



# POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

## THE POKAGONS TELL IT

Giwse Gises November 2013

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### Pokagon Elders Host MIEA Conference

Nearly 180 elders from around the state attended the conference of the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) at Four Winds New Buffalo October 8. This is the second time the Pokagons have hosted the tri-annual conference, but the first time attendees were able to stay, meet and eat at Four Winds.

“People had nothing but good things to say about everything,” said Audrey Huston, secretary of the Elders Council and one of the organizers of the event. “They loved the bags and the give-aways and the auction.”

Delegates discussed the MIEA student incentive and college scholarship programs, which is the bulk of MIEA’s expenses and operations. This year they awarded six \$500 scholarships and one \$1000 scholarship to native college students from a Michigan tribe. The incentive program awards \$25 for native K–12 students from a Michigan tribe who achieve all As or perfect attendance for a marking period.

Delegates also elected officers for the next year and heard from Donna Petoskey Swallows of the Grand Traverse Bay Band, who serves as the representative and treasurer for the Midwest region of the National Indian Council on Aging. She spoke about the organization and its work.

After lunch the attendees participated in a live auction of art—baskets, pottery, jewelry and other items—donated from each of the member tribes. The proceeds from the auction raise money for the scholarships and student awards. The Pokagon women’s drum group and the Kleen Sl8, a group of Pokagon musicians, performed following the dinner buffet.

“We raised more than \$2,500,” said Huston. “And everyone seemed to love the entertainment. Tim Adams from Four Winds was excellent help in planning the conference.”

Next year’s meetings will be hosted by Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa in April, Keewenaw Bay Indian Community in July, and Grand Traverse Bay Band in October.



## Pokagon Builds Birch Bark Canoe Named Zibi Néktosha | River Horse, it will be donated to the Band

Tom Wood remembers when his grandfather, Mark Alexis, and Mike Daugherty started building a birch bark canoe about 25 years ago, like the type that Potawatomis had been famous for generations before.

“When I saw what they did, I thought it was the coolest thing I’d seen,” he recalled. “They had the bark lashed to the gunwales, the front pieces sewn in, and permanent thwarts in. All they had to do was install planking and ribs and seal the seams.”

Then, while it was on display at St. Patrick’s County Park during the Band’s pow wow, someone vandalized the vessel. Soon Mark passed away, and though Mike and Dan Rapp tried to repair and finish the canoe, a storm knocked a tree limb onto it, crushing the frame in two. “Mike told me he’d like to see us finish the canoe,” Tom remembered.

Tom hasn’t forgotten that.

Recently his comment inspired Tom to build that canoe. He’s seen a lot of effort to reconnect with Potawatomi culture—language classes, traditional health and bush craft. But no one was building canoes. So last May Tom began gathering materials for the project. He decided the canoe would be built on tribal land, something that a Pokagon hadn’t done for a long time.

Working to obtain the necessary permits and maps with two Michigan DNR staffers, Steve Anderson and Ben Weiss, Wood traveled to Roscommon County in northern Michigan to harvest bark this May. About every weekend since he’s worked on crafting the canoe.

“It’s a lot of work,” he admitted.

Harvesting the bark involves scaling a birch tree up to 15 feet off the ground and carefully slicing a vertical slit just deep enough to cut through the bark but girdle the tree. Once the cut is completed lengthwise, Tom would run his hand between the bark and the next layer beneath it.

“When the time of year is just right and the bark is ready to come off the tree, it will pop itself off,” he said. “Other times it wasn’t quite that easy, and almost impossible to get off.”

Once he had the bark at the building site, Tom rolled it out flat and situated a building frame on top. The frame gave the canoe its shape. Onto that he added large rocks to steady it. After slitting the bark in various spots, he folded up the sides of the bark and attached it to stakes to form the hollow hull of the canoe. Then he sewed the side panels with the lacing. The lacing was made from spruce roots, and making them proved a time consuming process.

“You dig up the roots, boil them to take the rough skin off, and then split them in half,” he said. “They then have to soak overnight to get them soft and workable.”

Preparing enough lacing took Tom two weeks; he had over 300 feet of it. Along the way he got help from Bob Frank, natural resource manager at the Pokagon DNR, Andy Jackson, cultural specialist, and Tyler Dodson.

“This was mostly a learn-as-you-go experience,” Tom said. “I didn’t tell a lot of people what I was doing. I’d never done it before, and didn’t know if I could do it.”

After the lacing, the seams and holes had to be sealed. He boiled down pine pitch, mixed it with charcoal from cedar wood, and added fat to make the glue-like substance strong but flexible. Lastly he inserted the cedar planks and ribs.

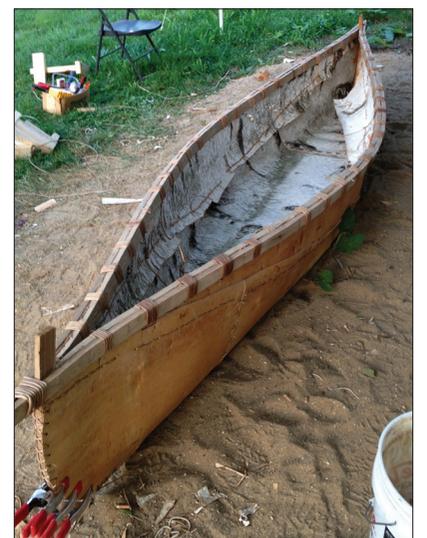
“That was a great feeling,” he remembered.

All that’s left to do is apply the pitch sealer on the ends and outside, and launch Ziibi Naktasha on the water.

“I’ve heard you can’t sink them, because all the components float,” he said. “I’d like to steer it past Fort St. Joseph on the St. Joe River. When do you think the last time a Potawatomi canoed in something like this on that river?”

“As much time as I spent, and as challenging as it was to do, I don’t look at this as an individual accomplishment. I finished something Grandpa and Mike didn’t have a chance to. They sparked an interest in me about our culture, and always welcomed me to work on their projects with them. This is dedicated to them. We did it.

“Potawatomis were some of the best canoe makers,” he said. “Maybe we can be again.”



## Judge Petoskey Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty

The National American Indian Court Judges Association, NAICJA, recently awarded Pokagon Tribal Court Chief Judge Michael Petoskey the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented at their 44th Annual Meeting and National Tribal Judicial Conference in Cabazon, California.

“This is the inaugural year for this award, and I feel overwhelmed at having been selected in the first year,” said Judge Petoskey. “It is a tremendous honor and I am in a bit of a state of disbelief. I am pretty much that little Indian boy that was running up Emmet Street in Petoskey, where I grew up.”

Throughout his career, Petoskey has been dedicated to helping tribes establish their own judicial systems that reflect the core beliefs of each individual tribe. “I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with tribal communities in helping them create their own courts, and then serving as the judge,” said Judge Petoskey. “It has been a rewarding and fulfilling career.”

Judge Petoskey was nominated for the lifetime achievement award for the many accomplishments he has had over his career. He introduced two pieces of the tribal judicial structure to Michigan, judicial independence and tribal peacemaking. Judge Petoskey helped to develop Michigan’s first tribal constitutional provision guaranteeing tribal judicial independence.

He is currently the chief judge for the Tribal Courts of Pokagon Band and the Gun Lake Band. Over the course of his career, he has been a judge for every Indian tribe in Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. Petoskey was the founding chief judge for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.



When reflecting on his time working with the Pokagons, Judge Petoskey said that the journey has come full circle. “The Pokagon Band was my first client out of law school in 1983,” said Judge Petoskey. Thirty years later, so much progress has been made.

Shortly after the Pokagons received federal reauthorization, the tribe started working on establishing their own court. “They wanted to take care of their own matters and transfer the child welfare work back into the Tribal Court,” explained Judge Petoskey. This Valentine’s Day will mark the twelfth anniversary of the establishment of the court.

During the presentation of the award, a letter from Chairman Wesaw was read aloud. In the letter, he expressed his gratitude for all of the work that Judge Petoskey has done for the Pokagon tribe. “He has generously shared his vision in building the infrastructure to develop a judicial system which is firmly grounded in our past, while preparing us for our future by incorporating our culture and traditions.” He also wrote of Judge Petoskey’s character by stating, “On the bench,

he is known as a Judge who cares deeply for the children of this community as well as for parents who are struggling with barriers to safe parenting.”

Judge Petoskey shares this award with his wife, Barbara and his two daughters, Meghan and Emily. “Without their support, none of this would be possible,” said Judge Petoskey.

The work of the members of the National American Indian Court Judges Association has made their ancestry and current generation proud. They hope to inspire future generations to follow their lead. They aim to connect the generations in the work that has been done and the work that has yet to come.

## Chairman’s Column

It is with very mixed emotions that I pen my last letter as Chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. I am humbled to have served the Pokagon Band. I had fully intended to fulfill my current term as Chairman, and who knows what decision I would have made then, but I was presented with a request that I just couldn’t walk away from. Many of you know now that I will retire as Chairman and assume the responsibility of the Director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. I’m humbled to be selected as the first Native American to lead a state department and be part of a Governor’s cabinet. This is just another example of people looking to the Pokagons as the example.

We all should feel very proud of what we have accomplished over the past years. I leave with the confidence that what we have achieved as a Council will continue. By that I mean the ability to debate, vigorously at times, but come to a decision that is in the best interests of our citizens, without it becoming personal. The other issue I have confidence in is that Council members will continue to follow procedures and NOT directly attempt to influence our department directors. If we fail to continue to build from our current process, we will only go backwards in our development. We have a strong Government Manager, and Council should continue to allow him to do the job we hired him to do, without Council meddling. I’m sure we all remember the old days, and I can’t believe anyone would like to go backwards when they have experienced the positive momentum we have built.

I could list all the great accomplishments we have made as a government, but someone would think I would be trying to take credit. Let me assure you, our success is due to several factors: the citizens who take the initiative to be involved, our directors and people who work on behalf of the tribe, and finally the citizens



who place themselves in the line of fire by serving in elective office. Our success is based on our collective work, the desire to do the right thing for the right reasons, and not the work of one person. I would like to thank everyone for their dedication and hard work on behalf of our citizens. Your work doesn’t go unnoticed and is sincerely appreciated.

I intend to stay involved by serving on a couple of committees. As we all have heard over the years when Clarence White offers an invocation, he always comments we have no word for good bye. I’m not saying good bye; I look forward to continuing my service to the citizens.

In closing, my most heartfelt thank you goes to my wife and family for allowing me the time to serve the Band. Those who have served understand the time commitment involved and the number of family events that are missed, the hours and days away from home, and all the other issue that distract from being with family. My wife, Gloria, has been the best in this regard. She has encouraged my involvement and questioned if my new position is something I am willing to devote the same energy. She is a great devil’s advocate in helping me make sound decisions. After 32 years she understands what makes me tick. I love her for many reasons, but her insight into my personality is scary at times. I couldn’t have a better friend and partner.

My phone number will not change and will still be on, and my door, albeit in Lansing, will always be open. If you are in town, please stop in and say hello. My new email address is: wesawm@michigan.gov.

## Movie about Potawatomi Civil War Soldiers to Screen at Pokagon Community Center

The film *The Road to Andersonville; Michigan Native American Sharpshooters in the Civil War* tells a story that was significant, but nearly forgotten. Please join the producers to watch this film at the Pokagon Community Center Saturday evening, November 16.

During the American Civil War, Union forces ran low on sharpshooters. In Michigan, the answer was to change a law prohibiting Native Americans from serving in the military, and then—in 1863—to ask members of the Three Fires Tribes of Odawa, Bodewadmi, and Ojibwe to enlist. These were men who lived in peaceful coexistence with their neighbors, Native American and white alike, and who also possessed legendary woodland and hunting skills. Among these men was the important tradition of a warrior society, the Ogitchedaw, whose members were required to partake in battle. The Native Americans knew they were not likely to be well treated; they knew well the intentions of the whites who routinely effected displacements of the Anishinabe and other tribes. The Native Americans also knew their way of life was at risk, and their accumulating losses of lands and culture were everywhere apparent. However, they realized that if the South was successful in its campaign during the Civil War, they would likely be relegated to the status of slaves. Therefore, the members of the Three Fires Tribes responded quickly and in number.

The first was Thomas “Big Tom” Kechittigo from Saginaw on May 3, 1863. A dozen Potawatomi also joined the ranks, including the son of the leader of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band. Others traveled from elsewhere in the state to enlist. A few trekked from Canada. These men saw hard service in most of the major battles remaining in the war. They fought at The Battle of the Wilderness (May 1864); The Battle of Spotsylvania (May 1864); The Battle of Cold Harbor (June 1864); The Siege of Petersburg, (June 1864), The Battle of the Crater (July 1864), The Battle of Fort Stedman (March 1865), The Battle of Fort Mahone (April 1865). The men of this company paid a high price: in all, one-fourth of the men of Company K were either killed or wounded in battle.

While many gave the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefield, some of the sharpshooters were captured. After the Battle of Petersburg, 15 of their number were sent to the prison camp at Andersonville. Of the 15 from Company K, seven died and were buried there. At the time of the beginning of this film, they had lain at Andersonville for nearly 150 years without receiving their burial ceremony. About a dozen descendants of Company K and others of the present day Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society traveled to Andersonville, Georgia, in May 2010 to honor the graves of the men.

This film, produced by David Schock, with Pokagon elder and veteran Kookoosh Roger M. Williams as associate producer, is the story of that journey, and the telling of the tale of the 139 men who joined as members of Company K: their recruitment, their training, their battles, and, for some, their deaths and, for others, their survival.

**The Road to Andersonville: Michigan Native American Sharpshooters in the Civil War**  
**Saturday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Pokagon Community Center in Dowagiac, Michigan**

## November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

**By Liz Leffler, community health nurse**

According to the American Diabetes Association, nearly 26 million Americans suffer from diabetes. That's more than eight percent of adults and children in the United States. American Indians/Alaska Natives are twice as likely to develop diabetes as other groups.

The increase of diabetes is directly related to obesity in all groups in the United States. If diabetes goes untreated, it can lead to heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, nervous system disease, amputation, and many other health related issues. But if treatment and lifestyle changes are started early, these health issues can be avoided.

Some of the signs and symptoms of diabetes to watch for are:

- Constant trips to the bathroom
- Unquenchable thirst/unusual thirst
- Losing weight without trying
- Weakness and fatigue
- Tingling or numbness in your hands, legs or feet
- Blurred vision

- Skin that is dry or itchy
- Frequent infections or cuts and bruises that take a long time to heal
- Extreme hunger
- Recurring skin, gum, or bladder infections

These factors can increase your risk:

- Genetics and family history
- Disease of the pancreas
- Infection or illness
- Obesity or being overweight and a sedentary lifestyle
- Polycystic ovarian disease
- Age over 45

Treatment can include such simple changes as increased exercise or improved diet, but medication, insulin can help as well. Diabetes is not the death sentence as once thought by many. If diabetes is controlled with diet, exercise, life style changes, and medication, you can lead a normal life with normal longevity. But once damage from diabetes is done to the body, you can't reverse the effects. Prevention



*Awakening the Spirit*

and early treatment are recommended to avoid life threatening issues if diabetes goes untreated.

If you have any questions or have any of the signs and symptoms listed above, please contact Pokagon Health Services to schedule an appointment with one of our providers. If you have already been diagnosed with diabetes, consider joining our diabetes support group. Please contact us for further information at (888) 440-1234 or (269) 782-4141.

## 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  
 newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

## Domestic Violence Awareness Activities Will Continue Past October

The Domestic Violence Team hosted a number of activities throughout the month of October to raise awareness for domestic violence in the community. These activities included a potluck and teachings with Jake and Mary Pine on the importance of women in the community, a vigil to honor domestic violence survivors and talk about how violence against women negatively impacts the community, a gardening activity with Head Start students, a 5K race, and a Purple Shawl and beading workshop, just to name a few.

Many individuals and departments helped out with these activities. The Domestic Violence Team would like to thank all those who attended the events, as well as the departments and individuals who helped facilitate discussions, taught classes, and got involved in program planning. Without their help our events would not have been as successful.

## Pokagon LEGO League Team Prepping for Competition

Excitement is blowing in for the Pokagon Band's LEGO League Team and this year's competition. Our six students, ages 9-14, will travel to Grandville, Michigan on Saturday, November 23 to compete against teams from all over western and southwestern Michigan. This year's theme is Nature's Fury which deals with extreme weather situations. Each team is responsible for three areas: the Project, the Robot Game, and the First LEGO League Core Values.

The Project requires teams to research natural disasters and to create an invention that helps before, during, or after a severe weather situation occurs. We have to build a model of our invention and write and perform a skit to introduce our idea at the competition.

The Robot Game judges participant's ability to program its robot to do certain "missions" on the LEGO playing field. The field represents all kinds of natural disasters, as well.

The Core Values portion of the competition will ask our team to do a group activity in front of the judges. They will be scored on their ability to complete a task with respect, cooperation, and good sportsmanship toward one another.

We would love for fans to come to Grandville to cheer for our team. If you would like to join us and want more information about competition day, please call the Department of Education at (269) 782-0887.



## Social Services Department Offices Now in Commodities Building

As of early October offices for staff of the Social Services Department are no longer in the main Administration Building. Their offices are in the Commodities Building across the road from the main office. So if you're looking for assistance with LiHEAP, child care, burial fund or other programs, you can find them there.

The Domestic Violence Team will be hosting events throughout the year to continue the great work and conversations that were started during these events. Please check the website and the newsletter for more information. Our next event will be on November 24, 2013 from 1-5 p.m. at the Community Center. We will be showing a video on historical trauma and having a discussion afterwards about how historical trauma impacts our community. This program will be co-sponsored by the LAUNCH program.

If you have any questions about upcoming events or need assistance seeking services for domestic violence please contact Casey Kasper at (269) 462-4324 or casey.kasper@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

## Pokagon Health Services Holds Flu Clinic at Indiana Office

Fridays, November 8, 15, and 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 3733 Locust Road, South Bend.

Please call Liz Leffler, community health nurse, at (269) 462-4406 to schedule your appointment today.

## Tribal Police Appoints Eric Shaer New Community Resource Officer

**By Jennifer Klemm-Dougherty**

The Pokagon Tribal Police Department recently appointed Eric Shaer as the new community resource officer. Shaer is one of two Pokagons who were sponsored by the Tribal Police Department to attend the police academy at Grand Valley State University.

"The role of the CRO is important to our tribe because that person is the liaison between the tribal police and the community," said Shaer. "The community needs to know that they can rely on the police to help them. We need them to feel comfortable with us and not view us as 'scary cops'."

Tribal Police is building trust and confidence is through community outreach programs. "We have a car seat program and we give bike helmets to kids to promote safety," said Shaer. "We also have a couple of DNR trainers who will be helping with hunter's safety courses for tribal youth this fall." Shaer's goals include helping with the youth and elders safety programs.

Shaer will be starting his new job in mid to late November, and he is excited about the opportunity. "I have been told by several people in our administration that they really like and support this position within the police department," said Shaer. "It is important to keep communication open between the police and the community."

Shaer has had an interest in law enforcement since he interned with the Tribal Police Department three years ago. "The internship allowed me

to work full-time for five months," said Shaer. "Once I completed my internship, I immediately started taking classes with the goal of becoming an officer."

Shaer started taking classes at Southwestern Michigan College and was on the Dean's List. He took two classes through Lake Michigan College the following summer, and then headed the Kalamazoo Valley Community College for the fall semester where he earned a 4.0 GPA. "I was motivated to get through school so that I could start my career," said Shaer.

The Tribal Police sponsored Shaer and fellow citizen James Ivy and sent them to Grand Valley State University for the police academy. The academy lasted for 16 weeks and Shaer commuted from his home in Dowagiac.

Shaer is eager to start his work as the community resource officer, and he is dedicated to earning the trust of the community that he serves.

## Quit Now: Honor Traditions and Ancestors' Sacrifices



Pokagon Health Services is offering tobacco cessation classes to citizens and their spouses who are ready to kick the habit. The course follows the American Lung Association's Freedom from Smoking Program. The program consists of eight sessions over a seven week period; each session runs approximately 1.5 hours.

The program utilizes education with proven and effective methods of quitting, support from the tribal community in your effort to live a smoke free, chew free lifestyle, and assistance with tobacco cessation medications to support your success. Tribal facilitators lead the classes.

Come and get support from fellow tribal citizens on your journey to quit now. Those interested in enrolling in the program should contact Ann Hesson at (269) 782-4141 or stop by the pharmacy for more information and to sign up. Experience the many benefits from kicking the habit.

## Stay Informed of Construction Labor Pool Updates



Plans to begin construction on the Pokagon Health and Wellness Center are underway! The Christman Company will be the construction manager of this project, as they have served our construction needs in the past. The Tribal Labor Pool program has grown and developed over the years and will be used for the Health and Wellness Center Project. Check here and on the Pokagon website for updates as they evolve.

1. Christman will be hosting monthly Associated General Contractors of Michigan trainings starting in November at the Four Winds Super Human Resources Conference room in New Buffalo from noon to 1 p.m.:

- a. November 11 - General Construction
- b. December 9 - Personal Protective Equipment
- c. January 6 - Fall Protection

Pre-registration is required, no later than one week prior to any training date. Be mindful that any training certifications acquired will greatly improve your chances for gainful employment through the participation program.

2. A job fair for the Wellness Center is being planned to bring the project contractors and Labor Pool participants together. This will be a prime opportunity to be interviewed for the available Wellness Center positions. The date of that job fair will be posted when it comes available.

For information or to discuss the opportunities available to Pokagon citizens, contact: Bert Wilbur [bwilbur@christmanco.com](mailto:bwilbur@christmanco.com), tribal liaison, (269)519-3555 or Madalene Big Bear [mbigbear@christmanco.com](mailto:mbigbear@christmanco.com), assistant liaison, (269) 783-6975.

## Keep on Reading!

We have 40 families signed up for A Nation That Reads, the 2013 reading program, with 1089 books read. Our goal is 2013 books, so we still have 924 books to go.

The application is on the web, [www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/departments/education](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/departments/education). Or if you do not have access to a printer, please contact Connie Baber at (888) 330-1234 or [connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov) to have the form sent to you.



[www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/departments/education](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/departments/education)

## Riddle (Formally in the K-12 newsletter)

The Department of Education is merging the K-12 newsletter with the tribal newsletter. So the riddle can be found in the tribal newsletter now.

Mail in your correct answer or email it to [susan.doyle@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:susan.doyle@pokagonband-nsn.gov) and you will be entered in a drawing to win a gift card. WAIT... another way to win is to mail or email your own riddle and the person whose riddle is selected for the next newsletter will win a gift card.

Last month's K-12 newsletter riddle winner was Gregg Marie Emerick who answered, No sooner spoken than broken? The answer was "silence." No one submitted a new riddle to win a gift card.

Check out the new riddle.

**"How can a pants pocket be empty and still have something in it?"**



Pokagon Band of Potawatomi  
Department of Education

## Career Workshop

Saturday, November 9, 2013  
10:00 am – 2:00pm

### Promoting "You" on the Resume

Join instructor Lanre Ajayi in the Education Training Room. We will provide all participants with child care and gas cards to cover transportation to and from workshop!

Please pre-register by 5:00 p.m. of Wednesday, November 6.

This project is made possible by a grant from



## What Does the Affordable Care Act Mean for American Indians?

The Affordable Care Act, commonly called Obamacare, permanently reauthorizes the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA). The IHCIA, which authorizes Congress to fund health care services for American Indians and Alaska Natives through the Indian Health Service, was originally approved by Congress in 1976 and last reauthorized in 2000. The Affordable Care Act makes the reauthorization of this law permanent and authorizes new programs within the Indian Health Service (IHS). IHS provides funding for Pokagon Health Services which includes the clinic, community health, pharmacy, behavioral health, and contract health services along with other programs.

For the many, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires purchasing insurance through federal or state exchanges, with the federal government subsidizing those who fall below certain income guidelines. If insurance is not purchased by February 14 so it becomes effective by the March 31, 2014 deadline, then tax penalties start to kick in. There are exemptions to this requirement.

The two exemptions for Native Americans are:

1. Indian exemption: For people who are enrolled members of federally recognized tribes or shareholders in an Alaska Native regional or village corporation, you can apply for the Indian exemption when you file your federal income tax, or you can get a certificate of exemption from your state marketplace.
2. Hardship exemption for IHS beneficiaries: For people who use or are eligible to use the Indian Health Service, a tribally-operated clinic, or an urban Indian clinic (called I/T/U). You must apply through the marketplace in your state for a certificate for exemption.

You do not have to do anything if:

1. You have Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, VA, or health insurance from your employer.
2. Your income is so low that you are not required to file taxes.

For those American Indians and Alaskan Natives who choose to purchase insurance, the ACA includes

provisions that make purchasing insurance on the exchange an even better proposition than it is for everyone else. They can sign up at any time – there are no open enrollment deadlines. Tribal members with incomes below 300 percent of the federal poverty level (\$34,470 for an individual) are exempt from paying deductibles and copays, so they can purchase the cheapest plans without worrying about out-of-pocket expenses. All tribal members, no matter what income level, are exempt from out-of-pocket payments if they receive services from Indian health facilities. And unlike employers, tribes can pay exchange premiums for their members without paying taxes.

For more information you can contact the Pokagon Band Health Services at (269) 782-4141. The following are websites for specific information related to Tribes:



[nativeexchange.org](http://nativeexchange.org)



[www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/blog/2013/08/american-indian-alaska-native.html#32](http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/blog/2013/08/american-indian-alaska-native.html#32)

## Rock Your Mocs Day Friday, November 15



Be a part of the Third Annual Rock Your Mocs worldwide event, happening all over Mother Earth. November is the perfect time to strut your moccasins because it's Native American Heritage Month.

How do you participate? Wear your moccasins all day. To school, to work, around the house, to the store...show everybody that Native Americans still exist and are walking around in the same shoes that have been around for thousands of years.

## DV Program Seeks Cultural Presenters

The Domestic Violence Program is looking for cultural presenters to run monthly cultural presentations. You do not have to be a domestic violence survivor to get involved, however we do ask that you focus your presentation on healthy relationships, respect, and the importance of women in the community. All presenters will be paid for up to two hours of work, in addition to mileage and supply reimbursement.

If you have any additional questions or are interested in getting involved please contact Casey Kasper, Victim Services Manager/Case Worker at (269) 462-4324 or via e-mail at [casey.kasper@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:casey.kasper@pokagonband-nsn.gov).



## Learn More About PHS's Hotline

The Pokagon Health Services Hotline is available at (800) 775-1008 or [www.reportlineweb.com/PokagonBand](http://www.reportlineweb.com/PokagonBand) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Below is a Q&A that might clarify the Hotline's purpose.

### Q. What is the Health Services Hotline?

The Hotline is an anonymous reporting tool that provides patients and staff the opportunity to report potential misconduct in the workplace.

### Q. May I report using either the Internet or the telephone?

Yes, by giving you choices, the Hotline ensures that members of our community can file a report anonymously and in the manner most comfortable or convenient to them.

### Q. Why do we need a reporting tool like the Hotline?

Reporting hotlines have proven to be an effective tool in reducing losses and helping to protect institutional financial strength.

### Q. Does Tribal Council really want me to report?

Yes. In fact, we need you to report. You know what is going on in your department both good and bad. You may have initial knowledge of an activity that may be cause for concern. Your reporting can minimize the negative impact related to potential misconduct.

### Q. Does the Hotline replace reporting situations to the manager or other offices? What type of situations should I report on the Hotline?

The Hotline does not replace any of our standard reporting tools, but there are several good reasons why you should consider using the Hotline as well. First, the Hotline ensures that your report gets to the appropriate people. More importantly, reports can be filed anonymously and all report information is secure and held in the strictest confidence.

The Hotline is designed to accept reports for the following type of concerns.

1. Financial matters relating to accounting or internal control issues, fraud, theft or other financial issues.
2. Regulatory matters relating to confidentiality issues, falsification of reports or other issues.
3. Information technology matters relating to the inappropriate use of technology or misuse of technology resources.
4. Misconduct of staff relating to citizens.
5. Any situation in which you were uncomfortable with at the clinic.

### Q. Is the Hotline an appropriate reporting tool for something as personal and important as sexual harassment?

If you are uncomfortable contacting the Director of Health Services, sexual harassment reports can be taken over the Hotline.

### Q. What shouldn't I report using the Hotline?

The Hotline is not a "911" service for emergency issues or actions.

### Q. Can I file a report from home and still remain anonymous?

A report from home, a neighbor's computer, or any internet portal will remain secure and anonymous. An internet portal never identifies a visitor by screen name so that anonymity is totally maintained. Plus, the Hotline is contractually committed not to pursue a reporter's identity.

### Q. I am concerned that the information I provide the Hotline will ultimately reveal my identity. How can you assure me that will not happen?

The Hotline system is designed to protect your personal identity. However, you as a reporting party need to ensure that the body of the report does not reveal your identity by accident, for example, "From my cube next to Jan Smith, I saw ..." or "In my 33 years..."

### Q. I am not sure what I have observed or heard is a violation of policy, or misconduct, but it just does not look right to me. What should I do?

File a report. The Hotline can help you prepare and file your report so it can be properly understood. We'd rather you reported a situation that turned out to be harmless than let possible misconduct go unchecked because you weren't sure.

### Q. Where do these reports go? Who can access them?

Reports are entered directly on a secure server operated by an independent company. The reports are available only to specific individuals within the department who are charged with evaluating the type of violation and location of the incident. Each of these report recipients has had training in keeping these reports in the utmost confidence. The Hotline system and staff are trained and committed to ensure that no report is ever shared with implicated parties, their peers, or subordinates.



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik  
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI



# Holiday Fun Day

2nd Annual

This holiday season, give your kids the gift of fun while you go Christmas shopping or finish holiday preparations. The Department of Education has a day of holiday cheer planned for kids ages 3-14 registered in our K-12 program. Christmas crafts/gift making and other fun activities will keep them busy until you return. Lunch will be provided.

Sunday, December 15  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Community Center  
24703 Potawatomi Trail  
Dowagiac, MI 49047

## Notice of Open Alternate Positions | Curriculum Committee

**POSITION DESCRIPTION.** The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest from Pokagon Band Citizens to fill two vacant Alternate Member positions on the Pokagon Band Curriculum Committee. The Curriculum Committee is responsible for establishing a tribally operated daycare and school(s) with culturally based academics and extracurricular activities. The Committee is comprised of five (5) persons. Additionally, the Committee has two (2) Alternate Members who are expected to attend all Committee meetings and will be seated and will vote in the absence of a Committee Member(s). Both of the two Alternate Member positions are currently vacant. Including meeting preparation and other time spent at meetings, members will spend approximately five hours per month to fulfill responsibilities.

**COMPENSATION.** Alternate Members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using their personal vehicle to attend meetings.

**APPOINTMENT PROCESS.** Curriculum Committee members are appointed to office by the Tribal Council.

**HOW TO APPLY.** Please submit letters of interest along with a current résumé to:  
Kelly Curran, Tribal Council Executive Secretary  
PO Box 180  
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Or email Kelly Curran at [Kelly.Curran@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Kelly.Curran@PokagonBand-nsn.gov).

**ETHICS REQUIREMENTS.** As a Public Official, Curriculum 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](http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov).

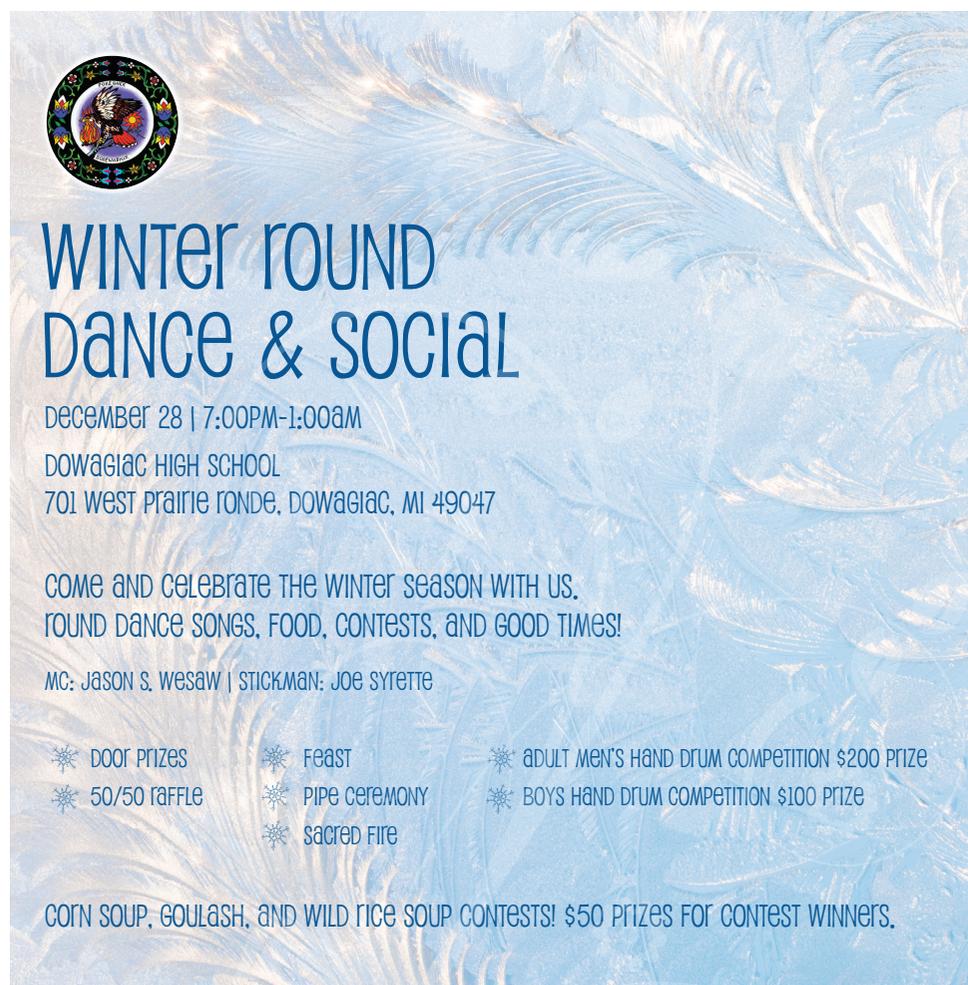
**DEADLINE.** This position shall be open until filled.

## 2013 Elders Council Election Canceled

On October 10, 2013, the Election Board certified the List of Candidates for the 2013 Elders Council Election. There was only one certified candidate for the office of vice chair and one certified candidate for the office of treasurer. When there is only one certified candidate for an elective office, the Election Board is required by Pokagon Band law to deem such candidate elected and not to hold an election for that particular office.

Because the office of vice chairperson and treasurer were the only two offices in the election, the Election Board will not be conducting a 2013 Elders Council Election and cancelled all related events, including the Meet the Candidates Forum. Both of the certified candidates who were deemed elected will be sworn in to office at the Tribal Council meeting scheduled for December 14 at 10:00 am.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call the Election Board office at (269) 782-9475 or (888) 782-9475.



**WINTER ROUND DANCE & SOCIAL**

DECEMBER 28 | 7:00PM-1:00AM  
DOWAGIAC HIGH SCHOOL  
701 WEST PRAIRIE RONDE, DOWAGIAC, MI 49047

COME AND CELEBRATE THE WINTER SEASON WITH US.  
ROUND DANCE SONGS, FOOD, CONTESTS, AND GOOD TIMES!

MC: JASON S. WESAW | STICKMAN: JOE SYRETTE

- ❄️ DOOR PRIZES
- ❄️ 50/50 RAFFLE
- ❄️ FEAST
- ❄️ PIPE CEREMONY
- ❄️ SACRED FIRE
- ❄️ ADULT MEN'S HAND DRUM COMPETITION \$200 PRIZE
- ❄️ BOYS HAND DRUM COMPETITION \$100 PRIZE

CORN SOUP, GOULASH, AND WILD RICE SOUP CONTESTS! \$50 PRIZES FOR CONTEST WINNERS.



For more information, please contact the Department of Language and Culture at (269) 462-4255 or Rhonda Purcell at [rhonda.purcell@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:rhonda.purcell@pokagonband-nsn.gov).



**Train Together for the Family Olympics**

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

**When:** leading up to Summer, 2014



**Training Schedule:**  
Look for a detailed schedule with training dates beginning in January 2014



**Culture—Contact Department of L&C at 269-462-4325**

- 11/16 | Wild Foods Day, Gage Street House, 36464 Gage Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047, 3p-7p
- 11/2 | Fall Feast, Rogers Lake Pavilion, 4p—Come and share in a pipe ceremony with the community and honor all that the creator has given us for this harvest season and honor our family members who have walked on. Please make their favorite dish to share with others. Please do not taste the food before bring it for this is a feast and the spirits need to be fed these foods first. It is a time to share stories and bring our community together for the fall season. Also bring your wooden dishes (bundle) to eat on. Hope to see you there.

**Drumming—Contact Department of L&C at 269-462-4325**

- 11/6 | South Bend Men's/Boy's Drumming w/ John T Warren, 3733 Locust Rd, South Bend, IN 6-8pm
- 11/13 | Men's/Boy's Drumming w/ John T Warren, Community Center, 6:30pm-8:30pm
- 11/13 | Women's Drumming, Gage Street House, 56464 Gage St, Dowagiac, MI 49047, 6pm-8pm
- 11/20 | Men's/Boy's Drumming w/ Jason S Wesaw, Hartford High School, 115 School St, Hartford, MI 49057, 6pm-8pm

**Language—Contact Rhonda Purcell**

- Mondays | Elders Language Class, Elders Hall, 10am-12pm
- Tuesdays | Dowagiac 12 Week Basic Language, Community Center, 6-8pm Dowagiac, Community Center, & Early Start Language, Community Building, 6:30p-7:30p
- Wednesdays | Hartford 12 Week Basic Language, Hartford Library, 15 S Franklin St, Hartford, MI 49057 3p-5p

**Native Healing—Contact Department of L&C at 269-462-4325**

- 11/11—11/13 | Jake Pine, Rogers Lake Teaching Cabin, 58620 Sink Rd, Dowagiac, MI 49047, 9a-5p (Individual appointments)
- 11/12 | Co-ed Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine, Rogers Lake Teaching Cabin, 58620 Sink Rd, Dowagiac, MI 49047, 6pm

**Youth—Contact Dean Orvis**

- 11/2 | Fall Feast & Eagle Dressing, Rogers Lake Pavilion, 9:30a-5p
- 11/9 | Jr Youth Council Meeting, Community Center, 10:30a-12p
- 11/9 | Sr Youth Council Meeting, Community Center, 1p-3p
- 11/16 | Pokagon Art Extravaganza, Community Center, 9a-3p
- 11/23—11/24 | Multi-Generational Leadership Forum, Bear Cave Resort, Buchanan, MI Saturday: 9a-5p, Sunday: 7:30a-8p
- 11/13 & 11/20 | Community Service Project, Community Center, 10a-12p

**Traditions and Repatriation Committee—**

- 11/25 | Monthly Meeting, Admin. Bldg., Finance Conf. Rm., 6-9pm

**November 2013  
Department of Language and Culture**

Director, Conrad Church (269) 462-4254,  
Cultural Specialist, Andy Jackson (269) 462-4261, Language Coordinator, Rhonda Purcell  
(269) 462-4255, Youth Cultural Coordinator, Dean Orvis (269) 462-4290



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	2 FALL FEAST & Eagle Dressing
3		4 Elder's Language Class	5 Dowagiac Language Class—4th Week Early Start Language	6 South Bend Men's/ Boy's Drumming w/ John T. Warren	7 SB Language Class—4th Week	8	9 Jr & Sr Youth Council Meeting
10		11 Elder's Language Class Native Healing	12 Dowagiac Language Class—5th Week Early Start Language Native Healing Co-ed Sweat Lodge	13 Dowagiac Men's/ Boy's Drumming w/ John T. Warren Ladies Drumming Native Healing Community Service Project	14 SB Language Class—5th Week	15	16 WILD Foods Day Pokagon Art Extravaganza
17		18 Elder's Language Class	19 Dowagiac Language Class—6th Week Early Start Language Class	20 Hartford Men's/ Boy's Drumming w/ Jason S. Wesaw Community Service Project	21 SB Language Class—6th Week	22	23 Multi-Generational Leadership Forum
24	24 Multi-Generational Leadership Forum	25 Elder's Language Class Trad. & Rep. Meeting	26 Dowagiac Language Class—7th Week Early Start Language	27	28 CLOSED—Thanksgiving	29 CLOSED—Day After Thanksgiving	30

## Notice of Open Positions | Pokagon Promise

**POSITION DESCRIPTION.** The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest from Pokagon Band Citizens to fill 3 seats on the Pokagon's Promise Committee. There are three seats which have terms that have expired. The Pokagon's 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 second Monday of the month at the Education Conference Room at the Administration Building. Including meeting preparation, other Pokagon's 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) Three positions are 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.

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

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

**APPOINTMENT PROCESS.** Pokagon's Promise Committee members are appointed to office by the Tribal Council. There is currently three seats on the Pokagon's Promise Committee with terms of office that have expired and will be filled by Tribal Council appointment for a 3-year term of office.

Please note that if you have previously sought appointment to the Pokagon's 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 Enrollment Committee, must submit a current resume and a written statement of interest to Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
Attn: Kelly Curran  
P.O. Box 180  
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Fax: (269) 782-9625, Attn: Kelly Curran

Email: Kelly.Curran@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

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

Questions concerning the Pokagon's 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.

This position shall be open until filled

**ETHICS REQUIREMENTS.** As a Public Official, Pokagon's 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 (888) 376-9988 or by visiting the Band's website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov.

### Tribal Council November Calendar of Events

- 4 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 5 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 9 Tribal Council, Community Center,, 10 a.m.
- 11 Offices closed in observance of Veterans Day
- 12 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 14 Legislative Session, Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 18 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 19 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds Hartford, 10 a.m.
- 25 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 26 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.

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

### Tribal Council December Calendar of Events

- 2 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 3 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 9 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration 10 a.m.
- 10 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 14 Tribal Council, Community Center, 10 a.m.
- 16 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 17 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds Hartford, 10 a.m.
- 23 Tribal Council Special Session, Administration, 10 a.m.
- 24 Closed in observance of the Christmas holiday.
- 30 Gaming Authority Closed, Four Winds New Buffalo, 10 a.m.
- 31 Closed in observance of the New Year holiday.

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

## Updated Contact Information Needed for Efficient Communications

To maintain effective communications, it is critical that citizens keep their addresses—and those of their children—updated. Many addresses currently in our system are out of date or undeliverable. If you move, please let the enrollment office know as soon as possible, and have your and your dependent's address updated. If your bank account is closed, we mail a live check to you in the next Per Capita check run. If your address is undeliverable, you will not receive this check until you have updated your address.

Contact enrollment coordinator Beth Edelberg at (888)782-1001 to change your address.

## 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 Barb Vincent in the Finance Department at (269) 462-4209.

Enrollment #	Name	Christmas 2009	Christmas 2010	Christmas 2011	Christmas 2012	Monthly Per Cap
83	John Dylan Watson	x	x	x	x	
406	Michael Lynn Hewitt	x	x	x	x	x
857	Peter John Ramirez	x	x	x	x	
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes	x	x	x	x	
1986	Cristian M Cobb			x	x	
2509	Karra Barr				x	
2595	James Hamstra				x	
4227	Scott Brewer Jr		x	x	x	x

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

## Attention 18- to 20-Year-Olds | Per Capita Information

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

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

The document must be received by December 15 in order to make it on the January 2014 check run. Anything received after December 15 will be processed on the check run for February. 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.

## Per Capita Important Dates

Deadline to receive Changes/updates/additions Received by Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date Direct deposits in accounts
Tuesday, December 15, 2012	Thursday, December 29, 2012	Friday, December 30, 2012
Tuesday, January 15, 2013	Wednesday, January 30, 2013	Thursday, January 31, 2013
Friday, February 15, 2013	Wednesday, February 27, 2013	Thursday, February 28, 2013
Friday, March 15, 2013	Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Thursday, March 28, 2013
Monday, April 15, 2013	Monday, April 30, 2013	Thursday, April 30, 2013
Wednesday, May 15, 2013	Thursday, May 30, 2013	Friday, May 31, 2013
Friday, June 14, 2013	Thursday, June 27, 2013	Friday, June 28, 2013
Monday, July 15, 2013	Tuesday, July 30, 2013	Wednesday, July 31, 2013
Thursday, August 15, 2013	Thursday, August 29, 2013	Friday, August 30, 2013
Friday, September 13, 2013	Tuesday, September 26, 2013	Friday, September 27, 2013
Tuesday, October 15, 2013	Wednesday, October 30, 2013	Thursday, October 31, 2013
<b>Friday, November 1, 2013*</b>	<b>Tuesday, November 26, 2013</b>	<b>Wed, November 27, 2013</b>

\*Please note that in November the deadline to receive changes is November 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](http://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.

## Notice of Open Position | Ethics Board

**POSITION DESCRIPTION.** The Pokagon Band Tribal Council is seeking letters of interest from Pokagon Band citizens to serve as a member of the Pokagon Band Ethics Board. The Ethics Board is an instrumentality of the Pokagon Band government that was created by the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics in fulfillment of Article XVII, Section 3 of the Pokagon Band Constitution. The Ethics Board is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Code of Ethics by Pokagon Band officials and employees. 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 on Friday evenings of each month at different 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. The Code of Ethics is available at <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/codes-and-ordinances>.

**COMPENSATION.** Ethics Board members will be compensated as independent contractors in the amount of \$150 for attending Ethics Board meetings, provided that Board members receive additional compensation of \$50 for each hour that a Board meeting exceeds three hours in length within a twelve-hour period. In addition, Board members will be entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Ethics Board business.

**ELIGIBILITY.** 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 Board, you must reapply as provided in this Notice. Candidates for the Ethics Board must have:

- (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.

## Notice of Open Position | Mno-Bmadsen Board of Director

**Introduction to Mno-Bmadsen.** The Pokagon Band Tribal Council established Mno-Bmadsen, an autonomous Tribally-Chartered entity of the Pokagon Band, whose purpose is to engage in economic development activities on behalf of the Pokagon Band. This entity has set aside a significant investment to be strategically invested for the tribe. Mno-Bmadsen is managed by a seven (7) member Board of Directors and is currently seeking persons for four (4) open positions. A copy of the Mno-Bmadsen Charter is available at <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/Business/Mno-BmadsenEconomicDevelopment/>.

**Eligibility.** In addition to the qualifications set forth below, no more than two (2) Board members may be non-citizens of the Pokagon Band.

**Qualifications.** All Directors must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and
2. Have a high school diploma, high school equivalency diploma, or general education development certificate; and
3. Have either: (1) a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in private sector management, business administration, accounting, or law, or (2) (a) a minimum of five (5) years of experience in private sector management, business administration, accounting, or law, and (b) a bachelor's degree; and
4. Have the ability to exercise sound judgment in matters related to the objectives of Mno-Bmadsen; and
5. Have a knowledge or a willingness to acquire knowledge of Pokagon history and culture; and

In addition, no person shall be appointed to the Board who is:

- (a) Not a Pokagon Band member;
- (b) Under the age of twenty-one (21);
- (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.

**APPOINTMENT PROCESS.** An Ethics Board member will be appointed by the Tribal Council upon the recommendation of the Selection Committee, which is composed of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Pokagon Band Tribal Council and the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Pokagon Band Elders Council. Ethics Board members serve three year terms of office and must meet all applicable qualifications under Chapter Four of the Code of Ethics.

**HOW TO APPLY.** Pokagon Band citizens who wish to be considered for appointment to the Enrollment Committee, must submit a current resume and a written statement of interest to Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, by one of the following three methods:

Mail: Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
Attn: Kelly Curran  
P.O. Box 180  
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Fax: (269) 782-9625, Attn: Kelly Curran

Email: [Kelly.Curran@PokagonBand-nsn.gov](mailto:Kelly.Curran@PokagonBand-nsn.gov)

Questions concerning the Ethics Board, the Code of Ethics, or this Notice may be directed to the Ethics Board Chairperson, Ronald Sorce, at (269) 462-4286 or [ronald.sorce@pokagonband-nsn.gov](mailto:ronald.sorce@pokagonband-nsn.gov). Additional information concerning the Ethics Board may also be found at <http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/boards/ethics-board>

**DEADLINE:** The letter of interest and résumé must be received by 4:00 pm, November 30, 2013.

6. 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 Tribal Council to relate to the furtherance of the Band's tribal sovereignty rights; and
7. Have demonstrated personal and professional integrity, honesty and adherence to high ethical standards; and
8. Have a commitment to understand Mno-Bmadsen and all of its business activities and to participate fully in meetings of the Board of Directors.

**Appointment Process and Length of Term.** Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by nomination of the Board of Directors and appointment of Tribal Council.

**Time Commitment.** The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Board meetings will vary, but it is anticipated that a minimum of 120 hours per year will be required for preparing for and attending meetings. The Board will meet at least once per month and more often, if needed.

**Compensation.** This is not a full time position and Board members will not be eligible for any Pokagon Band employee benefits. Directors shall receive a stipend at a rate established by resolution of the Tribal Council and reimbursement for actual and reasonable expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.

**How To Apply.** To be considered for appointment to the Board, please forward your resume and a letter of interest along with a completed application in PDF format to: [teri.barber@mno-bmadsen.com](mailto:teri.barber@mno-bmadsen.com), Attention: Eugene Magnuson, Chairman. The application may be found at [www.mno-bmadsen.com](http://www.mno-bmadsen.com) under the "News" tab.

## 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

Education and Training  
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

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

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

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

Head Start  
58620 Sink Rd.  
(269) 783-0026/  
(866) 250-6573

FAX (269) 782-9795  
Health Services /  
Behavioral Health  
57392 M 51 South  
(269) 782-4141  
Toll Free (888) 440-1234  
FAX (269) 782-8797

Housing & Facilities  
27043 Potawatomi Trail  
(269) 783-0443  
FAX (269) 783-0452

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

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

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**  
Vacant

**Vice-chairman**  
**Robert Moody, Jr**  
(269) 783-9379  
Bob.Moody@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

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

**Secretary**  
**Faye Wesaw**  
(269) 782-1864  
Faye.Wesaw@  
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**Member at large**  
**Steve Winchester**  
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**Member at large**  
**Thomas Wesaw**  
(269) 783-6831  
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pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Elders Representative**  
Carl Wesaw  
(269) 240-8092

## Elders Council Directory

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

**Chair**  
Ken Rader  
(269) 462-5139

**Vice Chair**  
Maxine Margiotta  
(269) 783-6102

**Secretary**  
Audrey Huston  
(269) 591-4519

**Member at large**  
**Marie Manley-Harwood**  
(269) 214-2609  
Marie.Manley@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Member at large**  
**Trudy Loeding**  
(269) 783-6292  
Trudy.Loeding@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Member at large**  
**Tom Topash**  
(269) 470-3745  
Tom.Topash@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Member at large**  
**Roger Rader**  
(269) 783-9039  
Roger.Rader@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Executive Secretary**  
**Kelly Curran**  
(269) 591-0604  
Kelly.Curran@  
pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Treasurer**  
Clarence White  
(269) 876-1118

**Member at Large**  
Ruth Saldivar  
(269) 214-1279

## Senior Youth Council Directory

**Chairman**  
**Collin Church**  
Collin.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Treasurer**  
Alex Wesaw  
Alex.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Secretary**  
**Cassandra Church**  
Cassandra.Church@pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Member at large**  
**Jenna Huffman**  
Jenna.Huffman@pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Member at large**  
**Skyler Daisy**  
Skyler.Daisy@pokagonband-nsn.gov

**Dean Orvis**  
**Youth Cultural Coordinator**  
(269) 462-4290

# Giwse Gises November Citizen Announcements



Happy Birthday to **Ethan and Emily** on November 20. Hard to believe you're 10 years old already. Enjoy your day! Love Mom, Dad, and Bubba



Arthur and Faye Magnuson, proud grandparents of **Alison Grigonis**, would like to acknowledge her achievement in her field of tribal law. She currently handles Indian affairs, education and telecommunication issues for Senator Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota. Alison earned her JD from UCLA School of Law in 2010. She has worked as an associate at Anderson Indian Law where she represented tribal governments on issue involving recognition, litigation, gaming, and the fee-to-trust process. She was a staff attorney for the National Indian Gaming commission prior to her appointment to Senator Heitkamp's office. Alison sends an invitation to Pokagons to visit her anytime they are in Washington, D.C. Congratulations Alison from the Grigonis, Magnuson and Williams tribe!



Happy 1st Birthday to **Darrell III (Bubba)** on November 20. Hard to believe you're 1 year old already. Enjoy your day! Love, Mom, Dad, Ethan, and Emily



On October 3 you turned 5 years old! Happy birthday to my chunkiest baby, **Tade**. Love you, Mommy, Daddy, Aidan, and Charlie

My son Kevin Hall and I went to a basketball game. The Holy Spirit was present. D.K. Sprague, chairman of the Gun Lake Tribe, announced that the tribe had bought a piece of land now known as Ji Jak. He said to me, "We ought to have a camp meeting." That planted a seed in my heart.

Later my grandniece said to her parents, "Let's take Aunt Phoebe to the camp meeting in Mt. Pleasant. I have never been to a camp meeting." Then, again, the Holy Spirit was present.

Jaime, my grandniece, who is a member of the Kleen S18 band, felt the freedom to join the guitarist to play the drums and the cymbals, even though she is kind of shy. This added so much glory to the services. On the way home she said to her parents, "We ought to have a camp meeting in this area." We pushed on with her vision. We formed a board which consists of the entire Jim Brown family, Richard and Marilyn Sprague, Kevin Hall and myself with the chairman. We pushed to have a Holy Spirit-led camp meeting with joy and participation and fellowship in 2013.

We asked Chairman Sprague if we could have another camp meeting in 2014. His answer was "As long as the river flows, and as long as the grass is green and through eternity you can have a camp meeting at Ji Jak." So next year's date is August 22-24.

Phoebe Hall

The Pokagon Band  
**Annual Children's Christmas Movie**  
 Sunday, December 8

**Wonderland Cinema**  
 402 North Front Street  
 Niles, MI 49120

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.  
 Movie begins at 9:30 a.m.

**M-89 Cinema**  
 Cross Oaks Mall  
 Plainwell, MI 49080

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.  
 Movie begins at 9:30 a.m.

- We will provide the movie ticket, popcorn and pop!
- Please note this movie is rated PG.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Limit of two adults per family.

This opportunity is being made available to households of Pokagon Band youth 17 years and younger. A limited number of tickets will be available for the next showing if there is an overflow.

The movies will still be shown on December 8, regardless of weather but please use good judgment in driving in case of bad weather.

Questions? Please contact Melissa Rodriguez at (269) 462-4203

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHILD'S POKAGON BAND TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CARD.  
 Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.