are travelling before you go, make arrangements for wheelchairs and guide dogs, get a medical check up before leaving, and stagger medication if changing time zones.

Melody Pillow, medical social worker at PHS, presents about Medicare and Medicare, programs that change yearly. She breaks it down to layman's terms so elders are prepared with the correct paperwork, etc. Pillow also talked with the elders about living wills, in which they can explain their wishes for when they pass on.

The Elders Council plans regular trips for our elders, which have included trips to the Grand Canyon and New York City. The Council is also hosting the Michigan Indian Elders Association gathering in 2016, an annual event hosted by a different tribe each year.

The Elders Council business meetings bring in close to 80 elders, hosted in the Community Center to ensure space for everyone. The five year plan for the Elders Program is to expand their space, although they won't be abandoning the beloved Elders Hall anytime soon.

More information about all of this is available on our website and by contacting Beth Warner at (269) 783-9592 or beth.warner@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

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

Pokagon youth masters saving, thanks to Chi Ishobak

The Chi Ishobak Youth Transportation Individual Development Account (IDA) is a matching program for students, geared toward saving money for a car. Chi Ishobak matches what students deposit into their accounts monthly—up to \$25.

Citizen Robert Dick opened his savings account through Chi Ishobak as soon as the program became available. He's a full time student during the school year, and a worker in the summer, so to receive the maximum matching amount, Robert has budgeted the money he earns in the summer so he can continue to deposit \$25 into his savings account each month during the school year.

"It's kind of like paying a bill," Robert said.

Budgeting is something not many 16-year-olds learn, but Robert has got it down. The matching incentive motivated him to set enough money aside for his savings account for the school months, he says.

Robert also completed financial training with Sean Winters, executive director at Chi Ishobak, as part of the IDA program.

After two years of saving \$25 from his paycheck each month, he's ready to transfer his savings into his own account, one he's solely responsible for maintaining. Robert plans to set aside half of his paychecks during the summer until he can purchase his own car.

The Youth Transportation IDA is available for 13- to 18-year-olds, making the maximum amount a student could save—including the matching from Chi Ishobak—as \$3000, but students are welcome to save even more each month.



P.O. Box 706 | 27043 Potawatomi Trail | Dowagiac, MI 49047 | tel (269) 783-4157 | fax (269) 783-2494 | www.chishobak.org

2016 FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

Chi Ishobak is introducing an updated financial education program for Pokagon Band citizens, families, and employees. More than just information, this program is designed to identify financial behaviors and the cultural relevance associated with those behaviors. This workshop will cover six components that address the basic aspects of personal financial management and provide participants with the tools and processes to take control of their financial health. These areas include: savings, communication, budgeting, debt, and credit building.

Saturday, February 20	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Saturday, May 7	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Saturday, August 6	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Saturday, November 5	10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**The Community Center
27043 Potawatomi Trail, Dowagiac, MI 49047**

- ∞ Lunch will be provided
- ∞ There is no registration fee
- ∞ Please call to confirm attendance

Avoid predatory auto loans on used vehicles

Buying a vehicle is complex and difficult. It is hard to know if you are getting a good deal or not. There are a few things you should keep in mind when you start looking for a vehicle:

Know what you can afford before you go car shopping.

Knowing what you can afford is not just knowing what monthly payment you can afford, it is important to understand details such as the interest rate and how long the term of the loan will be. Many car salesman will sell you on a monthly payment that may sound affordable to you, however with high interest rates and long terms, you could be paying as much as three times the value of the vehicle over the life of the loan. You are not obligated to obtain financing from the dealership.

Know the value of the vehicle you are looking at.

Once you have located a vehicle you are interested in, take the time to do some research on the value of the vehicle. There are many websites available to determine the retail value of a particular vehicle prior to agreeing to purchase it. www.NADA.com, the National Auto Dealers Association, is a respected source and has an easy to use website. Simply enter the year, make, and model of the vehicle along with the mileage and options and it will provide you with a value. You should avoid paying more than the "clean retail" price listed on the NADA website.

Be aware of the interest rate.

If you are able to obtain financing from your bank or credit union, you will likely get the best interest rates from these types of institutions. If you have little or damaged credit, you may only be able to obtain financing from the dealer or a lender that specializes in higher risk loans. The interest rates on used vehicles at a bank or credit union can be as low as 3.9% to 5.9% depending on your credit worthiness and the age of the vehicle. Typically loans arranged by used car dealers can range from 12% to 24% annual interest rate.

How long will you be making payments on the loan?

One trick that salespeople use to lower your monthly payment is to extend the term of loan. The number of months you are required to pay on the loan is the "term." New Car loans have terms as long as 84 months (seven years), used car loans usually go up to 60 months (five years). Depending on the year of the vehicle, the price of the vehicle and the condition, you should be sure that you will not be paying on a vehicle longer than the vehicle's useful life.

Other costs to consider.

Maintenance and insurance costs can add up. Prior to purchasing a vehicle you should talk to your insurance agent about what the rates will be, insurance rates vary based on the year make and model of the vehicle you are intending to insure. You will also need to keep in mind when you finance a vehicle you are required to have comprehensive and collision coverage to protect the lenders interest in the vehicle, this type of coverage will cost more than the state required minimum liability coverage. By providing your agent with the VIN of the vehicle you want to purchase, they can quote you a price on insurance. According to AAA the maintenance cost on the average sedan is about \$900 per year.

Chi Ishobak is here to help.

Chi Ishobak is a Native American Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Chi Ishobak is a potential source for financing if you have little or damaged credit, they can help you avoid the predatory lending practices that put people in harm's way financially, and help you to repair your credit. If you have any questions about the auto loans that Chi Ishobak offers, feel free to contact them at (269) 783-4157.

Graduation tree growing in Department of Education

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.



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.



www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/education/nation-building

Winter is here; these two programs can help

The Pokagon Social Services Department is accepting applications for the 2015–2016 **Supplemental Heating Program**. This program provides a credit of \$250 per eligible household to help with high energy costs. Social Services are able to offer the Supplemental Heating Program assistance to income-eligible Pokagon Band households anywhere in the United States. The Supplemental Heating Program is not limited to the ten-county service area.

Supplemental Heating Program Household Size Income Limit Guidelines:

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$36,000
2	\$43,000
3	\$50,000
4	\$57,000
5	\$64,000
6 and above	\$71,000

The **Emergency Services Program** is designed to assist low-income households that are normally able to meet their needs, but may need a hand up when unexpected emergencies arise. This program also targets those individuals who continue to fall into crises because of their low-income status. By stabilizing the emergencies, the initiative seeks to prevent a short-term situation for the members-in-need from snowballing into a long-term crisis. This is a one time award program with a maximum grant amount of up to \$400.

Emergency situations impacting families that may be covered include, but are not limited to, the following circumstances:

- Housing (substandard structure, threat of loss)
- Transportation (light car repair or insurance needed to keep employment. Applicant will need to be enrolled in work related program)
- Major appliance repair
- Utilities (threatened shut-off)

New for 2016, the **Catastrophic Events** portion of Emergency Services Initiative, is financial assistance targeted for those families or condition that do not meet program guidelines otherwise. The family may have experienced a total loss and are unable to meet their basic needs of food, clothing and shelter as a result of the catastrophic event. The funding is intended to assist in preserving a family's ability to cope with the responsibilities which accompany a catastrophic situation. The maximum award amount for catastrophic events is \$2,500. Items that may be covered, but are not limited to, the following circumstances:

- House fire (major)
- Natural Disasters–tornado, flood, etc

Pokagons seeking assistance through this program must fall within the household composition and income guidelines listed below.

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$21,660
2	\$29,140
3	\$36,620
4	\$44,100
5	\$51,580

How to Apply

You can download the application from www.pokagonband-nsn.gov (search for “heating”), or call the department at: (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777, fax (269) 782-4295, or visit in person at: 58620 Sink Rd, Dowagiac, Michigan.

Items you will need to fill out the application:

1. Most recent income tax return and/or proof of income for last 30 days and/or award letters (from SSI, RSDI, Elder’s Stipend, etc.) and/or child support received or paid or completed zero income form (downloaded, or obtained from our office) if above do not apply
2. Bill from your energy provider or proof of emergency
3. Tribal ID card

Stay safe this winter | Officer Tip of the Month James Ivy

Winter is a beautiful time of the year in Michigan, especially when a fresh layer of snow covers Mother Earth. Winter can also be a very dangerous time of the year for those traveling. Prepare your car for winter by having supplies ready in your trunk, following safe driving, and getting your vehicle winterized. You should check the following: ignition system, fuel system, belts, fluid levels, brakes, exhaust system, wiper blades and windshield washer fluid, tires/pressure, defroster, battery, lights, and antifreeze levels.

Always fill the gasoline tank before a trip. Stop to fill-up long before the tank begins to run low. Keeping your tank as full as possible will minimize condensation, providing the maximum advantage in case of trouble. Keep a charged cell phone with you in case of emergency.

Keep winter car supplies that can assist you in case of an emergency. You easily can equip your vehicle with essential gear for winter. Here's what you'll need:

- Booster cables
- Two or more blankets
- Snow shovel and scraper
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Extra clothing: cap, mittens, parka and overshoes or boots in case you have to walk for help.
- High calorie, non-perishable food like candy and canned nuts.
- Sand, strips of carpet, or kitty litter for traction.
- Extra windshield washer fluid and antifreeze
- Flares or reflectors
- Cloth/paper towels
- Piece of bright cloth

Winter Driving Tips

- Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights—even the hood and roof—before driving, and drive with your lights on.
- Leave plenty of room for stopping.
- Pay attention don't try to out drive the conditions. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- Use brakes carefully. Brake early. Brake correctly. It takes more time and distance to stop in adverse conditions.
- Bridge decks freeze first. Due to the difference in the exposure to air, the surface condition can be worse on a bridge than on the approach road.
- Exit ramps are an even greater challenge during the winter since they may have received less anti-icing material than the main line. Be aware of this when exiting the highway.



- Don't use cruise control while driving in wintry conditions. Even roads that appear clear can have sudden slippery spots and the slightest touch of your brakes to deactivate the cruise control can cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle. Remember that, if you are driving a four wheel drive vehicle, the vehicle may help you get going quicker but it won't help you stop any quicker. Many 4x4 vehicles are heavier than passenger vehicles and actually may take longer to stop. Don't overestimate your 4x4 vehicle's traction.
- Look further ahead in traffic than you normally do. Actions by cars and trucks will alert you quicker to problems and give you a split-second extra time to react safely.
- Remember that trucks are heavier than cars. Trucks take longer to safely respond and come to a complete stop, so avoid cutting quickly in front of them.
- Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows—stay back at least 200 feet and don't pass on the right.
- Most importantly please remember to slow down. Also, seat belts should be worn at all times—it's the law.

If you should slide off the road and there is no one hurt and the car isn't damaged, you should have a wrecker service telephone number to call and assist you in getting back on the road safely.

If you are involved in a crash and no one is hurt but there is more than \$1000.00 in damage, please call the local police department for a report (non-emergency telephone number).

If you are involved in an accident and someone is hurt call 9-1-1. Tell the dispatcher what your problem is, where you are located, telephone number, name and any additional information that you feel they will need.

Remember—give yourself extra time to get to your destination.

I'm Officer James Ivy and I have been with the Tribal Police Department for 4 years. I am married and have two boys. I am a tribal member and my clan is Turtle. I also have proudly served my county for four years in the U.S. Marine Corps. My hobbies include hunting and fishing. I truly enjoy working with the citizens of the Pokagon Band.

Student Rental Deadline Approaching

The deadline for all documents for student rental assistance program is Friday, February 12, 2016. If you have questions, please call Megan Rick at (269) 462-4251.



Pokagon donations arrive in Wounded Knee

By Andy Jackson, Tribal Council member at large



In July Tom Wesaw and Jeannie Mollett started gathering clothing and personal items to deliver to Wounded Knee District Schools. Thanks to Jim Coleman, director of Housing, for donating a tribal storage unit. They collected items for two months and ended up with a 15 foot U-Haul full of amazing gifts.

On October 24 Tom Wesaw, Jeannie Mollett, Ray Mollett and I departed Pokagon land to venture to South Dakota to deliver the items and meet the school officials and children. On Monday morning we were blessed by meeting the children of the school while they were having their breakfast, gathering in a circle to talk about the week's events, and having a group smudge and prayer. We had pencils and paper and a few desks for the school that were donated.

We then ventured to the donation site to unload the goodies; the community members assisted us in unloading. The people in the community saw the U-Haul truck pull into the donation place and they came out to see what was coming in and started going through the bags. The baby items were what many of the mothers were excited about the most.

This was a very humbling experience for all of us. Tom is hoping that this native-to-native generosity will continue on in the future. We truly are blessed with all that our tribe has, and the many gifts that we receive for being Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. These tribes were actually one of the first ones to be recognized and yet they have so little and very few resources available to them. It is our hope that some of our youth and elders continue with this giving from tribe-to-tribe. This will help bring awareness to the need in Indian country that our children are not familiar with. Sharing and being kind and helpful to our native brothers and sisters will teach all of us humility and respecting everyone in need.

We would like to thank Tribal Council for assisting us in this venture of kindness. Others we would like to thank:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jeannie Mollett | Shirley Pounders | Lisa Saldivar Downing |
| Ray Mollett | Andy Jackson | Mothers to Mothers sale |
| Tom Wesaw | Mike Jackson | Berrien County Youth Fair |
| Carl Wesaw | Alicia Jackson | Marylou Kraft |
| Sacred Heart of Mary Church | Pokagon Band Housing Department | |
| Evelen Miller | Pokagon Health Services | |
| Ruthie and Lee Saldivar | Pokagon Dental Office | |
| Doreen Irwin | Four Winds Casino Resort | |
| Autumn Mollett | Lisa Sieber | |
| The Billy Williams family | Dennis and Darleen Sieber | |
| Debbie Romain | Petey Boehm | |

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

Train Together for the Family Olympics

What: Michigan Indian Family Olympics, something for all ages. All Michigan Tribes participate

When: Friday, July 22 2015 in Mt. Pleasant MI

In order to compete, participants must train in at least three 30 minute training sessions. Each sport a student is in will count as one training session; so if a youth plays three sports (dance and marching band count) that will qualify him or her. These events are open to Native Americans and their families, and Pokagon Band staff and their families.

Participants must pre-register by February 29, 2016 at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/form/michigan-indian-family-olympics-registration-2016

Training Schedule

January 21 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.
 February 11 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.
 March 10 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.
 March 24 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.
 April 14 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.
 April 21 | PHS Wellness Center Multi Purpose Room | 6:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

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

GVANKOBJEGEMEN
STAY CONNECTED
f t i
POKAGON.COM

What's that Invasive Plant (Algae)? Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*)



Didymo has been identified in some Michigan waters and could present an issue if this species takes hold in cool waters in Southwestern Michigan. Didymo is native to Northern Europe and Northern North America, but did not begin causing a problem until the early 1990s. Didymo is also known as “rock snot” and has the look and feel of wet wool. Didymo is composed of diatoms that form thick filamentous algae blooms. These algal blooms blanket rocks and other lake and river substrates. These thick mats alter habitat and food sources for fish, and can make walking in rivers and other waters difficult. Didymo can be spread from one water body to another on boats, anchors, and fishing gear such as felt soled boots and nets. Felt soled boots have been banned in some states in an effort to help prevent the spread of Didymo. If you think you see Didymo on tribal properties be sure to notify the Department of Natural Resources.

What's that edible plant? Common Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)



The common cattail, *Typha latifolia*, is native to Michigan and typically can be found in habitats ranging from ditches and slowing running waters to wetland areas. This cattail is also known as the broadleaf cattail and has much wider leaves and flowers spikes than the invasive narrowleaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*). The common cattail can provide a bounty of edible foods throughout the year. From cattail pollen pancakes, to cattail flour, cattail steamed flowerheads, and cattail roots.

Since it is fall/winter we will focus on the roots. The roots of the cattail contain the most starch and will be the fullest in size in the fall after the leaves have died above ground because the plant is storing all of its available energy for the next spring. Cattail roots grow horizontally and can be found by digging near the base of the cattail plants. Once roots are removed from the soil there may be white buds sprouting from the base that can be eaten right away after washing because these white and tender buds have no fibers in them yet. Roots can be boiled, split and scraped to make a mashed potato-like dish. Roots can be sliced and fried up like potatoes and roots can be dried and ground into flour to be used in many ways. Be sure to find cattails that are in areas less affected by pollutants because the cattail roots do absorb pollutants from their surrounding soil and waters.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language & Culture

DRUM CLASSES

Department of Language and Culture
58653 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI 49047

6:00 pm–8:00 pm

2016

January 6	February 3	March 2	April 6	May 4	June 1
January 20	February 17	March 16	April 20	May 18	June 15

GYANKOJBEGÉMEN
STAY CONNECTED
f t i
POKAGON.COM

Riddle

Last month's riddle winner is **Howard Mannisto**, he correctly answered, “What do you use to mend a Jack-o-lantern?” The answer was “a pumpkin patch.”

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

What is a snowman's favorite breakfast?

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.

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

For more information, please contact Nicole Holloway at (269) 462-4325 or nicole.holloway@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Justin and Jordan Townsend compete with LEGO League team



The Pokagon Education Department collaborated with a local southwest Michigan Lego League team called the Eddie Currents this year to offer the competitive robotics experience to Pokagon kids. The team, including Justin and Jordan Townsend, won the Robot Mechanical Design award, a judge's award based on mechanical design, innovation, programming effectiveness and team strategies for solving missions.

"The technical judges were very impressed with the boys' programming," said Andrew Dohm, the team's coach and a math and science instructor and STEM advisor at Southwestern Michigan College. "All their presentations went well. They were so excited."

The team was also the champion of the robot game single elimination tournament, achieving the highest score of the day.

Lacrosse program ramps up



Middle and high school students, get ready! We will begin the lacrosse program in late March or early April, depending on the weather. Locations for this program will be in Dowagiac, Hartford and Grand Rapids.

During the practices the youth will learn the traditions and culture behind the Creators Game, as well as lacrosse fundamentals like passing, cradling, and shooting.

Please contact Dan Stohrer, youth coordinator, at (269) 462-4225 for further details.

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. 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.



www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/communications

Kids Quest
FOUR WINDS
Cyber Quest

TRIBAL MEMBER DISCOUNTS

SPECIAL SAVINGS:

- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians**
- Save 25% on Child Care at Kids Quest
- Save 10% on Birthday Parties

Show your tribal identification card at check-in to receive the discount.






Kids Quest is a supervised children's entertainment facility with hourly child care services for children 6 weeks to 12 years old. It's the ultimate activity center! Kids Quest is open daily including holidays and weekends.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Kids Quest and Cyber Quest are the perfect place to host a birthday party! The Birthday Captain will do all the work including the planning, décor, and don't forget the fun! Guests will enjoy 90 minutes of play time and 30 minutes for cake and opening presents at either venue. Or you can bundle them together for more fun!

Visit kidsquest.com for more information, hours, activities and to book your birthday party today!



Four Winds Casino Resort | 11111 Wilson Road | New Buffalo, Michigan 49117 | 269-926-5460

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.

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.

Kché Mko gise

Ne'me gizhek SUNDAY	Ngot gizhek MONDAY	Nizh gizhek TUESDAY	Apta gizhek WEDNESDAY
3	4 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	5 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 Drumming Neighborhood Watch
10 L&C Sugar Bush Season Kick Off Pancake Breakfast L&C Regalia Class	11 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba EDU Honoring Our Children: Pokagon Band Parenting Bundle Kick Off Circuit Training	12 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba
17	18 Government offices closed in observation of Martin Luther King Jr Day	19 Lean Lunch L&C Youth After School Program Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	PHS Healthy Lunch program L&C Hartford Language Zumba L&C Dowagiac Drumming
24	25 Fit Kids L&C Elders Language Class Auricular Acupuncture Zumba Circuit Training	26 Lean Lunch Red Road to Recovery Group L&C Early Start Language Class	L&C Hartford Language Zumba
31 L&C Regalia Class			

January 2016

WEDNESDAY	Nyew gizhek THURSDAY	Nyano gizhek FRIDAY	Odanke gizhek SATURDAY
		Government offices closed in observation of the New Year holiday ¹	²
6 Age Class ing Class Volunteer Meeting	7 Fit Kids Lean Lunch L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	8 Red Road to Recovery Group	9 Tribal Council Meeting
13 Age Class	14 Fit Kids Lean Lunch L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	15 Red Road to Recovery Group	16 EDU Elders Kindle Workshop
20 resentation ge Class ing Class	21 Fit Kids Lean Lunch Family Olympics Training Session L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	22 Red Road to Recovery Group	23
27 ge Class	28 Fit Kids Lean Lunch L&C South Bend Language Class L&C Basics of Potawatomi Language Class Circuit Training	29 Red Road to Recovery Group	30

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.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Department of Language & Culture

THE BASICS of Basic Potawatomi Language

Thursdays
6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Elders Hall

53237 Town Hall Road, Dowagiac, MI 49047

The Basics of Potawatomi class will be taught by Kevin Daugherty for 10 weeks and will provide all the fundamentals of Potawatomi such as vowel pronunciation, tense markers, personal prefixes, and the structure of simple sentences.

NEW! Class schedule

November	December	January
Thursday, November 5	Thursday, December 3	Thursday, January 7
Thursday, November 12	Thursday, December 10	Thursday, January 14
Thursday, November 19	Thursday, December 17	Thursday, January 21
No class on Thanksgiving	No class over Christmas	

If you are interested or want more information, please contact Rhonda Purcell, Language Program Coordinator, at (269) 462-4255 or rhonda.purcell@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

The class also qualifies towards the Pokagon Language Incentive Program

24 Hours	Certificate of Acknowledgment
48 Hours	\$100 Gift Card
72 Hours	Personalized Language Program Jacket
96 Hours	Handmade Quilt

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 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.

This *Notice* was mailed to the Respondent on November 20, 2015 by first class mail. It was returned by the U.S. Postal Service on November 30, 2015 with a Return to Sender label that stated "Return to Sender, Attempted - Not known, Unable to forward." The Court has approved the publication of this *Notice* because there is no valid address..

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
TRIBAL COURT
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
CASE NO. 15-3552-PCDCS
58620 Sink Rd., P.O. Box 355, Dowagiac, MI 49047
Phone (269) 783-0505 Fax (269) 783-0519

NOTICE

OF:

(1) ORDER TO STAY DISTRIBUTIONS OF PER CAPITA PAYMENTS; AND

(2) PETITION/AFFIDAVIT TO WITHHOLD PER CAPITA PAYMENTS FOR DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT

To: **Cory Wayne Wilbur**

Respondent's Name

1. Notice is hereby given that a *Petition/Affidavit to Withhold Per Capita Payments for Delinquent Child Support* was filed with the Tribal Court on November 19, 2015.
2. Tribal law **mandates** that all, or an appropriate portion of per capita payments due to an enrolled member of the Pokagon Band who is eligible for the per capita distributions, shall be directed so as to satisfy **delinquent** court-ordered child support. See Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians *Gaming Revenue Allocation Plan*.
3. Obligations for child support are presumed to be valid unless shown otherwise. See *28 USC § 1738B, Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act*.
4. An *Order to Stay Distributions of Per Capita Payments* has been entered by the Court against your payments and may not be lifted until further order of this Court. The *Order to Stay Distributions of Per Capita Payments* has been served on the Revenue Allocation Plan Administrator who is responsible for distributions of per capita payments.
5. **An Order to Withhold and Redirect Per Capita Payments for Delinquent Child Support shall be entered by this Court within fourteen (14) days of the date of publication of this Notice unless you file an objection to the:**
 - a. **RECOGNITION of the foreign court order based on the grounds listed in Paragraph 6; or**
 - b. **ENFORCEMENT of the foreign court order based on the grounds listed in Paragraph 7.**
6. You may file (a) written objection(s) to the **recognition** of the foreign court orders with the Court. Objections must be filed within the fourteen (14) day objection period and **MUST** demonstrate that the:
 - a. foreign court lacked personal or subject matter jurisdiction; or
 - b. foreign order was obtained by fraud, duress or coercion.
7. Unless you file an objection to the **enforcement** of the foreign court orders, an *Order to Withhold and Redirect Per Capita Payments for Delinquent Child Support* will apply **ALL** of your per capita payments to satisfy the **delinquent** court-ordered child support in each case until such time as the **delinquent** child support obligations are satisfied, or until further order of this Court. Objections must be filed within the fourteen (14) day objection period and **MUST** demonstrate that:
 - a. you do not owe a **DELINQUENT** child support obligation; or
 - b. redirection of all of your per capita payments would create an **EXTRAORDINARY UNDUHARDSHIP** to your health or general welfare.
8. If you file a written objection based on any of the grounds listed above, a hearing will be scheduled. At the hearing, you will be required to establish grounds why the *Order to Withhold and Redirect Per Capita Payments for Delinquent Child Support* should not be granted by this Court.

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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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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**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 6–7, 2015
7:00 PM–7:00 AM
SMC STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER**

ages 12–24 • dinner • hand drum contest (please bring your hand drum) • basketball • volleyball • hand games • zumba • breakfast

for more information, please contact nicole holloway at (269) 462-4325 or nicole.holloway@pokagonband-nsn.gov

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monday

tuesday

wednesday

thursday

friday

1 closed for the new year

january



4 **language**

Baked Chicken
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Spinach
Broccoli Salad
Roll

5

Breakfast Bar

6

Salmon
Wild Rice Quinoa
Mixed Vegetables
Coleslaw

7 **business meeting**

Swedish Meatballs
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans
Fruit Salad
Birthday Cake

8

Potato Soup
Veggie Burger
Relish & Veggie Tray
Dessert

11 **language**

Beef Roast
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Carrots
Garden Salad

12

ork Chops
Tri Blend Veggies
Tomato Salad
Baked Apples
Roll

13

BBQ Chicken
Collard Greens
Cottage Cheese & Pineapple
Banana Pie

14

Breaded Cod
Mashed Sweet Potatoes
Asparagus
Fruit Salad

15

Pizza Day

18 **closed for milk day**



19

Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli
Jell-O W/ Fruit

20

Tuna, Egg, Pea, & Noodle
Cold Plate
Veggie & Relish Tray
Fruit Salad

21 **social**

Buffalo Chili
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit
Cornbread

22

Bean Soup
Turkey Sandwich
Veggie & Relish Tray
Yogurt & Fruit Cup

25 **language**

Buffalo Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Brussel Sprouts
Garden Salad

26

Vegetarian Lasagna
Carrots
Garden Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert

27

Salad Bar

28

Chicken Pot Pie w/ Biscuits
Tri Blend Veggies
Cottage Cheese
Tomatoes

29

Sea Bass
Rice Pilaf
Coleslaw
Fresh Fruit

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 January 15 in order to make it on the February 2016 check run. Anything received after January 15 will be processed on the check run for March 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.

What to Know Before You File 2015 Tax Returns

Are you a Resident Tribal Member?

If you are an enrolled citizen of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and you live in the tribe's Tax Agreement Area 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 certain Michigan tax exemptions. The Tax Agreement Overview, maps, and application are available online here: www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/departments/finance/michigan-tax-agreement-benefits. After review of your application, you will be notified of your eligibility status. If you have any questions regarding the tax agreement or your RTM status or benefits, please call Julie Rodriguez at (269) 462-4210 or e-mail her at Julie.Rodriguez@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

If you are a Resident Tribal Member

On Line 20 of Schedule 1, Page 2 of the State of Michigan 1040 Form is the RTM exemption under a state/tribal tax agreement. Not all Pokagon citizens are automatically qualified for this tax exemption. The Pokagon citizens qualified to claim these tax exemptions are those who are Resident Tribal Members (RTMs). RTMs are only those Pokagon citizens who live in the designated tax agreement areas and are on the registered list that the Pokagon Band Department of Finance sends to the State of Michigan. You can get on the list once you have filled out an RTM application and it has been approved.

If a Pokagon citizen is unsure of whether he or she qualifies for this tax exemption, please contact Julie Rodriguez at (269) 462-4210 in the Finance Department.

If you are a qualified RTM you will receive a package in January 2016 pertaining to filing taxes for 2015 from the Pokagon Band Finance Department. Please make sure and know your status before you file your income taxes.

Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions Received by Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Friday, January 15, 2016	Thursday, January 28, 2016	Friday, January 29, 2016
Monday, February 15, 2016	Thursday, February 25, 2016	Friday, February 26, 2016
Monday, March 14, 2016	Wednesday, March 23, 2016	Thursday, March 24, 2016
Friday, April 15, 2016	Thursday, April 28, 2016	Friday, April 29, 2016
Friday, May 13, 2016	Thursday, May 26, 2016	Friday, May 27, 2016
Wednesday, June 15, 2016	Wednesday, June 29, 2016	Thursday, June 30, 2016
Friday, July 15, 2016	Thursday, July 28, 2016	Friday, July 29, 2016
Monday, August 15, 2016	Thursday, August 30, 2016	Friday, August 31, 2016
Thursday, September 15, 2016	Thursday, September 29, 2016	Friday, September 30, 2016
Friday, October 14, 2016	Thursday, October 27, 2016	Friday, October 28, 2016
Tuesday, November 1, 2016*	Tuesday, November 22, 2016	Wed, November 23, 2016
Thursday, December 1, 2016*	Thursday, December 15, 2016	Friday, December 16, 2016

* Please note, in 2016, the November deadline for changes is November 1 and the December deadline is December 1. 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 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 Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 12 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 18 Offices closed in observation of Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 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.

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 February Calendar of Events

- 1 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 2 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 8 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 9 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 13 Tribal Council Meeting, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 15 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 16 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds Hartford, 10 a.m.
- 22 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 23 Gaming Authority Closed Session, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 29 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 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.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Pokagon Health Services

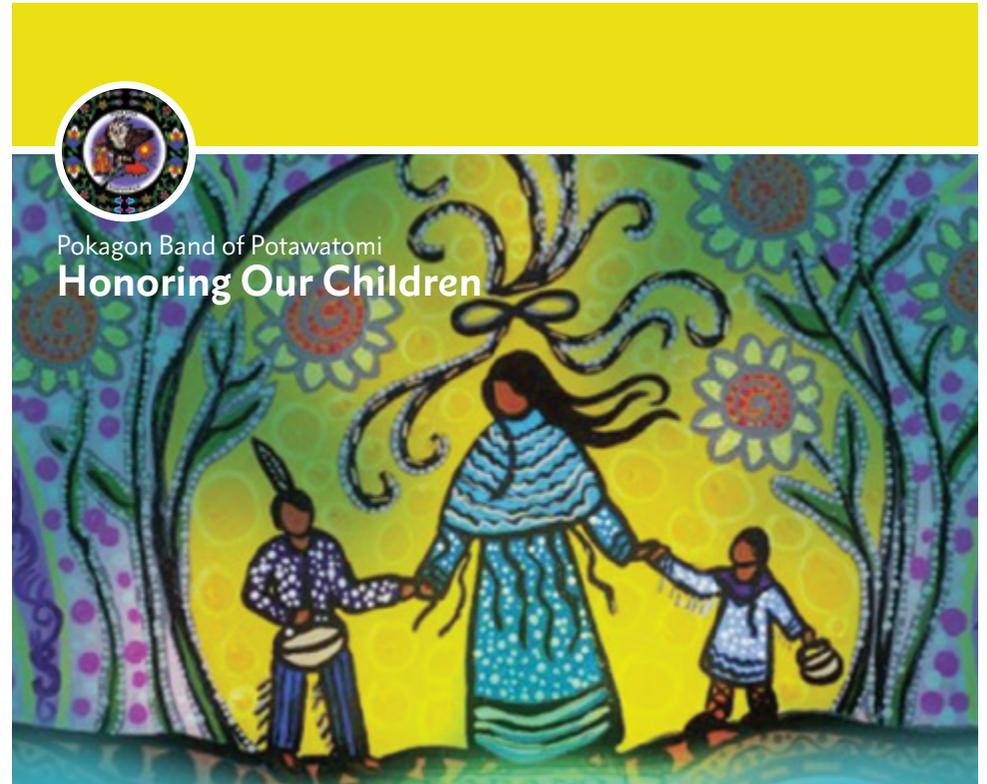
Wild Game Dinner

March 18 | 6:00–8:00 pm
Community Center

Pokagon Health Service invites fathers and their families to join them for a wild game dinner and an evening of crafting, a presentation and other fun activities, including giveaways.

Please RSVP by March 8 to Elizabeth Leffler at (269) 462-4406 or elizabeth.leffler@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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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

Facilities

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

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

Pokagon Health Services

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

Housing & Community Development

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
(269) 783-9379
Bob.Moody@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Treasurer

Eugene Magnuson
(269) 783-9297
Eugene.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary

Mark Parrish
(269) 783-6052
Mark.Parrish@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Steve Winchester
(269) 591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Becky Price
(269) 783-6212
Becky.Price@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Michaelina Martin
(269) 783-9260
Micky.Martin@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Andy Jackson
(269) 783-9340
Andy.Jackson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Roger Rader
(269) 783-9039
Roger.Rader@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Member at large

Matt Wesaw
(517) 719-5579
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Elders Representative

Judy Winchester
(269) 783-6240
Judy.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Executive Secretary

Kelly Curran
(269) 591-0604
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
Mahogan.Shepard@pokagonband-nsn.gov

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.

Kché Mko gises January Citizen Announcements



Happy birthday **Damon and Jack!** (Papa 1/6 & Grandson 1/21) We LOVE you guys! We hope you have a GREAT day! Love your fam and clan,

Robin, Jade, Joe, Brittany, Caitlin, Grandma Williams, Lillianna, Aunt Patti, Dakota, Aunt Stacey, Zephyr, Grandpa Zok, and Minnie



Nice going, **Brandon Winchester-Jones**, point guard for Dowagiac Union High School's basketball team. The senior was featured on the cover of *Tip Off* magazine ahead of the team's season. (Photo credit Leader Publications)



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.



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.



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Pokagon Health Services

HEALTHY LUNCH

Join Marcy Herbert, Pokagon Band dietician, for a healthy lunch Wednesday, January 20 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.

