



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

Legal Department

2605 N. West Bay Shore Drive • Peshawbestown, MI 49682-9275 • (231) 534-7601 • FAX 231-534-7600

MANDATORY 30-DAY POSTING

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tribal Membership
FROM: GTB Legal Department 
RE: 30-day posting regarding Resolution #26-44.3852 GTB Tribal Data Ordinance
Restricting the Distribution of GTB Member Personal Information
DATE: February 19, 2026

Please post the attached proposed amendments to the above referenced ordinance that was approved for a 30-day posting by Tribal Council at the Tribal Council Regular Session on February 18, 2025. Please post the above referenced ordinance in an area where GTB tribal members can review it for 30 days. This is an opportunity for tribal members to provide comments, if any, about this proposed ordinance. Your comments will be provided to Tribal Council prior to the adoption of this ordinance. This posting will end on March 21, 2025 and can be removed at that time.

Any comments regarding the above referenced should be directed to the GTB Legal Department either by writing to the GTB Legal Department, 2605 N.W. Bayshore Dr., Peshawbestown, MI 49682, or by telephone (231) 534-7601, or by e-mail, to page.paul2@gtb-nsn.gov

Posting Sites:

Administration Building	EDC Building
Accounting Department Annex	
Annex II – Human Resources Building	Leelanau Sands Casino –
Benodjean Child Care Center	Employees/Supervisors’ Break-room
Clinic	
Elder’s Complex	
Housing	
SBR Plant	Leelanau Sands “The Lodge” –
Natural Resources/Conservation	Employees/Supervisors’ Break-room
Maintenance Department	
Benzie Satellite Office – via e-mail	Turtle Creek Casino – Employees/Supervisors’
Charlevoix Satellite Office – via e-mail	Break-room
Traverse City Satellite Office - via e-mail	
Strongheart Center	
Library/You Building/Youth Center	
Tribal Court	



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

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TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION Resolution #26-44.3852

TO ESTABLISH: GTB TRIBAL DATA ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE DISTRIBUTION OF GTB MEMBER PERSONAL INFORMATION

WHEREAS: The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB) became a federally-recognized Indian Tribe having a government-to-government relationship with the United States effective May 27, 1980 (see 45 Fed. Reg. 18321-322 (March 25, 1980)) and GTB is organized under a Tribal Constitution approved by the Secretary of the Interior on March 29, 1988; and

WHEREAS: GTB has a full Tribal Council currently consisting of Sandra L. Witherspoon, Tribal Chairwoman; Jane Rohl, Vice Chair; Anna Miller, Secretary; Donna Swallows, Treasurer; Tina Frankenberger, Councilor; Brian Napont, Councilor; and Angelina Raphael, Councilor; and

WHEREAS: Article IV, Section (1)(h) of the Tribal Constitution provides that a power of the Tribal Council is “[t]o manage and control the economic affairs, enterprises, property, and all other interests of the Band; and

WHEREAS: Article IV, Section (1)(b) of the Tribal Constitution provides that a power of the Tribal Council is “[t]o safeguard and promote the peace and safety of the Band and its members; and

WHEREAS: Article IV Section (1)(c) of the Tribal Constitution provides that a power of the Tribal Council is “[t]o make all laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution...and to implement and enforce the same; and

WHEREAS: The Council has identified the necessity of securing the personal information of its tribal members from unnecessary distribution in light of privacy and safety concerns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council enacts the following Tribal Data Ordinance Restricting the Distribution of GTB Members Personally Identifying Information or Home Addresses under the Legislative Procedures’ Ordinance

BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the following Ordinance is posted for 30-day review by GTB members.

GTB Tribal Data Ordinance Restricting the Distribution of GTB Members

Section 1: Tribal Membership Identifying Information Restrictions

GTB as a federally recognized Tribe has the inherent power to govern their own internal affairs, including the management of membership data.

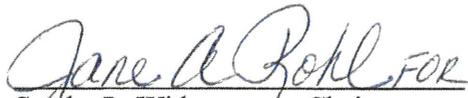
1. **Tribal Membership Rolls:** Tribes have the exclusive right to determine their own citizenship and manage the records associated with it.
2. **Exemption from Federal Records Laws:** Tribal records held by the Tribe are generally **not** subject to the federal **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** or the **Federal Privacy Act** unless the Tribe has specifically agreed to this in a compact or funding agreement.
3. **GTB Hereby Adopts a Tribal Membership Privacy Standard:** GTB establishes this Privacy Code and Data Governance Ordinance that explicitly prohibits the disclosure of confidential tribal member information, such as addresses, personally identifying information, emails, telephone numbers, or related social media presences or individually owned or used data services to third parties without consent of the individual tribal member.
4. **Procedures:** The GTB Tribal Department that holds any personally identifying information of a tribal member shall develop internal procedures and forms implementing this ordinance.

Section 2: Limitations and Exceptions

1. **Elections:** All qualified candidates for a Tribal Council or Gaming Commission election are permitted to obtain a copy of tribal members' addresses living within the six-county service area defined as eligible voters solely for purposes election campaigning authorized by the GTB Election Board.
2. **Article IX:** Qualified proponents of referendums, initiatives, or recalls of elected officials are permitted to obtain a copy of tribal members' addresses living within the six-county service area defined as eligible votes solely for purposes of the referendum, initiative, or recall purposes as authorized by the GTB Election Board.
3. **Submission to Federal Agencies:** If a tribe submits membership information to a federal agency that information becomes a federal record and may be subject to FOIA, though exemptions for sensitive or confidential data often apply.

4. **Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA):** Any GTB Tribal Members can elect to share their membership and address information with any person or entity consistent with the provisions of the Article X Constitutional Rights of Tribal members, with others so as not to conflict Article X.
5. **Tribal Member Exclusion:** Tribal members shall have the right to exclude personally identifiable information from distribution unless specifically requested by federal, state, or tribal law.
6. **Legal Processes:** Tribal Ordinances or Tribal Court Process allows for the access to and release of documents which may contain Tribal members' personal information. The access to such information may only occur after a formal request is properly filed with the court and judicial review for compliance with Grand Traverse Band Court Administrative Order 2008-5.1.

APPROVED:


Sandra L. Witherspoon, Chairwoman

ADOPTED:


Anna Miller, Secretary

CERTIFICATION

As Secretary of the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved and adopted at a Regular Session of the Tribal Council held in Peshawbestown, Michigan, on February 18, 2026, by a vote of:

5 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 1 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT.

ATTEST:


Anna Miller, Secretary



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

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Certification of Tribal Council Action Regular Session of February 18, 2026

I hereby certify as the Tribal Council Secretary that the foregoing
Motion was Approved and Adopted at the Regular Session of the
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians Tribal Council

Privacy Ordinance

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Frankenberger and Supported by Tribal Council
Secretary Miller to approve Resolution #26-44.3852.

5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 1-ABSTAINING (Rohl)

Motion Carries

FOR 

Anna Miller, GTB Tribal Council Secretary

CC: John Petoskey-Legal