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**NHBP Gaming Commissioner, Shirley English, Recognized with National Award**

Pine Creek Indian Reservation (Fulton, Mich.) – The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (NHBP), owners of the FireKeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, Mich., is proud to announce that Tribal Member and Vice-Chair of the NHBP Gaming Commission, Shirley English was presented with the Regulator of the Year award by National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) Chairman Ernest Stevens Jr. The award ceremony was held at the Global Gaming Expo September 27 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The NIGA is an inter-tribal association of 184 federally recognized Indian Tribes united with the mission of protecting and preserving tribal sovereignty and the ability of Tribes to attain economic self-sufficiency through gaming and other forms of economic development. NIGA operates as an educational, legislative, and public policy resource for tribal policy makers as well as the public, on issues related to Indian gaming and tribal community development.

In English’s role as Vice-Chair of the NHBP Gaming Commission, it is her responsibility to promote Tribal economic development and self-sufficiency. She also helps maintain the integrity of Indian gaming and ensures that NHBP is the primary beneficiary of its gaming activities. This is done in a manner that promotes and preserves the Bodéwadmi values and traditions. The NHBP Gaming Commission strives to be guided by the Seven Grandfather Teachings of Debanawen (Love), Wdetanmowen (Respect), Wédaséwen (Bravery), Débwéwen (Truth), Gwékwadsewen (Honesty), Èdbésendowen (Humility) and Bwakawen (Wisdom).

Shirley English grew up on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation. She has served various roles on Tribal Council starting in the late 1960s. Her last position with Tribal Council was as Tribal Council Chairwoman in 1995. During that tenure, she was able to achieve Federal Recognition for the NHBP. English was recently reappointed as Vice-Chair of the NHBP Gaming Commission. She has two sons, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

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About The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi

There are nearly 1,200 Tribal Members. The Nottawaseppi’s primary Indian Health and Bureau of Indians Affairs Service Area covers members in Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Kent and Ottawa counties. The Tribe’s administrative office is located at the Pine Creek Reservation in Athens Township, with a satellite office in Grand Rapids, Mich. to better serve Members. For more information visit: [www.nhbpi.com](http://www.nhbpi.com)