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Powwow Guide

29th Annual Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information Northern Ponca regarding the Powwow: facebook.com/PTNPowwow August 11, 12 & 13, 2023

Grand Entries: Fri - 7 pm | Sat - 1 pm & 7 pm | Sun - 1 pm

Meals provided 1 hour before each Grand Entry

Diabetes Fun Run August 11 | 5 pm

Join us for a fun walk/run before Friday Grand Entry

Cornhole Tournament August 12 | 10 am

1st Prize: \$350 2nd Prize: \$210 3rd Prize: \$140

Horseshoe Tournament August 13 | 10 am

1st Prize: \$350 2nd Prize: \$210 3rd Prize: \$140

Team Dance Contest

3-5 dancers, all dancers must be in regalia 1st Prize: \$400 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd Prize: \$150

Archery Range

Come experience language and culture through the medium of traditional archery. No experience required.

Security and First Aid Provided. Restrooms, Running Water, and Limited Camping on Site.

Elders receive priority parking, additional parking provided near grounds, with shuttle.

PTN POWWOW GROUNDS **DIRECTIONS:**

One mile West of Niobrara on Highway 12. Turn left at the Ponca Sign, located across from the Niobrara State Park. Follow the pavement to the Powwow Grounds.

All Dancers, Vendors and Spectators Welcome.



T-Shirt and poster artwork created by Ponca member Troy Laravie-Spence



Head Man

Jared Ertzner-Kitto

Head Woman

Gwendolyn Wright Santiago

Head Boy

Nestor Lemus III

Head Girl

Zaida Teboe

Arena Director

Dennis Lewchuk

Shannon LeRoy

Head Drum

Drowning Creek

Invited Drums

Omaha Whitetail Standing Eagle **New Breed** Young Generation Mazakute Hilltop

Senior Princess

V'Unna Givens

Junior Princess Lyla Boggs

Little Miss

Mila Taylor

PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

For the most up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook. com/PTNPowwow, call: 402-857-3519 or email: rwrightjr@poncatribe-ne.org

With the support of the Nebraska Arts Council.





























Welcome to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Powwow!

Greetings relatives & friends,

As the Chairwoman of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska it is my great honor to WELCOME you all to our homelands here in Niobrara. Whether this is your first time visiting or if you have been here many times before, one thing for certain is the sacredness of this place. The history, scenery, and beat of the drum make it feel like home

On behalf of the Ponca Tribal Council, we thank each and every one of you for coming to our 29th Annual Powwow this weekend. This is the largest gathering for the Ponca Nation here in Nebraska and we hope you are able to enjoy yourselves. From the young ones entering the arena to the experienced ones giving it their all in the circle, this is a special time to be together honoring the sacrifices of our ancestors and celebrating our story of resilience. Be sure to stop by the program booths to learn more about the services and resources they offer while you are here. There also are many activities occurring in conjunction with the Powwow that I hope you are able to participate in. More information on those can be found in this booklet, on printed flyers, or on our social media pages.



Thank you to all the vendors that took the time to be here and add to the experience. Special thanks to the Powwow Committee for their hard work planning this event and to all our staff/volunteers for the assistance that they have provided. Please stay safe and hydrated during your time here. Take care and I hope to see you next year!

Wi`Btha`Ha (Thank you),

Candace Schmidt

Chairwoman Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Message from the Safety Committee:

As many of you may be aware, there will be warmer than average temperatures this year in northeast Nebraska. Keep the information presented below in mind, to ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable Powwow experience.

For up to date safety information during Powwow, please see the information stations near the on-site EMS trailer.

CAMPFIRE REGULATIONS AND SAFETY

- · Fires are permitted in the provided fire rings ONLY
- · Keep fires small, and contained within the ring
- Leave clear a 10-foot area around the ring down to the dirt.
- Stack extra wood upwind and **AWAY** from fire.
- After lighting, throw the match into the fire.
- NEVER leave a campfire unattended; an adult should supervise the campfire at all times. (Campfires should be extinguished before leaving campsite)
- Keep a bucket of water and shovel nearby.
- · Never put anything but wood into the fire.
- Do **NOT** pull sticks out of the fire.
- Do NOT sit on the fire ring. It will heat up quickly and stay hot for a long time.
- When it's time to put the fire out, dump lots of water on it, stir it with a shovel, then dump more water on it. Make sure it is COLD before leaving your campsite. If it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave!

AVOIDING HEAT INJURIES

- Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
- Stay in air-conditioned spaces as much as possible.
- Limit strenuous activity in the hottest part of the day.
- Protect yourself from the sun and sunburn.
- Drink plenty of fluids, staying away from sugary or alcoholic drinks. Water will be available throughout Powwow.
- Replace salt and minerals with sport drinks.
- · Know the signs of heat related illness.
- Monitor those at high risk (young children, elders, etc.).
- Seek out **on-site EMS** attention if you're not feeling well.

Powwow Etiquette



The Gathering arena is blessed before the Gathering begins and is considered a sacred area. It is impolite to walk through the arena if you are not a participant. If you need to get to the other side of the arena, please walk around the perimeter and instruct your children to do the same.

PHOTOGRAPHY is generally permitted when the performers are in the arena using available light only. **PLEASE NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**.

PHOTOGRAPHY IS PROHIBITED during some of the spiritual ceremonies. Please remember Eagle feathers are sacred and must not be touched.

PLEASE STAND AND REMOVE YOUR HAT when the Eagle staff is brought in during the Grand Entry, Flag Songs, Veterans Songs, Invocations, Eagle Feather Retrieval Ceremonies, Memorials, Honor Songs, and Closing Songs.

POLITENESS always goes a long way - if you are unsure, ask some polite questions. A little interest will be flattering to the dancer. Pointing a finger is considered impolite.

SPECTATOR SEATING is in the bleachers and chairs may be set up so long as they are outside the circle of the arena. Benches near the arena are for dancers. Please do not disturb the dancers or their belongings. Be sure to allow seating for elders.

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES as announcements will be made instructing the participants and informing the spectators of the significance and history of the dances. Feel free to join in the "Intertribal Dances".

OTHER COURTESIES include never hindering or bothering the performers or standing in front of those preparing to dance or sing. DO NOT touch a dancer's clothing without permission, much or all of what the dancer is wearing is hand created. Some of the items of regalia may be heirlooms and have special or spiritual meaning. Many items are very delicate, some have been made by a respected family member and are especially cherished by the dancer. Respect other people's camps, and don't disturb fireplaces.

Gatherings are celebrations, social times and friendly dance competitions. Just as the sacred thread runs through all of life, there are sacred traditions to be found in the Gathering. Dancers often follow the clockwise pattern of the sun while some of the dress and ornaments signify special events or honors in a person's life, religions, traditions or legends.

Everyone is welcome at a Gathering, regardless of the tribe—non-Indians as well. For those new to a powwow, a bit of explanation may enhance your enjoyment and understanding of the event. Some of the dancers you might see are the following:

Men's Northern Traditional Dance

These dancers are distinguished by their lavish bustles of long feathers, usually from an eagle or other raptor. This may be the original dance of the Northern Plains Indians. It is a dance style that allows much freedom of expression for the dancer. Similar to the Southern Straight Dancer, the story line is one of a war party recounting feats for the tribe.

The Men's Northern Traditional is a time for men to dance in the footsteps of their ancestors with regalia that may be passed down for generations. Regalia may include a red eagle feather denoting a veteran's battle injury. Spectators should remove their hats as a sign of respect during this dance.

The tempo of this dance is slow, allowing the dancer to convey his emotions. The dancer always faces his enemy, never turning in a full circle. Faces may be painted for an intimidation effect and strong emphasis is put on the fierceness of the brave.

What to watch for:

In the Men's Northern Traditional each dancer challenges the enemy and it is interesting to watch the story line develop. Although the tempo is slow, the rhythm must be in harmony with the drum. Try to interpret each motion and compare the different ways the dancers imitate the eagle or the porcupine.



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Men's Southern Straight Dance

Regalia is important in this dance that preserves memory of important events in tribal history. Men usually wear cotton or buckskin pants and a shirt, a breastplate of bones to the waist or knees and a comb-like head-dress of porcupine guard hair and deer tail hair. An otter tail often extends down the dancer's back.

This dance, often known as a "gentleman's dance," is an expression of the harmony of the universe, originating on the southern plains. Its story line follows a hunting or war party on the trail of enemy or prey. The Southern Straight Dancer is constantly in search of his prey and makes an occasional shoop when the trail is sighted. Singers may heighten interest by singing their own song or singing one of many ancient songs that accompany this dance.

What to watch for:

The dancers are judged on their ability to stay in step with the drum beat and to look convincing in their search. Pay special attention to the story line as revealed by the actions of the dancers and differences in regalia that may denote tribal identity.



Grass Dance

The Grass Dance is among the most ancient of the surviving tribal dances. There are a least three different tribal versions. To some it is simply an expression of grass swaying gently in the breeze. The abundance of fringe and ribbons enhances the graceful movement of dancers' bodies as they sway in an imaginary breeze. Whether recalled as a dance to flatten the long prairie grass for a tribal ceremony or as a dance to celebrate victory over an enemy, this dance is one of the oldest expressions of traditional culture.

What to watch for:

The motions of the dancers' bodies cause the flowing regalia to move like the long, blowing grass of the prairie. It should be danced in perfect time to the music, responding as the grass in the wind. This dance expresses harmony in the universe.

Men's Fancy Dance

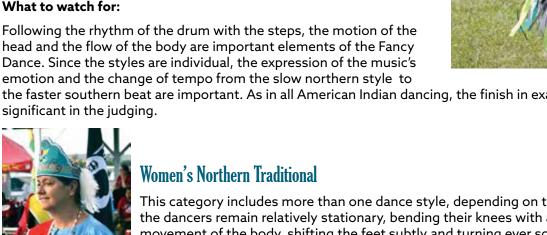
Agile dancers spin in richly colored regalia through this most athletic of powwow dances. This dance, which was created by the Ponca Tribe, is recognized by the energy of the dancers, some with double bustles and small arm bustles. Friendly competition may develop between singers and dancers as stopping with the end beat can mean winning or losing points. The singers might perform "trick songs" with unexpected last

Though the dance is marked by freestyle movements, the drumbeat must be followed. The dance is based on the standard "double step" employed by traditional and grass dancers. Added to the basic rhythm are fancy footwork, increased speed, acrobatic steps and wild body movements.

What to watch for:

Following the rhythm of the drum with the steps, the motion of the head and the flow of the body are important elements of the Fancy Dance. Since the styles are individual, the expression of the music's emotion and the change of tempo from the slow northern style to

the faster southern beat are important. As in all American Indian dancing, the finish in exact time with the song is







This category includes more than one dance style, depending on the individual's tribe. Usually the dancers remain relatively stationary, bending their knees with a slight up and down movement of the body, shifting the feet subtly and turning ever so slightly. In some traditions this symbolizes women gazing into the distance waiting for their warriors to return. The dancer's fans may be raised during honor bits of a song or when the women hear words of particular meaning to them.

Women's Southern Traditional

In this elegant dance, women step to every other beat of the drum, rising slightly with each step. The gentle motion of the shawl, folded over the arm, must be in harmony with the motion of the drumbeat. Traditional women's regalia features bead work adorning the top of the buckskin or cloth dress, with chosen elements designed to have special meaning to the dancer. Most traditional dancers wear or carry a shawl, a fan of hawk or eagle feathers, a single feather or a beaded bag.



Women's Jingle Dance

As with the grass dance for men, this dance comes with a legend. According to the Chippewa, an old man, on what his family believed to be his death bed, dreamed of his daughter. In his dream, she was clothed in a dress he had never seen before, a dress decorated by metal cones sewn around the cloth. The spirits had directed the daughter and her friends to make and dance in these dresses. The old man liked the sights and sounds he saw in his dream and later, after a miraculous recovery, he instructed his daughter and her friends in creating the special dresses. And so the lyrical, tinkling dance was born.

These dresses are traditionally decorated with the metal lids of snuff boxes rolled into a bell shape. These dancers do not wear or carry a shawl. The left hand usually rests on the hip and the right hand is either on the hip or free to carry a fan made of feathers.

The Jingle Dance is a dance of pride and dignity, and allows for much individual expression. The dance has no set step pattern, but is always active and exciting to watch. The jingle dress, with its bouncing metal cones, provides much of the musical accompaniment to the dance.

What to watch for:

Dance steps and body movement, which are not in time with the music, are easy to detect because of the music of the dress itself. Reverence, pride and grace are necessary in the attitude and movements of the dancer.

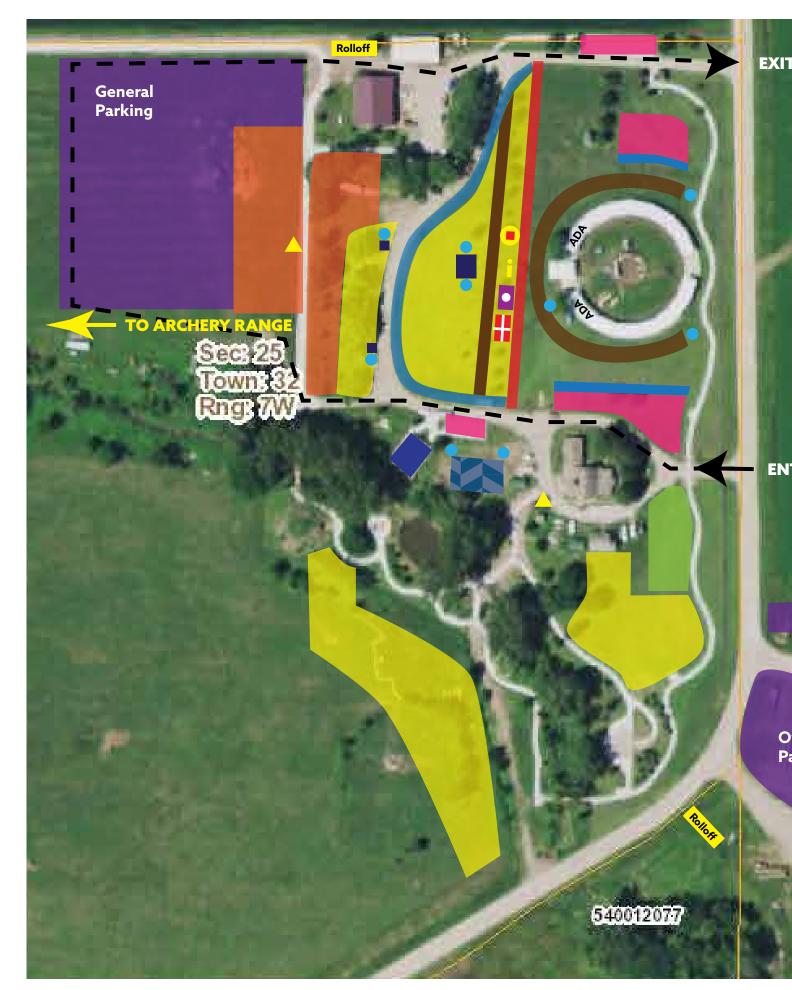
Women's Fancy Shawl

The Fancy Shawl is the most modern of the women's dances and gives the ladies an opportunity to show off their agility and grace. Dance steps are individually choreographed, but are always in rhythm to the beat of the drum. Many of the moves are quite intricate. Though the Fancy Shawl involves more motion and agility than most women's dances, the dancer's grace is always evident. The dress is brilliantly colored and often adorned with beautiful bead work, complementing the shawl that is an integral part of the dance.

What to watch for:

Since each dancer has her own individual style, the expression of the steps and their harmony with the drum is the essence. Being in time with the drum and ending the dance precisely are all important.







Powwow Grounds Map

- Emergency Access Lane (NO CAMPING/PARKING)
- Elder/Handicap Parking
- General Parking
- Employee Parking ONLY
- Vendor Parking
- Tent Camping (No outlet access)
- RV Camping (Limited hookups)
- Vendor Area
- Group Meal Area
- Permanent Restrooms/ Storm Shelter
- Porta-Johns
- Hand Washing Stations
- Elders Cooling Station
- First Aid Station
 - Information Station
- Emergency Services
- Refuse Dumpsters

The Drum and Singers

People say you can't have a Powwow without a drum, for it carries the heartbeat of the Indian nation. It is also felt to carry the heartbeat of Mother Earth, and thus calls the spirits and nations together.

The Powwow drum is a large base covered with hide (buffalo, deer, or cow). Forming a circle, eight or more men strike the drum in unison with covered mallets. The men then blend their voices with the beating of the drum to create the song. The songs are often in the Indian language of the drum members. It is the responsibility of the drum members and especially the lead singer to be able to sing and play whatever kind of song is requested by the master of ceremonies or the arena director for



any given event (i.e. flag raising, honoring ceremony, different kinds of dances).

It is said that the drum was brought to the Indian people by a woman, and therefore there is a woman's spirit that resides inside the drum. Appropriately, it is to be treated with respect and care, and strict behavior is expected of anyone coming in contact with the drum. The drum is often thought to help bring the physical and mental side of a person back in touch with his or her spiritual or heart side. As with many things in the Indian culture, the drum is used to bring balance and rejuvenation to a person through their participation in dancing, singing or listening to the heartbeat.

Team Dance Contest Rules

- 1. Teams may consist of at least 3 people and no more than 5
- 2. Must be registered for Powwow
- 3. Must be in full regalia
- 4. Will be judged on dance steps, timing, choreography (overall dance and staying in step with teammates)
- 5. Carrying a child does not constitute a member of the team.
- 6. Must smile
- 7. Must have fun

Need a lift?

Ponca Express provides public transportation on a first come, first served basis.

Rural Offices:

Office Hours 8:00 am-4:30 pm Transporation 7:30 am-5:30 pm

Metro Offices:

Office Hours 8:00 am-4:30 pm Transporation 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Rural Fares:

Up to 30 miles \$2/stop 31+ miles \$10

Metro Fares:

FREE

To schedule a ride, contact our Ponca Express staff at:

Rural:

877.769.3111

Metro:

855.766.2239





Ponca Tribal Youth Council

The Osni Ponka Youth Council has worked hard to collaborate with all districts, while developing future tribal leaders. Our goal is to act a generational voice in regard to tribal governing and affairs, while hosting various activities throughout the year that uplift and show our tribal members they matter.

This year, we have once again worked to celebrate our tribe by hosting the Honoring Our Elders: Breakfast and Bingo on August 12, 2023, at the annual powwow in Niobrara, NE. Here we will be serving breakfast to all

elders and their families to show them gratitude. This will take place at the PTN headquarters building. Breakfast will start at 9AM and bingo will follow from 9:45-11AM. Ponca elders will be eligible to win prizes from our Youth Council during this event.

The Osni Ponka Youth Council conducts meetings each month to discuss ways we can better our tribe, topics relevant to native youth, ways to organize interactive activities for tribal members, and determine each member's individual project. Each individual project is specific to the



Youth Council members to reflect their passions and strengths. Be on the lookout for Youth Council events through the PTN social media pages and monthly newsletter.

The OPYC has created the following projects to fill in the gaps for our members: Toys for Teens, Senior Secret Santa, Honoring

Our Elders: Breakfast and Bingo, Virtual Art Camp, The Osni Ponka Youth Summit, and more. Collaborative activities that the Youth Council participate in include the Reel Mentor fishing event, district Back-to-School events, the tribe's MMIR projects, and various district community events.





Northern Ponca Housing Authority

1501 W Michigan Ave Norfolk, NE 68701 402.379.8224 - P 402.379.8557 - F 402.644.6977 -Emergency

- Low Rent Program
- Treasury Programs
- Tax credits
- Indian Community Development Block Grant
- Resident Opportunity for Self Sufficiency
- Rental Assistance

- Down Payment Assistance Program
- Tenant Home Ownership Program
- Home Owner Home Improvement Assistance

Northern Ponca Elders Committee

Mission Statement: The mission of the Northern Ponca Elders Committee is to advocate for improved comprehensive services and provide the leadership needed to meet the needs of our Northern Ponca Tribal Elders (55 and older) by planning and advocating for an aging population in a manner designed to protect and improve their quality of life while maintaining individual dignity.

My dear fellow elders,

This is Mark Peniska, former Chair and currently Vice-Chair of the Elder's Committee. At the behest of Chairwoman Robinette and my fellow committee members, my best wishes to all of you and hope to see you at this year's Pow Wow.

We have had many district informative meetings, lunches, and activities. I initiated and got a detailed reference guide for elders finally complete and printed. Please put in for your free booklet by emailing info@poncatribene.org. Many thanks to Ponca office managers and staff for attending and giving the committee great information, and thank you to Jessica Hitchcock for your work on creating the booklet and getting it printed.

I want to thank all our former and present Elders Committee members for their great love for all our elders. Also thank our Ponca Tribal Council for their support. Especially, JoAn, Angie, and Susie.

In closing, please do not hesitate to contact any committee member for help or with concerns.

Condolences for family of former Elders Chair, Gary Stoltenburg, who recently passed away.

May the Great Spirit bless you and be with you.

Mark Peniska

2023 POWWOW VENDOR LIST

Updated 8/04/23. An up to date Vendor List will be available at the Crow's Nest.

Food Vendors:

Biggoose Concessions

Indian Tacos, Rez dogs, Fry bread dessert, loaded nachos, Frito pie, drinks, snacks, street tacos

Juanita Knudsen

Indian tacos, pickles, pop, chips

BB's Cruisin' Coffee

Stuffed bubble waffles-sweet and savory, energy drinks, lemonade, Italian sodas

Anna LaPointe

Indian tacos, nachos, Indian dogs, pop, water, and more!

Frybread Queen

Frybread, Ndn tacos, Rezzones (taco pocket), Sweet Ndns (frybread w/chocolate inside), wojapi, drinks

Ta'be' Tha Nit' Ai' (Ball is Life)

Indian tacos, brats, hamburgers, soup

Winans Sinte Hawk Bair

Food, drinks, sage

Isces Heppner

Indian tacos, Indian dogs, fry bread, pop

Red Hot Sno Cones & More

Sno cones, picadillys, candy pickles, coffee, sparkler drinks, lemonade, hot dogs, chili, nachos, soup, and frybread

Teresa Cortez

Birria tacos, quesadillas, carnitas tacos

Eugene DeCora

Frybread, tacos, burger, drinks, snacks

Charlotte Dunnett

Fry bread, Indian tacos, soft drinks

Craft Vendors:

Dena's Designs

Children's regalia, ribbon skirts, beaded items

Sheridan Beadwork

Indigenous Beadwork. Beaded earrings, necklaces, lanyards, etc.

Beadwork by Piama

Beadwork, ribbon skirts, apparel

Powder Horn

Beadwork, wooden boxes, leather goods, dream catchers, wind chimes, jewelry, moccasins, beads

Ali's Beads/Wau Creations

Beaded earrings, necklaces, and stickers

Jazlyn Gil

Beaded lanyards, wristlets, and earrings

Shelby Coffman

Ribbon skirts, beaded earrings, quilled earrings, t-shirts

LLATKA

Jackets, ponchos, shirts, hats, blankets, bags, and adornments

Time to Shine

Handbags, wallets, gold-plated jewelry, scrunchies, hair clips

Wildmoon Herbcraft, LLC

Herbal products, lip balms, tinctures, room sprays, massage balms

MK Creations

Handmade beaded earrings

Richard Wright

Bead work, earrings, keychains, medallions, dream catchers

Trickster Studio

Native American Art

Jacquelyn Munoz

Ribbon skirts, beaded earrings

Iron Thunder Tuf

Native American tufted rugs

Kunsi Stand

Beadwork, ribbon skirts, jingle dresses

Big Horse Books

Two Books in the Big Horse Series: BIG HORSE WOMAN - Shonge Tonga Wa'u, and MAGGHIE, small sample of art prints

Gerry Smith

Drums, hand drums, drum sticks, dance staffs, fans, music CDs, dreamcatchers, t-shirts, leather bags, jewelry, stone findings

Forever Flowering Designs

Quillwork, shell work, and ribbon skirts

MireleVerse 3d Prints

3D printed products

Sleeping Buffalo Trader

Buffalo hides, other animal hides



Osni Ponca LLC is the for-profit economic development company wholly owned by the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.

Our mission is to create and stimulate the economy of the tribe and to create employment opportunities for tribal members.

Learn more at www.OsniPonca.com

Visit our companies



(402) 857-3468



Carter Lake, IA: 712-847-0437 Crofton, NE: 402-388-4816 poncasmokesignals.com



Historically, the Ponca people utilized every part of the buffalo. Nothing went to waste.

"Feed the Buffalo" refers to the commitment of all Tribal entities to locate, pursue and fully utilize every resource available for the betterment of the Ponca people.

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OSNI PONCA LLC.

- The mission of Osni Ponca is to create and stimulate the economy of the tribe and to create employment opportunities for tribal members.
- To generate tax and other revenue to the use by the tribal government in providing services to members of the tribe.

PEDCO

- The mission of Ponca Economic Development Corporation (PEDCO) is to creatively seek long term sufficiency for citizens of the Ponca Tribe.
- Create opportunities that improve the quality of life for all natives.
- Provide business and employment opportunities to stimulate economic growth and self-sufficiency.

PRAIRIE FLOWER CASINO IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE

29TH ANNUAL PONCATRIBE OF NEBRASKA POWWOW





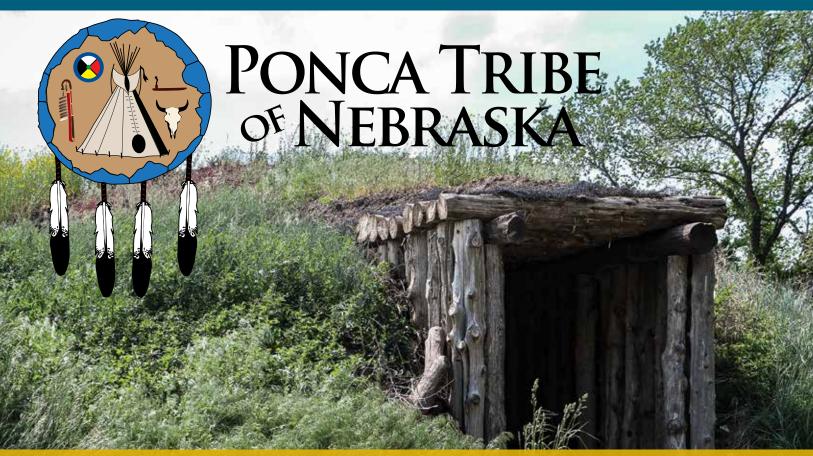
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The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is the name used to describe the Northern Ponca Tribe after the Tribe was officially restored as a federally recognized tribe in 1990. The tribe is one of 4 tribes located in Nebraska.

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska is uniquely structured, operating within a designated "service area" covering fifteen counties: twelve in Nebraska, one in South Dakota and two in Iowa. In Nebraska, Ponca Tribe offices are established in Niobrara, Norfolk, Lincoln and Omaha. In Iowa, there is a PTN office in Sioux City.

Tribal Headquarters2523 Woodbine Street

PO BOX 288 Niobrara NE 68760 Phone: 402-857-3391

Fax: 402-857-3736

Community Building

88915 521 Avenue PO BOX 288 Niobrara NE 68760

Phone: 402-857-3519 Fax: 402-857-3652

Norfolk Office & Ponca Hills Clinic

1800 Syracuse Avenue Norfolk NE 68701 Phone: 402-371-8834 Fax: 402-371-7564

Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center 2602 J Steet

Omaha NE 68107 Phone: 402-734-5275

Fax: 402-734-5708

Omaha Administration

5805 South 86th Circle Omaha NE 68127 402.315.2760

Lincoln Office

1701 E Street Lincoln NE 68508 Phone: 402-438-9222 Fax: 402-438-9226

Ponca Health Services

- Lincoln

1600 Windhoek Lincoln NE 68512 Phone: 531.248.3030

Sioux City Office

125 6th Street Sioux City, IA 51103 Phone: 712-258-0500 Fax: 712-258-0762