

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA Member News



Tribal Council members testify in support of LB872

On Monday, January 26, 2022, Councilwomen Baker and Sullivan testified in front of the Nebraska Senate Education Committee in support of LB872, which would allow Native American students to wear regalia in private and public schools. There were approximately 15 people that provided powerful testimonials in support of the bill, from stories of the past, relating fear to reveal their Native identity, to the pride of wearing an Eagle feather

at graduation ceremonies, to friends of Native Americans supporting this initiative, to others wanting our children to feel good about who they are and where they come from. Senator Brewer was not able to present the bill due to his health, but his legislative aid was able to present on his behalf. Senator Pansing-Brooks, a member of the Education Committee, was very involved with the entire discussion, expressing her support of the bill.



Calling all Ponca Veterans!



The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) is working to create a comprehensive list of all Ponca veterans for present and future recognition of service. As such, the THPO is respectfully requesting members that are veterans, or those who have family that have served, help provide information, including:

- Branch of service
- Wars served
- Dates served
- Photographs
- Details or a story from that service

This information will be featured on an veterans honor wall in the Ponca Tribe Museum, and will be used to honor veterans at events, memorials, etc.



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

To submit veteran information, please contact Stacy Laravie, THPO via email (ssettje@poncatrIBE-ne.org) or via mail:

Stacy Laravie, THPO
 Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
 88915 521 Avenue
 Niobrara, NE 68760



District 2 hosts Girls Scout Cookie event

On Saturday, February 19, from 9-11:30 am at the Ralston Administrative Office, each Ponca Tribe of NE (PTN) D2 member residing in the Service Deliver Area was invited to come and pick up two boxes of Girl Scout Cookies! The cookies were provided by Tribal Council members Becci Sullivan and Crystal Howell with district funds. They reached out to the public to recruit



Ponca Tribe of NE members residing in the district to purchase the cookies from and were

in contact with the family of member and Girl Scout, Rylee Somchana. Rheadina Foster, Rylee's mom, secured 700 boxes of cookies for the PTN D2 event! These two, along with youth council member, Cami Schott, and Tribal Council member, Becci Sullivan, assist with the Saturday event. Hope everyone enjoyed their cookies!

Council members attend state tourism luncheon

On Monday, January 10, 2022, Vice Chairwoman Rebecca Sullivan and Councilwoman Suzie Baker, attended a luncheon with Senator Gragert, followed by Governor Pete Ricketts' Press Conference. This was in support of the STAR WARS (Statewide Tourism and Recreational Water Access and Resource Sustainability) project for the Niobrara area. This project would include a 300 person event center and a 40 room lodge that would be managed by the Ponca



Tribe of NE. Along with the tourism aspects, the STAR WARS projects will result in job growth, economic development, increased tax dollars, and enhanced lifestyles.

Governor Ricketts then delivered his State of the State speech on Thursday, January 14, 2022 and announced his support of the STAR WARS project by asking legislation for the financing to support the majority of the project. The Ponca Tribe of NE will be a partner throughout the project as well as the local and city governments.

Keep it handy! Keep it safe!

Keeping your enrollment number safe and secure is important! Your enrollment number is the fastest and easiest way to verify your enrollment in the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, and your eligibility for programs open to members of the Ponca Tribe.

Moving forward all changes to forms and other personal information, online, in person, and over the phone, will require your enrollment number. No changes will be made without a verified enrollment number. Likewise, all Ponca-specific programs will require a verified enrollment number at the time of application to be accepted.

So remember to keep your enrollment number handy, and keep it secure! If you need a new enrollment card or tribal ID, please reach out to the Enrollment Department, enrollment@poncatribene.org.



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA



PONCA ELECTION 2022

Ponca members, please make sure you are registered to vote as we approach an election year for the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.

Voter registration forms can be downloaded and printed out on the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska website, www.poncatribene.org.

Completed forms must be mailed to:

Ponca Election Board
P.O. Box 9
Niobrara, NE 68760

Ballots will be verified by your signature on the return envelope.

Reasons to update registration:

- If your name has changed
- If your signature has changed
- If your address has changed

Electronic signatures WILL NOT be accepted. The name on your registration form and your return envelope **must** match. (For example, If your name is Joseph Smith both items must say Joseph Smith, no abbreviations.)

If you have questions, please email the Ponca Election Board at ebboard@poncatribene.org

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

PRC encourages benefit sign-up for members

In an effort to ensure that you, as a Ponca Tribe Member, receive the best patient benefits possible, we invite you to work with one of our patient benefit coordinators. They can make sure you are signed up with the most optimal patient benefit program – Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid or a supplemental opportunity. There might be other opportunities to best support and expedite your healthcare needs before Purchased Referred Care (PRC).

The PRC program is integral to providing comprehensive health care services to eligible members. Ponca Health Services (PHS) is mandated by federal law to ensure that the PRC funds it receives from Indian Health Service are only used as the Source of Last Resort. Therefore, having up to date information on file with patient registration is incredibly important. Members are requested to update on an annual basis or sooner, when information changes. At the time of registration, you may be asked to supply the following information (not all inclusive):

- Complete Registration Process – Patient demographics, consent forms etc.
- Photo Identification
- Social Security Number
- Tribal Enrollment Card
- Insurance Card/s
- Birth Certificate, if applicable
- Marriage License, if applicable
- Proof of Residency, if applicable

PRC uses this information to determine eligibility for the PRC

program and screen members for alternative resources. Upon reasonable inquiry, if it is determined that the member is potentially eligible for an alternative resource, the member is required to make a good faith application and apply for such resource. PRC will mail the member an alternate resource letter that provides instructions on the application process. It's important to know that if an alternate resource application is **not** completed, or if you do not contact a Patient Benefits Coordinator or PRC for assistance in applying within 30 days of the date of the letter, a PRC denial letter will be issued.

In order to bridge the gap between the times of applying for alternative funding and receiving an eligibility determination, PRC will continue to authorize and pay for referred care that has been approved. Once you receive a determination letter, please submit to Patient Benefits or the PRC office as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact us. We are your helping hand in healthcare!

Patient Benefits Coordinator Contact Information:

Sylvia Allen-Lopez – Omaha
(P) 402.738.3151
sallen-lopez@poncatribene.org

Michelle Hallowell – Omaha
(P) 402.738.3177
mhallowell@poncatribene.org

Jan Henderson – Lincoln
(P) 531.248.3030 *1144
jhenderson@poncatribene.org

LaTausha LaPointe - Norfolk

(P) 402.371.8780 *200
llapointe@poncatribene.org

Purchased/Referred Care Contact Information:

1800 Syracuse Ave.
Norfolk, NE 68701
(P) 402.371.8834
(P) 800.405.0365
(F) 402.371.0176
prc@poncatribene.org

Colleen Tiemens, PRC Clerk *121
ctiemens@poncatribene.org

Regina Pedersen, PRC Clerk *103
rpedersen@poncatribene.org

Robin Wright, PRC Clerk *141
robinwright@poncatribene.org

Crystal Schmitz, PRC A/P Clerk
*136 cschmitz@poncatribene.org

Tina Villalpando, PRC Director
*104 tinav@poncatribene.org



Elder's Committee Meeting

March 7 | 9 am
Ponca Tribe Offices
Lincoln

April 4 | 9 am
Ponca Transit Building
Norfolk



PEDCO seeking information on workplace and educational needs

Ponca Economic Development Corporation (PEDCO) is interested in gathering updated information about tribal members' educational and workplace skills needs. PEDCO last conducted a Tribal Workforce Development Questionnaire in 2015. The workplace has changed drastically since that time. The primary goal of the questionnaire is to help PEDCO iden-

tify and assist with Tribal member needs related to employment and training. Another goal is to identify the impacts of COVID on career and employment.

We encourage all tribal members ages 16 and older to complete and return the questionnaire. The questionnaire can be accessed via the internet both on the PEDCO web-

site or on Google Docs. If you would prefer to have the questionnaire either emailed or mailed to you, please contact Larry Loucks at 402-499-1202 or lloucks@pedco-ne.org.

Please return completed questionnaires no later than June 17, 2022.

You can access the questionnaire on Google Docs at <https://forms.gle/naq2wSw55E8CMryo9>

To access the questionnaire on the PEDCO website go to <https://pedco-ne.org/>. Hover your cursor over Our Programs, hover over Virtual Tribal Business Development Center, and then click on Workforce Development.

Thank you for helping us gather this important information!!



Artists Wanted!

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members are invited to submit art for the Annual Northern Ponca Powwow poster and t-shirt, to be used for this year's Powwow! **Designs must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm, March 31st, 2022.**

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members only. All artwork must be high resolution, scalable to poster and/or t-shirt size. For more information, or to submit designs, please email rwrightjr@poncatrIBE-ne.org

**PONCA TRIBE
OF NEBRASKA**



Attention all HIED/AVT/GRAD Students: For those of you who have not yet sent our office an official transcript for fall term, we cannot fund for winter/spring term until one is received. If planning to attend summer term, the application deadline is May 15, 2022.

Attention All AVT/HIED Students Nationwide:

Please remember to submit your official transcripts after **EACH** term funded in order to be eligible to receive future funding. Students must apply each school year.

Summer 2022 deadline: May 15, 2022
Fall 2022 deadline: August 15, 2022

The Ponca Educational Trust Fund is available nationwide to students who enroll at one of the University of Nebraska Campuses/Online Courses: Lincoln ~ Omaha ~ Kearney (Must be enrolled in 12 or more credit hours per semester to be eligible)

Attention All K-12 YIP Students Nationwide:

- High School Seniors for the 2021-2022 school year are eligible to receive a \$500.00 Graduation Incentive!
- Our department is accepting projects for incentives in the following areas: Art, Essay/Poetry, and Student of the Month. *Winners may receive \$100.00 for 1st place, \$50.00 for 2nd place, and \$25.00 for 3rd place. Grade divisions are as follows: Primary (K-2), Intermediate (3-5), Middle (6-8), and High School (9-12)
- Perfect Attendance \$100.00 (0-.49 days of absenteeism), \$50.00 (.5-3.49 days absenteeism), and \$25.00 (3.5-5.49 days of absenteeism).

Deadline to apply for the 2021-2022 school year is July 31, 2022.

All Education Department Applications and Program Information is available online on our tribal website. If you have any questions for the education department, please feel free to contact Aubrey Knudsen @ office (402)371-8834, work cell (402)844-0957, or aknudsen@poncatribene.org.

Ponca tribal enrollment is required for ALL education programs

Head Cook & Cleaning Staff Needed

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is seeking letters of interest from Ponca members for Head Cook and cleaning staff for the 2022 Annual Northern Ponca Powwow in August.

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska members only. For more information, or to submit your letter of intent, please email rwrightjr@poncatribene.org

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA



Change of Address Form

Mail to: PTN Enrollment Dept PO Box 288 Niobrara, NE 68760 Fax: 402-857-3771

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD MUST BE AN ENROLLED PONCA TRIBE MEMBER

OTHER ENROLLED PONCA TRIBE MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD:

PREVIOUS ADDRESS: (Street/P.O. Box, Apt #, City, State, Zip, County)

NEW ADDRESS: (Street/P.O. Box, Apt #, City, State, Zip, County)

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ALTERNATE/CELL NUMBER: _____

E-mail: _____

DATE NEW ADDRESS IN EFFECT: _____

To provide better services to Ponca tribal members, this information will be shared with all PTON Departments as needed. Any service may be suspended until this information is corrected and/or updated.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

(Please sign your name in the area below with a BLACK felt tip marker)

I _____ I

TRIBAL MEMBERS
(please print)

NAME: _____ DOB: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DO YOU WANT YOUR SS NUMBER ON YOUR ID CARD? YES _____ OR NO _____
If yes, please check one of the following: Full SS number _____ or Last 4 digits only _____

By marking **Yes** you understand it is your responsibility to keep your SSN confidential and acknowledge that the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is not responsible if the card is lost or stolen.

**FOR A PHOTO ID PLEASE SIGN AND FILL OUT THIS PAGE,
DON'T FORGET TO SEND (EMAIL) YOUR PICTURE AS WELL**

Photo ID Instructions

1. Signature

Please completely fill in the information on the bottom of the signature page. With a **black** felt tip marker please sign your name in the middle of the top of the signature page. **(Please note that children do not require a signature for theirs.)**

2. Clear readable copies of the following must be submitted:

a: State Driver's License, State ID Card or other valid Picture ID card
(It **must** have your picture and signature on it)

b: If you are **not** an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe but your child is, you must still submit a copy of your State Driver's License, State ID Card or other valid Picture ID and a copy of your child(s) Social Security Card and Tribal Enrollment Card for proof of enrollment.

3. Photo Options:

You can email a current photo (without filters) to - enrollment@poncatribene.org

OR

You may scan and email or mail documentation to:

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Enrollment Department
PO Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760-0288

CERTIFICATE CARDS
Certificate cards, or non photo ID's, are available upon request. **This form is not required for certificate cards.** Please contact the enrollment department if you would like an enrollment card without a picture.

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
TRIBAL COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 22- 08

WHEREAS: The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is a federally recognized Indian Tribe (P.L. 101-484) whose business affairs are conducted by the Ponca Tribal Council as defined in the Constitution approved July 22, 1994 by the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to the Constitution of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, the Ponca Tribal Council exercises legislative powers to enact and promulgate resolutions and ordinances subject to all express restrictions upon such powers contained in the constitution; and

WHEREAS: The Ponca Tribal Council has reviewed the proposed amendments to the Law & Order Code, Title XII – Taxation; and

WHEREAS: The proposed Title XII revisions to the Law & Order Code was placed on the January 18, 2022 Tribal Council Agenda to allow comments from the public and on January 25, 2022 and February 1, 2022 for first and second readings respectively. A notice of intent to amend the Law & Order Code Title XII Taxation was provided to all heads of household via the Tribal Newsletter, website and posted in Tribal Offices at least 14 days prior to any final action satisfying the requirements for the adoption, amendment, or abolishment of Ordinances.

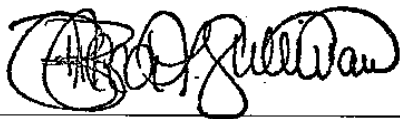
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ponca Tribal Council does approve the amendments to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Law & Order Code, Title XII– Taxation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these amendments shall take effect immediately.

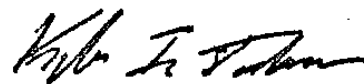
CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY AND AFFIRM that the above and foregoing resolution was duly authorized and passed by the Tribal Council of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska at a duly called meeting held via Lifesize on the 1st day of February, 2022 by a vote of 7 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstained; 0 Absent. Chairperson _____ voting X not voting. A Quorum of 8 was present.

ATTEST



Rebecca Sullivan, Vice Chairwoman
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska



Kyle Taylor, Secretary
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Dear Ponca Relatives: My name is Cliff Taylor. I am the son of Cliff Taylor Jr. and the grandson of Cliff Taylor Sr. and Barb Taylor (Picotte). I'm a writer, a jack of many trades, a Sundancer, and a poet. I love spending my time working on things that I imagine will be of some help or use or inspiration to our people, especially on things that'll continue to help long after us current folks are gone. And in that spirit, I have a new project I would like to invite you all to be a part of. I want to put together a book of stories about our Ponca people, stories of all kinds from all of us, to create a portrait of who we are that we can share with each other far and wide, and also pass on to our young ones.

Send me a story or two or three. Tell your family about this project and see if they'd like to participate. My email is cliffponca@gmail.com and my mailing address is Cliff Taylor/ 3710 Grand Ave/ Astoria, OR 97103. I look forward to reading your stories and finding a place for them in Stories of Our Northern Ponca People.

Weblaho, Cliff Taylor

MEMBERS NEEDED!

PONCA TAX COMMISSION

There will be 1 position on the Ponca Tax Commission term expiring April 24, 2022. The purpose of the Tax Commission is to strengthen the Tribe's government by licensing and regulating certain conduct within the territory of the Tribe through taxation; to provide for the levy and collection of certain revenue and taxes for the benefit of the Tribe; to provide funding for governmental operations of the Tribe and programs promoting the health, education, and general welfare of the Tribe and its members; and to provide straightforward, fair, and efficient procedures for assessment and collection of taxes imposed and collected by the Tribe. A \$250 stipend per meeting is paid as well as mileage reimbursement up to 410 miles roundtrip. A background check is required. Deadline for Application is April 1, 2022.

NORTHERN PONCA HOUSING AUTHORITY

There will be 2 positions on the on the Northern Ponca Housing Authority expiring May 31, 2022. One term is for Position 4, which is District 3 and the other is for Position 5, which is the At-Large position. The purpose of the Northern Ponca Housing Authority is to remedy unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions that are injurious to the public health, welfare, safety, and morals; to remedy the outstanding shortage of decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the territory of the Tribe among persons of low income and the issues associated with such shortage; to better Tribal economic security and health and welfare, especially housing, while ensuring lawfulness, fairness, transparency, and accountability; to encourage private homeownership and make Tribal lands available to members of the Tribe for residential purposes; to establish a housing authority of the Tribe and set forth the purposes, powers and duties of such housing authority; to coordinate and administer expending and providing housing funds to other Tribal, local, nonprofit and for-profit housing organizations for the benefit of the Tribe and residents of the territory of the Tribe in accordance with Indian housing plans prepared pursuant to federal law; to provide employment opportunities through the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, extension, alteration, repair, and operation of housing in the territory of the Tribe; and to set forth the law governing the occupation of and eviction from dwelling units owned or managed by the Northern Ponca Housing Authority. A \$250 stipend per meeting is paid as well as mileage reimbursement up to 410 miles roundtrip. A background check is required. Deadline for application is May 1, 2022.

Applicants must submit a letter of interest and current resume to the Tribal Council, Attn: Beth Barger, P.O. Box 288, Niobrara, NE 68760 or by email to bbarger@poncatribene.org.



Congratulations to former Tribal Council member, Candace Schmidt, for being selected as one of NCAIED's 40 Under 40 Award recipients.

The 40 Under 40 is a prestigious award which recognizes 40 emerging Native American citizens who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, initiative, and significant community and/or business contributions.

I Am From...

I am from excitement and laughter, using my extended imagination to defeat the world's reality disaster.

I am from a cozy kingdom of chaos, growing up with my brothers and sisters running free like the wild horses we'd chase in the hills of our reservation.

I am from the ink that will stain my skin forever. From creativity... my dad and I making our drawings come to life.

I am from warriors, my ancestor's stories passed down from generation to generation that the white man will never understand.

I am from the smoke of sage that cleanses my home, my family, and me.

I am from pride.

-Stevie Horse, Ponca Member



CONGRATULATIONS! Callie Arndt was awarded Student of the Quarter for 3rd quarter in her computers class and Leah Wright was awarded Student of the Month for January!

Daughters of Levi and Abbey Wright, Granddaughters of Charles Wright



Shaylee Wolff, PTN Health Intern, was named to the Southeast Community College Dean's list for the 2021 Fall Semester.

We are so proud of her for this honor & would like to express our congratulations to her for this outstanding academic achievement. Way to go Shaylee!



Dean's List
Fall Semester 2021

Shaylee Wolff

Associate of Health Sciences

For outstanding academic achievement.


Paul Illich, President



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760

www.poncatribene.org

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA Office Locations

NIORRARA 68760

Headquarters

2523 Woodbine St., P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3391
Fax: (402) 857-3736

Enrollment

2523 Woodbine St., P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3391
Fax: (402) 857-3771

Cultural

P.O. Box 288
Ph: (402) 857-3519
Fax: (402) 857-3652

LINCOLN 68508

Administration

1701 E Street
Ph: (402) 438-9222
Fax: (402) 438-9226

Ponca Health Services-Lincoln

1600 Windhoek Dr, 68512
Ph: (531) 248-3030

Osni Ponca

2756 O Street
Ph: (402) 434-2127
Fax: (402) 434-2128

NORFOLK 68701

Administration Building

1800 Syracuse Ave.
Ph: (402) 371-8834
Fax: (402) 371-7564

Gym Building

1800 Syracuse Ave.
Ph: (402) 371-8834
Fax: (402) 379-0988

Ponca Hills Clinic

Ph: (402) 371-8780
(402) 371-5726
Fax: (402) 379-4291 - Pharmacy
(402) 379-4293 - Registration
(402) 371-4094 - Medical Lab

Ponca Express

Ph: 877-769-3111

Northern Ponca Housing Authority

1501 Michigan Ave.
Ph: (402) 379-8224
(800) 367-2320
Fax: (402) 379-8557

Purchased/Referred Care

Ph: (800) 405-0365
Fax: (402) 371-0176

OMAHA 68107

Fred LeRoy Health & Wellness Clinic

2602 "J" Street
Ph: (402) 733-3612
Fax: (402) 733-3487

Administration

5805 South 86th Circle, 68127
Ph: (402) 315-2760

Dental

2602 "J" Street
Ph: (402) 733-1325
Fax: (402) 733-3487

Northern Ponca Housing Authority

10635 Birch., 68134
Ph: (402) 505-3055
Fax: (402) 505-3066

SIOUX CITY 51103

Administration

119 6th Street
Ph: (712) 258-0500
Fax: (712) 258-0762

OTHER RESOURCES

Child Abuse Hotline

800-652-1999 (Nebraska)
800-362-2178 (Iowa)
877-244-0864 (South Dakota)

National Child Abuse Hotline

800-422-4453

National Suicide Hotline

800-273-8255

Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-7233

National Human Trafficking Hotline

888-373-7888

National Problem Gambling Helpline

800-522-4700

Elder Abuse Hotline

800-252-8966

Boys Town Crisis Line

800-448-3000

Drug Treatment & Referral Hotline

877-726-4727

Nebraska Family Helpline

888-866-8660

Veterans Crisis Line

800-273-8255

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Newsletter is published monthly and printed by Printco Graphics, Omaha, Nebraska. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of each month. In the event the 1st falls on a weekend, submissions are due the Friday before. All submissions of a political nature are subject to Tribal Council approval. Send to Jessica Hitchcock, jhitchcock@poncatribene.org. See or print the newsletter archives in full color on the member's side (you must log in) of the web site at: www.poncatribene.org