



MICHIGAN'S 12 FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

# TRIBAL ID REFERENCE





# Acknowledgement



This reference guide is dedicated to John Hutchinson, Bay Mills Tribal Citizen who walked on in 2023. This guide is in honor of Elder John-baa's teaching: you can start serving your community at any age and all people deserve representation. ChiMiigwech for your teachings John-baa.

Per the US Census, there are currently over 250,000 Michiganders that identify as Indigenous. This guide is to serve as a reference for Michigan's 12 federally recognized tribal government identification cards also known as Tribal Ids.

We want to note that Michigan is home to Indigenous peoples from tribal nations that may not be one of Michigan's federally recognized tribal governments; this is due to past US Policy and forced assimilation. Please note that in your democracy work you may see Tribal Ids from other states & Canada that are not in this reference guide.

ChiMiigwech to all the Indigenous peoples on the cover of this document: Wesaw and Compo Families (Grand River Band), Bertram Family (Hannahville Indian Community), Hutchinson Family (Bay Mills Indian Community), Mandosking Family (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), Aurora Otto, Summer Houghton, Cameron & Sophia Henry and Migizi- Martinez Families (Little Traverse Bay Bands), Dalton Family (Little River Band) Rosebud Bear Schneider (Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewas), Dustin Oliver (Dine'), Wanda & Bodee Hess (Oneida of the Thames) Hinnmon family (Grand River and Little Traverse Bay Bands), Raphael Family (Grand Traverse Band), Philip & Lois Hutchinson (Bay Mills Indian Community), Josh Steele (Little Traverse Bay Bands & Oglala Lakota), Margaret Hutchinson (Bay Mills Indian Community).

ChiMiigwech to the federally recognized tribal governments who actively participated in creating this reference guide: Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Hannahville Indian Community, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe), Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians (Miigwech Theresa Barber) & Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians.

ChiMiigwech to the following tribal citizens: Philip Hutchinson (Bay Mills Indian Community), Kelsey Wabanimkee (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians), Nicole Daily (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians), Lacey Mandoka, Miengun G. Pamp & Miengun E. Pamp (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan), Joy Compo (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians), Nora DeCota (Keweenaw Bay Indian Community) and Camie Castaneda (Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians).



## ● Michigan Law ●

Voters in Michigan are required to present photo identification in order to cast a ballot. *MCL 168.523(1)*.

Michigan Election Law explicitly requires that election officials accept current tribal photo identification as a valid form of photo identification when voting. *MCL 168.2(l)(viii)*.

Such tribal photo identification contains all of the requirements of valid photo identification: (1) the name of the elector; (2) the elector's address of residence; (3) the elector's date of birth; and (4) a photo of the elector. *MCL 168.523(1)*.

If a voter does not possess photo identification—including tribal photo identification—she must still be permitted to cast a ballot. In order to do so, a voter must sign an affidavit asserting that she does not have a valid form of photo identification. *MCL 168.523(2)*.

If an election official refuses tribal photo identification as a valid form of photo identification, she not only violates Michigan Election Law, but also the Michigan Constitution's fundamental right to vote. *Const 1963, art II, § 4(1)(a)*.

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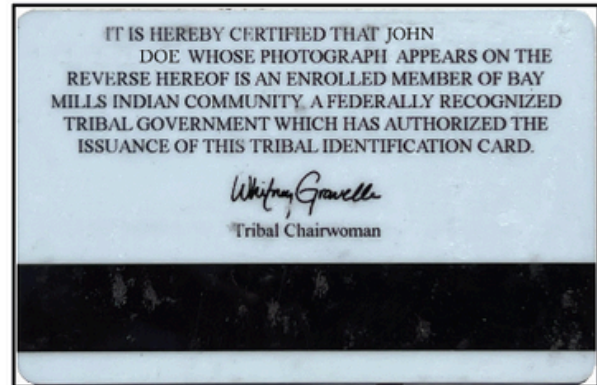


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Bay Mills Tribal Seal on top left & above citizen photo.
- Red font for title of card & ID number.
- Name of citizen is included on back of ID.

## ● About ●

Governance is vested in a General Council comprising all tribal members aged 18 and older, serving as the primary legislative body. Additionally, an Executive Council, consisting of five Tribe officers, administers powers delegated by the General Council. The Tribal Council members hold office for a two-year term, reflecting the community's commitment to regular elections or appointments. The tribe comprises a total of 2,258 citizens, with 1,657 eligible voting members aged 18 years and older, emphasizing the active participation in tribal governance under the IRA framework.

(Source: <https://www.baymills.org/tribal-organization>)

# Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

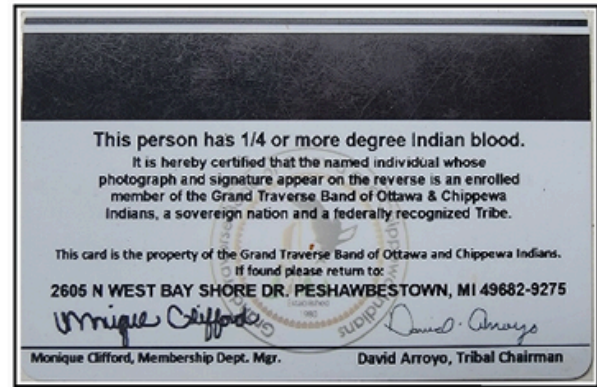


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- GTB Tribal Seal on top left & above issue date.
- Brown font for information of citizen.
- Includes Member Signature on front of ID.

## ● About ●

In 1980, federal recognition was granted to 300 members of the tribe. Following this, in 1988, the Tribal Constitution was officially ratified, establishing a framework to ensure the tribe's rights and sovereignty through treaties with the federal government, thus affirming its status as an independent and self-governing entity. Subsequent milestones include the Great Lakes Consent Decree Agreement in 2000 and the Inland Hunting Consent Decree Agreement in 2007.

(Source: [https://www.gtbindians.org/downloads/we\\_are\\_gtb\\_2022\\_final.pdf](https://www.gtbindians.org/downloads/we_are_gtb_2022_final.pdf))

# Gun Lake Pottawatomi- Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band




## Front

### Minor Membership

Test Test	
Height: 0'-00"	Sex: M
Eye Color:	Date Issued: 01/30/2024
District: At Large	Resident Tribal Member: No
Member Signature	

This hereby certifies that the person on the face of this card is an enrolled member of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians, Sovereign Indian Tribe.



Leonard Peters  
Certified by Tribal Chair

*Gun Lake Tribe*  
Under 21 Years of Age

**GUN LAKE TRIBE**  
Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians Tribal Citizen

**Test A. Test**

Expires: 01/01/2028

2872 Mission Dr.  
Shelbyville, MI 49344

Date of Birth: 01/01/2024

Under 21 Years of Age

Enrollment #: 2023-0999

**BAND OF POTTAWATOMI INDIANS**


Issued in Compliance with Tribal Enrollment Ordinance as Amended: 3-15-2001

**BRADLEY, MICHIGAN**

### Adult Membership

Test Test	
Height: 0'-05"	Sex: Female
Eye Color: Brown	Date Issued: 09/08/2023
District: At Large	Resident Tribal Member: No
Member Signature:	

This hereby certifies that the person on the face of this card is an enrolled member of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of the Pottawatomi Indians, Sovereign Indian Tribe.



Certified by Tribal Chair

**GUN LAKE TRIBE**  
Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians Tribal Citizen

**Test A Test**

123 Name St.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

Expires: 09/08/2027

Date of Birth: 09/08/2000

Enrollment #: 2023-0908

Issued in Compliance with Tribal Enrollment Ordinance as Amended: 3-15-2001

**BRADLEY, MICHIGAN**



# Gun Lake Pottawatomi- Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band



## Key Attributes:

- Two Id formats - Minor and Adult.
- Two unique Tribal seals located on IDs - One full color with an illustration (Front of ID) and the other is black and white with “Gun Lake Tribe” written across the bottom of the seal (Back of ID).
- Similar design elements on both IDs (I.e...blue bar on top of ID, and Red bar on bottom, blue and red in middle behind logo going across length of ID).
- Back of IDs are similar in design and also give details about citizen.

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## ● About ●

Each day, the employees of the Gun Lake Tribal Government and the Tribal Council work toward improving the lives of Tribal Citizens and their families. Focused on continuing to provide education and information about the history and culture of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians so that these traditions and beliefs may continue to be passed down to future generations.

As a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi is a sovereign nation with powers of self-government. The Gun Lake Tribal Council is the elected governing body that is comprised of seven Gun Lake Tribal Members. Each Tribal Council Member is elected by voting Membership to serve a four-year term. These terms are staggered based on the voting district represented. After which, they must run for and gain re-election to remain a member of the Tribal Council. (Source: <https://gunlaketribe-nsn.gov/about>)

# Hannahville Potawatomi Tribe



## Front

### Descendant



### Adult Membership



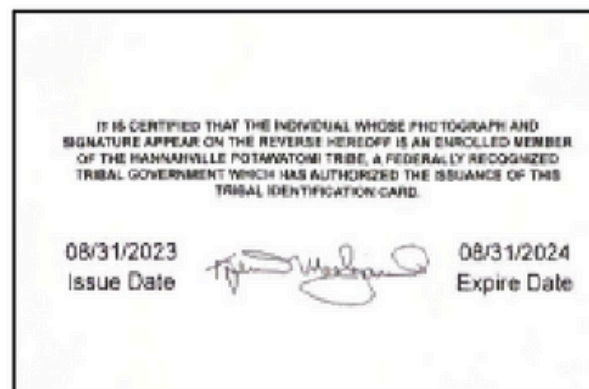
### Minor Membership



### Elder Membership



## Back Same on all





## Key Attributes:

- Multiple ID formats reflect the nature of citizenship, with color and format variations based on status, including Descendant, Minor, Adult, and Elder.
- Certification is provided on the back of each ID, along with Issue and Expiry Dates.
- IDs share a uniform layout, with the Tribal seal positioned in the middle behind citizen information, as well as in the top right corner. However, for Minor IDs, the Tribal seal is situated on the top left corner.

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## ● About ●

The Hannahville Indian Reservation, established in 1884 under the guidance of Methodist Missionary Peter Marksman, is a Potawatomi Reservation. Since the introduction of gaming in the 1980s, the tribe has experienced significant growth, transitioning from a struggling community reliant on minimal federally funded resources to a thriving and influential entity within the Central Upper Peninsula region. As of March 10, 2023, the enrolled Tribal Membership stands at 1008 individuals, reflecting the community's resilience and progress.

(Source: <https://hannahville.net/history/>)

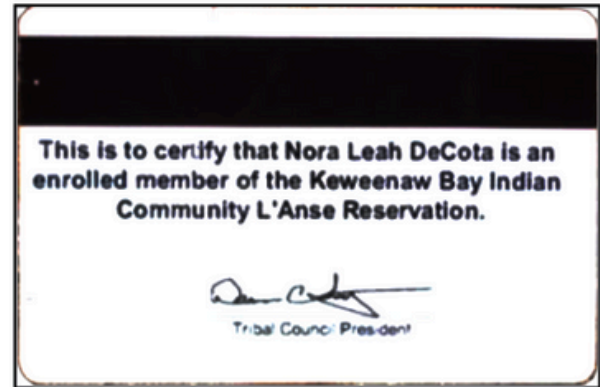


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Tribal Seal on top left of ID.
- Picture located on top right of ID.
- Blue border around "Keweenaw Bay Indian Community" on top of ID.

## ● About ●

The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community of the Lake Superior Band of Chippewa Indians is located approximately 65 miles north of Marquette, Michigan in the L'Anse/Baraga Michigan area. Their service area includes within the boundaries of the reservation in Baraga County, as well as members Ontonagon, Gogebic, Marquette, Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. It was established under the treaty of 1854.

(Source: <https://www.itcmi.org/home/tribes/keweenaw-bay-indian-community/>)

# Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa



## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Lac Vieux Tribal Seal on both back and front of ID behind wording and information.
- Photo of citizen displayed twice on front of ID.
- Address located on the right next to photo of citizen.

## ● About ●

Chiefs of the Lac Vieux Desert Band signed the Treaty of St. Peters of 1837, Treaty of La Pointe of 1842, and Treaty of La Pointe of 1854, by which they ceded tribal communal land in Michigan to the United States. The second La Pointe Treaty of 1854, added to include a band newly included in US territory because of international boundary changes, also established the Lac Vieux Desert Reservation. It is known as Gete-gitigaaning in the Anishinaabe language.

(Source: <https://lvd-nsn.gov/Content/LVD-Tribal-History.cfm>)

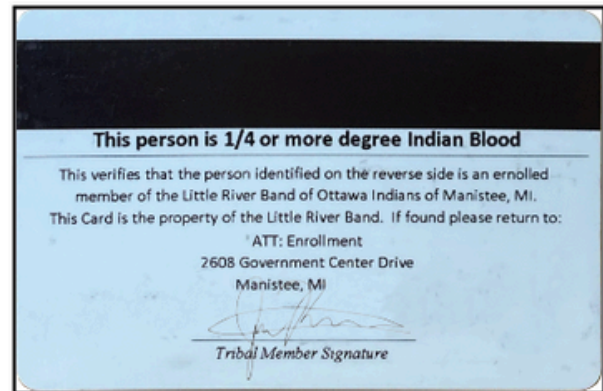


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Seal located on top right above citizen information.
- Picture on right side of ID with enrollment number above it.

## ● About ●

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, a Native Sovereign Nation is based in Manistee, LRBOI is the political successor to nine of the nineteen historic bands of the Grand River Ottawa people. The permanent villages of the Grand River Bands from which the Little River Ottawa descend were originally located on the Thornapple River, Grand River, White River, Pere Marquette River and the Big and Little Manistee Rivers. Those southern bands shared hunting and trapping territory along the Pere Marquette and Manistee River systems and had close kinship ties to the northern Grand River Bands at Pere Marquette.

(Source: <https://lrboi-nsn.gov/a-brief-history/>)

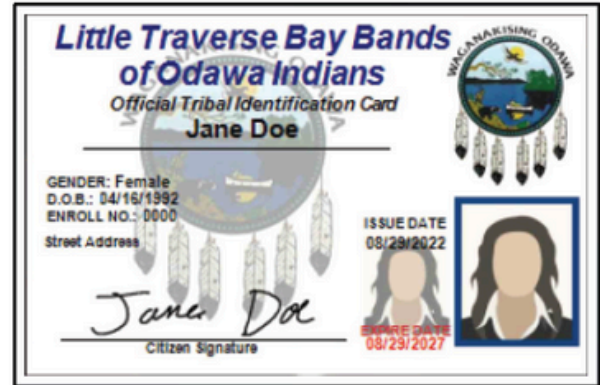
# Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians



## Adult Membership

Front

Back



## Key Attributes:

- LTBB Tribal Seal on top right and behind citizen information.
- Blue Font color for Tribes name.
- Address located on the left under name.

## ● About ●

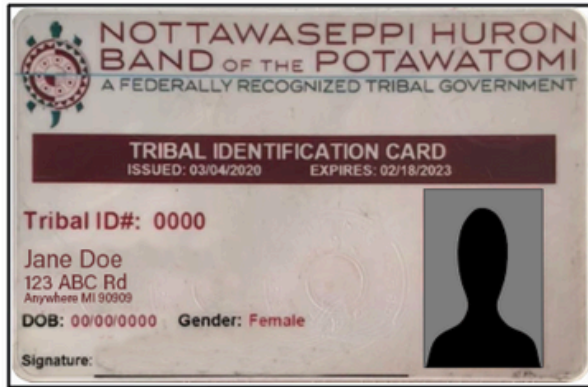
On Sept. 21, 1994, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) was federally reaffirmed with the signing of Public Law 103-324. The Tribe is governed by a nine member Tribal Council who serve staggered terms. The Tribe has over 4,000 members with a large number living within Charlevoix and Emmet Counties.

(Source: <https://ltbbodawa-nsn.gov/>)

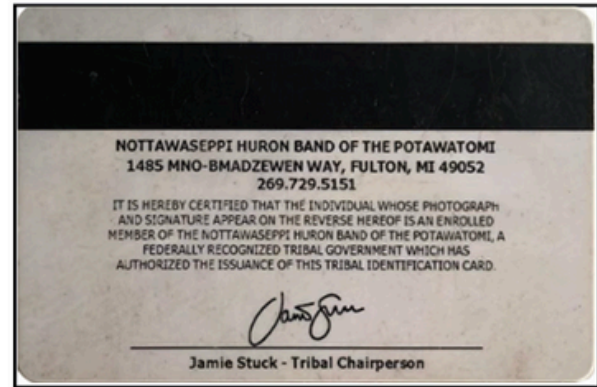


## Adult Membership

**Front**



**Back**



## Key Attributes:

- NHBP tribal seal located on top right of ID.
- Red Font for tribe full name on top, along with the subtitle “A Federally Recognized Tribal Gov...”
- Tribal ID # in bold red under the title “Tribal Identification Card.”

## ● About ●

NHBP, a federally recognized Tribal government with more than 1,500 enrolled Tribal Members, gained federal recognition December 19, 1995.

The Tribe’s main offices are located at the Pine Creek Indian Reservation near Athens, Michigan, and in Grand Rapids, Michigan. NHBP provides benefits, programs and services to Tribal Members through various Tribal government departments, as well as a Tribal Police Department, Tribal Court and Gaming Commission.

(Source: <https://nhbp-nsn.gov/about/>)

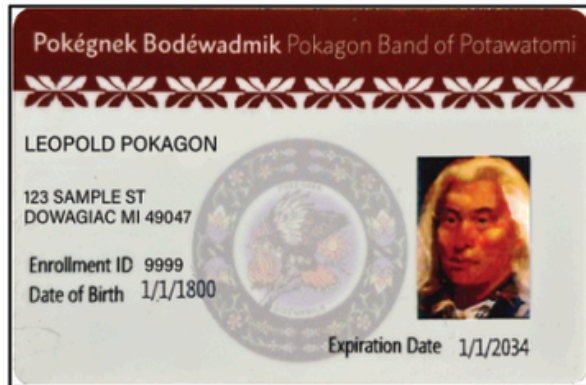


# Pokégnek Bodéwadmik- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

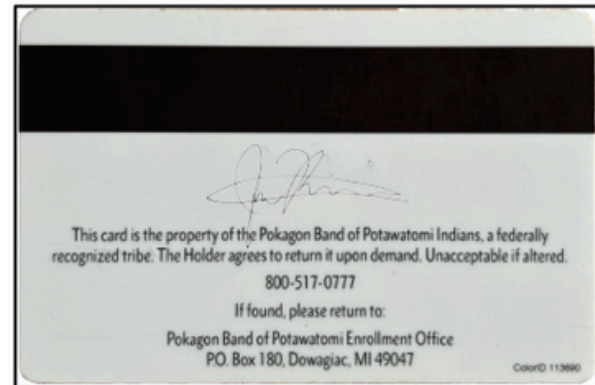


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Potawatomi tribal seal located in the middle of ID.
- Red header which includes tribal name.
- Tribal pattern located under red header.

## ● About ●

It wasn't until September 21, 1994 that the federally-recognized status of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi was reaffirmed by an act of Congress. After decades of effort by hundreds of Pokagon Band citizens and other volunteers, the Pokagon Band's sovereignty was restored on that day in a signing ceremony at the White House with President Bill Clinton. This day is now celebrated as Sovereignty Day by citizens of the Pokagon Band. This Act did not mean that the Pokagon Band suddenly became an Indian tribe, rather that the federal government reaffirmed what the Pokagon Band had always known — they were a tribe. (Source: <https://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/our-culture/>)

# Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

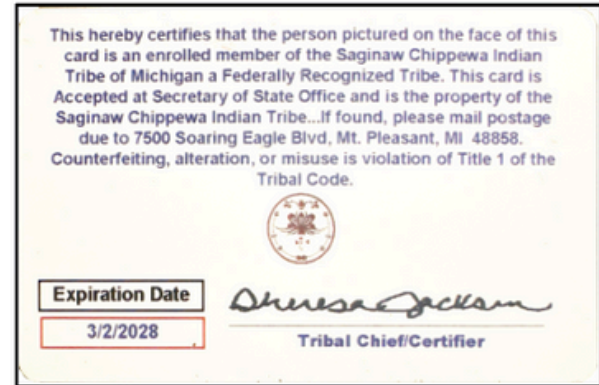


## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- No Tribal Seal located on front of ID, but is on the back along with expiration Date.
- Red theme encompasses front of ID.
- ID information labels are positioned on the right side of the ID.
- Member # starts with an M.

## ● About ●

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is self-governed by a twelve-member Tribal Council. The Council includes 10 representatives from District 1 (the Isabella Reservation) and one representative each from District 2 (Saganing) and District 3 (members at-large). Tribal Council members are elected by registered voters in their respective districts. The Council then selects its executive officers, the Chief, Sub-Chief, Secretary and Treasurer.

(Source: <https://www.sagchip.org/government/>)

# Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians



## Adult Membership

### Front



### Back



## Key Attributes:

- Sault Ste Marie Tribal Seal in background.
- Picture on right side of ID.
- “Property of..Chippewa Indians” statement on back.
- Chair & Tribal Registrar signatures on the back.

## ● About ●

Sault Tribe is a 44,000-strong federally recognized Indian tribe that is an economic, social and cultural force in its community across the eastern Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac, Schoolcraft, Alger, Delta and Marquette. The tribe is comprised of housing and tribal centers, casinos, and other enterprises that employ both Natives and non-Natives and fund tribal programs. Sault Tribe works hard to be self-sufficient, good stewards of the land and waters, and helpful to the surrounding community.

(Source: <https://www.saulttribe.com/about-us>)







We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the funders who have supported this initiative, making it possible for us to continue advocating for equal access to voting for all members of our community. Your generosity helps us preserve the rights of our people.

We also honor our ancestors and elders who, in the past, were denied the right to vote. Their resilience and courage laid the foundation for the freedoms we now strive to protect and build upon. This guide is dedicated to their memory, with a commitment to ensuring that every voice in our community is heard and respected.



**Zintkala Zi Designs**

Jeremy Steele

Waganakising Odawa and Oglala Lakota