

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Announces 2019 Pow Wow Dates

The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (NHBP) will be hosting their annual Pow Wow on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation in Fulton, Michigan, Saturday, June 22 and Sunday, June 23.

This year's NHBP Pow Wow will bring the vibrant culture of the Bodéwadmi (Potawatomi) to life through crafts, food, dance, prayer and song. The celebratory weekend will commence Saturday, June 22, with the Sunrise Ceremony followed by the first of several Grand Entries, which showcase Potawatomi culture and traditions through song and dance.

"Our Pow Wow helps spread the word about our culture and traditions, which were lost for so long," said NHBP Tribal Council Secretary and Pow Wow Committee Chair Nancy Smit.

The daily Grand Entries are open to the public and feature veterans, head dancers and tribal members, from youth to elders, dressed in a wide assortment of traditional Native regalia. Many dance styles are featured, as well as dance competitions, including traditional Women's Jingle Dress Dance, Women's Fancy Shawl Dance, Potato Dance, Team Dance Competition, Men's Fancy Dance and several Spot Dances. NHBP Pow Wow dances are also open to sponsorships throughout both days and may be held in honor of someone special to the sponsor.

A perfect blending of old and new can be found among the Native crafts and other goods sold at the Vendors Circle. A variety of woodwork, beaded jewelry, NHBP apparel and delicious foods, such as fry bread and wild rice soup, all make a bid for attention during the weekend-long festivities.

"Come and celebrate this event by enjoying some of our Native foods, crafts and even trying your hand at a Spot Dance!" Smit said. "We encourage and welcome all to come and share in our customs and traditions!"

For more information visit www.nhbpi.com and click 2019 Pow Wow.

For additional questions or to sponsor a tribal dance, please contact Pow Wow Committee Chair Nancy Smit at nancy.smit@nhbpi.com or 269.704.8431.

For vendor requests, please contact Pow Wow Vendor Coordinator Robyn Burlingham at rburlingham@nhbpi.com or 269.704.8373.

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## About The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi

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.

NHBP's economic development entities include FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH), a Vegas-style casino, and Waséyabek Development Company, LLC (WDC), which focuses on the pursuit of non-gaming, economic diversification opportunities.

Under the Tribal-State Gaming Compact, NHBP distributes a percentage of its annual slot machine revenue from FKCH to both the State of Michigan and to the Local Revenue Sharing Board (LRSB). The Native American Heritage Fund, established in 2016, serves to provide

resources to improve curricula and educational resources related to Michigan Indian history, as well as to fund initiatives that promote mutual respect and cooperation between local communities and Michigan's federally recognized Tribes.

For more information visit: <u>www.nhbpi.com</u>