

GTB NEWS



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August 2026
Datgaagmin Giizis (Black Berry Moon)



Chairwomans Address, Motions & Meetings	Elders	Human & Behavioral Health Services	Youth & Education
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ON JULY 2, 2026, THE GRAND TRAVERSE BAND COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER TO WITNESS THE OATH OF OFFICE AS THE NEWLY ELECTED TRIBAL COUNCILORS AS THEY BEGAN A NEW TERM OF SERVICE!

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As we move through another busy summer, I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to serve our Tribal citizens and work alongside so many dedicated individuals who care deeply about our community. August is a time of transition as we welcome new leadership, celebrate the accomplishments of our citizens, and continue strengthening the relationships that benefit the Grand Traverse Band for generations to come.



One of the highlights of this month was the swearing-in ceremony for our newly elected Tribal Council members. Congratulations to each of those who were elected to serve. Your willingness to step forward and lead is appreciated, and I know our citizens join me in wishing you success as you begin your terms.

Serving on Tribal Council is both an honor and a tremendous responsibility. Every decision made has an impact on our citizens today while helping shape the future of our Tribe. I look forward to working together with our returning and newly elected Council members as we continue advancing the priorities of our community.

I also want to thank everyone who participated in this year's election. Whether you voted, volunteered, or simply stayed engaged in the process, your participation helps strengthen our Tribal government and reflects the importance of self-governance.

The National Cherry Festival once again provided an opportunity to celebrate our region while sharing the story and culture of the Grand Traverse Band. Thank you to everyone who represented our Tribe throughout the week's events and to the many citizens who attended and showed their support.

Events like the Cherry Festival allow us to build relationships, welcome visitors, and remind others that this is the ancestral homeland of the Anishinaabe since time immemorial. I appreciate everyone who helped make our presence welcoming and meaningful.

Chi-miigwetch to all the volunteers, organizers, and participants who contributed to another successful festival. Your efforts help showcase the spirit of our community.

This month, the State of Michigan's issued permits for the proposed Line 5 tunnel project. We are deeply disappointed and angered by this betrayal.

Throughout this process, we have consistently voiced our concerns through Tribal-State consultations and government-to-government discussions. We believe our treaty rights and our responsibility to protect these waters must remain at the forefront of every decision affecting our homelands. Our commitment to protecting our treaty rights, our Great Lakes, and the interests of future generations remains unwavering.

The Grand Traverse Band will continue working alongside our tribal partners, legal teams, and community advocates to defend our treaty-protected rights and safeguard the Great Lakes. This work is about more than one project—it is about honoring our ancestors, fulfilling our responsibilities today, and ensuring that the next seven generations inherit healthy waters and thriving natural resources.

Miigwech to everyone who continues to stand with us in protecting what has always been sacred to our people.

As summer continues, Tribal Council remains focused on the important work before us. From supporting our citizens and expanding opportunities for future generations to protecting our sovereignty and strengthening partnerships throughout our region, we remain committed to serving with integrity and purpose.

Thank you for your continued trust, your participation, and your dedication to our Tribe. I encourage everyone to stay involved, attend meetings and community events when possible, and continue sharing your ideas as we move forward together.

Miigwech for your continued support. I hope you and your families enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Baamaa pii miinwaa,
Sandra L. Witherspoon
Tribal Chairwoman

The Grand Traverse Band is pleased to share information about a unique opportunity being offered through the Mid-Michigan Honor Flight program. The Honor Flight recognizes and honors veterans for their service by providing them with a trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the memorials dedicated to their sacrifices and achievements.

Mid-Michigan Honor Flight has been working with Michigan tribes to coordinate participation in a special Honor Flight for tribal veterans. Organizers report that several Michigan tribes have already committed to participating, and planning for transportation, accommodations, and other event logistics is well underway.

At this time, the Tribe is gathering interest from eligible veterans and their guardians. Veterans who may wish to participate are encouraged to complete the application materials so that interest can be assessed and future planning can continue.

Additional information regarding eligibility, timelines, and next steps will be shared as it becomes available. Tribal veterans and potential guardians are encouraged to submit their applications and watch for future announcements. We are grateful for the service and sacrifice of our tribal veterans and look forward to sharing more details about this opportunity in the coming months. For physical applications, please call Dena Wilson (231) 534-7216, email Dena.Wilson@gtb-nsn.gov or visit the Peshawbestown Admin office!

<u>MID-MICHIGAN HONOR FLIGHT</u> <u>VETERAN APPLICATION</u>			
WORLD WAR II (1939-1945)	☐	KOREAN WAR (1946-1958)	☐
VIETNAM WAR (1959-1975)	☐	TERMINALLY ILL (Any Era)	☐
The mission of Mid-Michigan Honor Flight is to transport World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and Terminally Ill Veterans from any war, to Washington, D.C. to see their memorials <u>free of charge</u>. It is a small way to say thank you to all the brave men and women in Michigan who served our country so selflessly. To help us achieve our goal, Guardians are assigned to accompany Veterans on every flight to provide assistance and to ensure our Honorees have a safe and memorable Tour of Honor.			
FULL NAME: _____ (Please print your full name as it appears on your ID)			
NICKNAME: _____		DATE OF BIRTH: _____	
ADDRESS: _____			
CITY: _____		COUNTY: _____	
PHONE: HOME _____		CELL _____	
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____			
T-SHIRT SIZE: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ XXXL _____			
BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____		DATES OF SERVICE: _____	
DUTIES DURING WAR: _____			

INTERESTING EXPERIENCES DURING WAR: _____			

MEDALS/AWARDS/COMMENDATIONS RECEIVED: _____			

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION			
Contact Name: _____		Relationship: _____	
Address: _____			
Home Phone: _____		Cell Phone: _____	

Secondary Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

ALL VETERANS OVER 70 YEARS OLD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A GUARDIAN!

Are you requesting to travel with a specific "Guardian? _____ Yes _____ No

Your Guardian **MUST** have an application on file with MMHF prior to the Veteran being notified of their Honor Flight.

If yes, what is that Guardian's Name? _____

Phone: _____

*Guardians must be between 18-70 years of age, cannot be a spouse, and must have a Guardian Application on file with us before you are notified for a flight.

PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY AND SIGN

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that:

1. I understand that medical insurance is my responsibility and I understand that neither MMHF nor the aircraft provider provides medical coverage. .
2. I have been informed that Mid-Michigan Honor Flight strongly recommends that I discuss this trip with my private physician prior to flight date.
3. I hereby give permission for my name to be released to other veterans via a flight roster. Information provided to other veterans will include: name, phone number, hometown and branch of service.

Signature of Veteran

Date

Please mail this form to:
Mid-Michigan Honor Flight
Attn: Dena Wilson
2605 N. West Bay Shore Drive
Peshawbestown, MI 49662
dena.wilson@gtb-nsn.gov

Questions? Call our office at 231-803-4255 or visit
our web page www.midmichiganhonorflight.org

Tribal Council Special Session

July 13, 2026

[http://bit.ly/GTB Member](http://bit.ly/GTB_Member)

II. New Business. A- **Election of Tribal Council Executive Officers and Tribal Council Committee Appointments** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve Angelina Raphael’s appointment as Tribal Council Vice Chair. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to nominate and appoint David Wonegeshik as Tribal Council Treasurer. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to nominate Anna Miller as Tribal Council Secretary. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to accept the appointment of Anna Miller as Natural Resources and Environmental Committee Chair. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to nominate Francis Carew as Natural Resources and Environmental Committee Vice Chair. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. B- **Removal of Signatory Authority** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Wonegeshik to approve Resolution #26-44.3907 **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. C- **Authorized Signatories for Tribal Accounts: Sandra Witherspoon; Tribal Councilors Francis Carew, Anna Miller, Ryan Memberto, Donna Swallows, Angelina Raphael, and David Wonegeshik** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to amend Resolution #26-44.3908 for a Poll Vote at the end of today. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. D- **Authorized Signatories for Tribal Council Executive officers-Resolution #26-44.3909** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to approve Resolution #26-44.3909. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. E- **Appointment of Ex-Officio on the Gaming Commission** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to nominate David Wonegeshik as Ex-Officio on the Gaming Commission. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. F- **Appointment of the Tribal Council as EDC Board** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Carew and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to appoint Tribal Council as the EDC

Board. **5-FOR; 1-AGAINST (Memberto); 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to nominate David Wonegeshik as EDC Chair. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to nominate Angelina Raphael as EDC Vice Chair. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. G- **Designated Check Signers** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve designating the positions of Chairwoman and Treasurer as the authorized check signers for the accounting checking machines. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. H- **GTB LLC Board Appointment** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to appoint Ryan Memberto to the GTB LLC Board. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. J- **Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Liaison** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to nominate Anna Miller as the Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Liaison. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. K- **Bay Mills Board of Regents** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to nominate Ryan Memberto for the Bay Mills Board of Regents appointment. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. L- **Appointment to Great Lakes Fishery Trust** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to nominate Francis Carew to the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. M- **Motion Directing the Provision of Background Information Material for Closed Session Consideration** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew that we as Tribal Council direct our Human Resources Department and our CEO to provide any relevant comprehensive background information on current or potential hires that may or may not have happened recently. **5-FOR; 1-AGAINST (Miller); 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Tribal Council Regular Session

July 15, 2026

[http://bit.ly/GTB Member](http://bit.ly/GTB_Member)

II. New Business. A- **GTB Letter to U.S. Postal Service** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to reaffirm Chairwoman Witherspoon’s signature on the June 29, 2026 letter. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**

Motion Carries

II. New Business. B- **GLITEC Data Use Agreement for BRFS-MSHHS** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to agree to the GLITEC Data Use Agreement for the Tribal BRFS with TMO signature. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. C- **FEMA HMA Building Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) Grant** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve Resolution #26-44.3872 to seek approval and funding in the amount of \$543,674 with an in-kind match of \$140,813 for FEMA HMA Building Infrastructure in Communities Grant. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. D- **FY 2026 Historic Preservation Fund- Annual Tribal Historic Preservation Office Grant** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to approve Resolution #26-44.3899 to seek approval and funding in the amount of \$90,616 from the National Parks Service for the annual formula grant funds for the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, with the correction of the math errors. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. E- **1st Half 2026 2% Distribution** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to approve the 2% distribution in the amount of \$744,633.78 to the awardees as attached in the press release that will go out at the media event day of August 28. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. F- **GTB Transportation Improvement Plan- Resolution #26-44.3902** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to approve Resolution #26-44.3902. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. G- **Tribal Victim Services FY26** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to approve Resolution #26-44.3910 for funding in the amount of \$80,083 from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Victims Services, Tribal Victim Services VOCA Victim of Crimes Act Grant Program. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. H- **Appoint GTB Fire Chief by Resolution #26-44.3904 and Rescind Interim Fire Chief Appointment** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to approve Resolution #26-44.3904 to appoint Andrew Down as GTB Fire Chief. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to Rescind the Interim Fire Chief appointment Resolution #26-44.3874 **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT;**

0-ABSTAINING
Motion Carries

II. New Business. I- **Request for 30-day Posting of Proposed Amendments to 18 GTBC section 206(d)(2) to conform with GTB Constitution Article VII (4)(c) and the Tribal-State Gaming Compact Section 4(d) (3)** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve Resolution #26-44.3906. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. J- **GTB Response to Office of Management and Budget OMB-2026-0034, Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance Proposed Rule** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to reaffirm Chairwoman Witherspoon’s signature on the GTB Comments on Proposed Rule: Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance submitted on 7/13/26. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. K- **FY25 Grants & Contracts Fund Audit (SEFA)** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to accept the FY25 audit results for Grants & Contracts Fund. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

**Tribal Council Special Session
July 29, 2026**
http://bit.ly/GTB_Member

II. New Business. A- **Marijuana Excise Tax Resolution** Motion made by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to approve Resolution #26-44.3920 to implement the tax contained in the GTB Marijuana Compact and impose the requisite excise tax. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. B- **Doximity AI Policy for Department 8** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to Table this item. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. C- **SDPI Funding Recommendations for Tribal Council**

Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Memberto to approve the letter of input and recommendations to IHS for the SDPI funds with Chairwoman Witherspoon’s signature. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. D- **Indian Housing Block Grant** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to approve the submission of the Indian Housing Plan for FY2027. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. E- **Residential Lot Transfer-Agnes Glinski to Alexander McGrath** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Member Carew to transfer the assignment of lot #18 on GTB Parcel 24 in Section 2 of Benzonia Township from Agnes Glinski to Alexander McGrath. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. F- **John Filippi Request for GTB Support for Suttons Bay Township Zoning Variance** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Memberto and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to Table this item. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. G- **BIA Michigan Fire Smoke Supplies** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Secretary Miller to approve Resolution #26-44.3915 to seek approval and funding in the amount of \$4,725 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs- with the noted budget correction. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. H- **Tribal Behavioral Health Substance Use Prevention FY26** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to approve Resolution #26-44.3905 to apply for the Tribal Behavioral Health Substance Use Prevention FY26 through SAMHSA for the purpose listed, for the amount of \$1,722,379- with the two noted budget corrections. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. I- **AI Policy** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to Table this item. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries
II. New Business. J- **PSH Update** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Member Swallows to submit the request by the deadline with the location of the property across from the Medicine Lodge. **5-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 1-ABSTAINING (Raphael)**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. K- **Seven Brothers Painting-Contract** Motion made by Tribal Council Member Swallows and Supported by Tribal Council Treasurer Wonegeshik to approve the Seven Brothers Painting contract in the amount of \$174,400.00. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

II. New Business. L- **Commodity Futures Trading Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding Prediction Markets and Public Interest Determination- GTB Comments submitted** Motion made by Tribal Council Secretary Miller and Supported by Tribal Council Vice Chair Raphael to reaffirm the Chairwoman’s signature on GTB’s 9-page comments letter as attached and submitted on the deadline date of July 27, 2026. **6-FOR; 0-AGAINST; 0-ABSENT; 0-ABSTAINING**
Motion Carries

TRIBAL COUNCIL HYBRID RECORDED SESSIONS

Tribal Council Regular Sessions occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **third Wednesday** of every month.
Tribal Council Special Sessions occur at 9:30 a.m. on the **last Wednesday** of every month.

Sessions will be held in Council Chambers. **Meetings are open to Tribal Members.**

Regular Council Sessions
<https://bit.ly/GTB-REG-TCRS26>
08/19/26 • 09/16/26 • 10/21/26 • 11/18/26 • 12/16/26

Special Council Sessions
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MEMBERS OF **GRAND TRAVERSE BAND**

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GTB NEWS 4

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TRIBAL GOVERNMENT CEO KIMBERLY MCCLELLAN
BUILDING A STRONGER TRIBAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE FUTURE



A COMPREHENSIVE GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

Serving Tribal citizens today while preparing for tomorrow requires a government that continues to evolve alongside the needs of its community. With that vision in mind, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians undertook a comprehensive government reorganization in January 2026; the first full reorganization of Tribal Government since 2014. The initiative represents a significant investment in the future of GTB and the services provided to Tribal citizens, strengthening operations, improving collaboration, enhancing accountability, and positioning our Tribal Government to meet the needs of future generations.

Rather than simply shifting departments on an organizational chart, Tribal leadership began by evaluating how Government Operations functioned as a whole. An independent consulting firm worked alongside Tribal leadership, managers, and staff to identify organizational strengths, operational challenges, and opportunities for improvement. Their collaborative assessment provided the foundation for a new organizational structure focused on improving efficiency, encouraging collaboration, strengthening accountability, and

positioning Tribal Government to better serve the community both today and into the future. As part of the review, several long-vacant positions were identified as no longer necessary and were eliminated through attrition, resulting in approximately \$500,000 in annual savings. Rather than simply reducing costs, those savings helped support the comprehensive wage study approved shortly after the reorganization, allowing the Tribe to invest directly in its workforce while creating a stronger and more sustainable organization. Throughout the process, no employees lost their jobs, and no employee experienced a reduction in pay.

A NEW DIVISION BASED ORGANIZATIONAL MODEL

One of the most significant improvements involved the Tribal Manager's Office. Prior to the reorganization, the Tribal Manager supervised approximately 20 direct reports, this is unusual and presents significant managerial challenges. The new division based organizational model establishes clearer reporting relationships, strengthens communication, and provides greater leadership support across Tribal Government. For Tribal Citizens, this means departments are better positioned to work together, respond more efficiently, and deliver services in a coordinated and consistent manner. The reorganization also strengthened financial accountability by aligning reporting relationships to better support sound accounting practices. Program directors now work more collaboratively with Finance and Grants while maintaining appropriate financial oversight, improving transparency, internal controls, and long-term financial sustainability.

To improve coordination of facilities and capital projects, Tribal Government established a

new Infrastructure Department, bringing together BIA Roads, Housing, Climate Resiliency, Public Works, Maintenance, and Auto Services under one organizational structure. By aligning departments that already work closely together, the Tribe is better positioned to plan for future infrastructure needs, coordinate projects more effectively, and maximize available resources.

COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING ANISHINAABEMOWIN & STRENGTHENING TRIBAL CULTURE

The initiative also reaffirmed the Tribe's commitment to preserving Anishinaabemowin and strengthening Tribal culture. The Language Apprentice position was restored within the Anishinaabemowin Department, reinforcing ongoing language revitalization efforts. At the same time, Tribal leadership recognized that language and culture are not the responsibility of a single department; they are foundational values that should be reflected throughout Tribal Government and incorporated into the programs and services provided to the community. Supporting that vision, the Director of Tribal Citizen Engagement will help strengthen communication and collaboration between Tribal Government and the community, while the newly created Meetings and Events Coordinator will work across departments to improve coordination, reduce duplicate programming, and develop an organization wide calendar that makes it easier for Tribal Citizens to stay informed about meetings, events, and community activities.

STRENGTHEN RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

While several positions remain open, Tribal leadership believes the recently approved market wage study will strengthen recruitment efforts by making

the Tribe a more competitive employer and helping attract experienced professionals to positions that directly support Tribal programs and services. Ultimately, the reorganization represents far more than changes to an organizational chart. It reflects a long-term commitment to building a stronger, more responsive Tribal Government, one that is better equipped to serve Tribal citizens, responsibly administrator Tribal resources, invest in its employees, and preserve the language, culture, and values that define the Grand Traverse Band. As GTB continues implementing these improvements, Tribal Citizens can expect a government that is increasingly collaborative, better connected, and focused on delivering high-quality services while planning thoughtfully for the future.

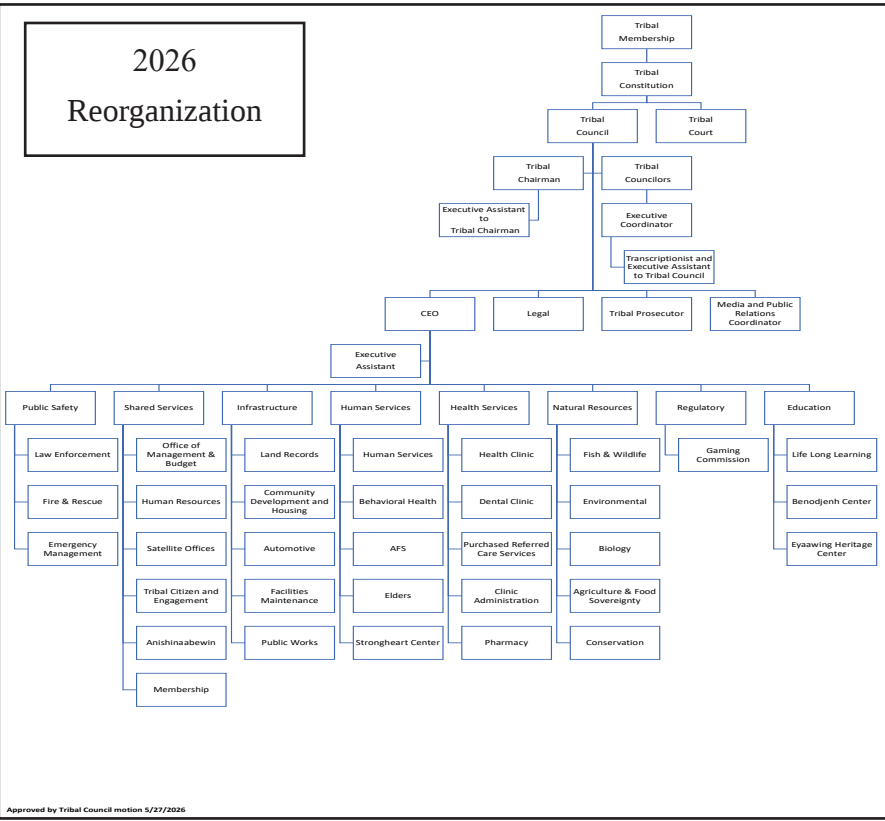
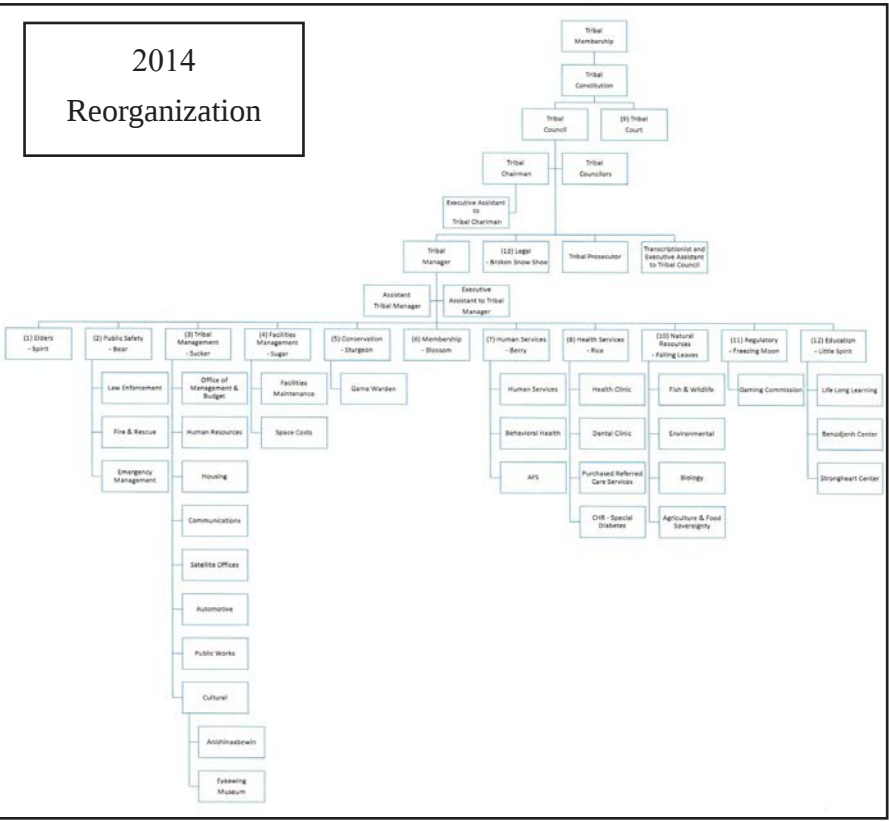
To learn more about employment opportunities, including contract positions, visit the Grand Traverse Band website: <https://www.gtbindians.org/jobpostings.asp>



“This wasn't just about moving boxes on an organizational chart. It was about building a stronger Tribal Government that is better equipped to serve our Tribal citizens today while preparing for tomorrow. Every decision was made with the goal of improving how we work together, strengthening accountability, investing in our employees, and ensuring our language, culture, and values remain at the heart of everything we do. This is about creating an organization that will continue serving our Tribal Citizens with excellence for generations to come.”

Kimberly McClellan, MPA

Tribal Government CEO



August 2026		Datgaagmin Giizis (Black Berry Moon)	
ELDERS			
Antrim/GT Elders Events & Activities Monday's Office Tasks Friday's Offices CLOSED *Notes: Lunch Provided **12:00PM - 1:00PM Tuesday; August 4th Beach Day Collect Rocks 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Wednesday; August 5th Crystal Shores Casino 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Thursday; August 6th Sewing 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Tuesday; August 11th Elders Advisory 10:00AM - 4:00PM** Wednesday; August 12th Walking Trail Logans Landing 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Thursday; August 13th Craft Project 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Friday; August 14th Health Fair 11:00AM Saturday; August 15th & Sunday; August 16th Kchi Wiikewdoong Anishinaabek Powwow Tuesday; August 18th Thrifting 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Wednesday; August 19th Elders End of Summer Picinic Makinac Thursday; August 20th Return from Makinac Tuesday; August 25th Bingo @ Mt Pleasant Sign Up Required** Wednesday; August 26th Return Bingo @ Mt Pleasant Bag Lunch Provided Thursday; August 27th Birthday Bingo Bash 1:00PM - 3:00PM**	Benzie Elders Events & Activities Monday's Office Tasks Friday's Offices CLOSED *Notes: Lunch Provided *12:00PM - 1:00PM Wednesday's in August Lunch Served 12:00PM - 1:00PM Questions, please contact Agnes Glinski (Temp.) (231) 534-7821 (231) 631-6795 agnes.glinski@gtb-nsn.gov *SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CALL AHEAD. ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DRUG & ALCOHOL-FREE! WANT TO JOIN AN ACTIVITY OR EVENT, OR NEED TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT? ADVANCE SIGN-UP IS REQUIRED! PLEASE CONTACT YOUR ELDERS SITE COORDINATOR TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.	Charlevoix Elders Events & Activities Monday's Office Tasks Friday's Offices CLOSED *Notes: Lunch Provided **12:00PM - 1:00PM Tuesday; August 4th Craft Time 1:30PM** Wednesday; August 5th Manicures 1:30PM** Thursday; August 6th Ride to Farmers Market Light Lunch (picnic) 10:30AM Tuesday; August 11th Elders Advisory 10:00AM - 4:00PM** Wednesday; August 12th Barb Out-of-Office 8:00AM - 5:00PM Thursday; August 13th Barb Out-of-Office 8:00AM - 5:00PM Friday; August 14th Health Fair 11:00AM Saturday; August 15th & Sunday; August 16th Kchi Wiikewdoong Anishinaabek Powwow Tuesday; August 18th Birthday Bingo Bash 1:30PM** Wednesday; August 19th Elders End of Summer Picinic Makinac Thursday; August 20th Barb Out-of-Office 8:00AM - 5:00PM Tuesday; August 25th Bingo @ Mt Pleasant Sign Up Required** Wednesday; August 26th Return Bingo @ Mt Pleasant Bag Lunch Provided Thursday; August 27th Barb Out-of-Office 8:00AM - 5:00PM	Leelanau Elders Events & Activities Monday's Office Tasks Friday's Offices CLOSED *Notes: Lunch Provided **12:00PM - 1:00PM Tuesday; August 4th Craft Day 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Wednesday; August 5th Store Run (Walmart & Meijer) 1:00PM** Thursday; August 6th Thrifting 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Tuesday; August 11th Elders Advisory 10:00AM - 4:00PM* No Lunch @ Elders Complex Wednesday; August 12th Farmers Market 9:00AM Thursday; August 13th Office Day 8:00AM - 5:00PM** Friday; August 14th Health Fair 11:00AM Saturday; August 15th & Sunday; August 16th Kchi Wiikewdoong Anishinaabek Powwow Tuesday; August 18th Framers Market 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Wednesday; August 19th Elders End of Summer Picinic Makinac Thursday; August 20th Local Store Run (Hansen's) 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Tuesday; August 25th Bingo @ Mt Pleasant Sign Up Required** Wednesday; August 26th Cornhole w/ GT/Antrim Elders 1:00PM - 3:00PM** Thursday; August 27th Crystal Shores Casino 1:00PM**
GTB NEWS 6			

Mino-Dibishkaan! Happy Birthday!

GTB News Staff & Membership Dept. would like to acknowledge this months Elders Birthdays!

Let us take a moment to recognize and celebrate the birthdays of our beloved elders this month. May each of these special days be filled with abundant joy, unforgettable memories, and an abundance of love, peace, and happiness!

Alvin	Pedwaydon	1-Aug	Suzanne	Roman	11-Aug	Cynthia	Mann	20-Aug
Barbara	Raphael	1-Aug	Ernest	Keway	11-Aug	Donelle	Dickinson	20-Aug
Tangila	Lemcool	1-Aug	Violet	Clement	11-Aug	Orval	Alexander	21-Aug
Kristine	Theodore-Brown	1-Aug	Helen	Paul	11-Aug	Bonnie	Inman	21-Aug
Wendy	Williams	2-Aug	Melissa	Snyder	11-Aug	Glenda	Petoskey	21-Aug
Denver	Harter	2-Aug	Frank	Gonzales	11-Aug	Jerome	Pete	21-Aug
Cheryl	Frye	2-Aug	Troy	Rivas	12-Aug	Donald	Metcalf	22-Aug
Levi	DeVerney	2-Aug	Joyce	Petoskey	12-Aug	Ronald	Whiteloan	22-Aug
Judith	Wabanimkee-Cates	2-Aug	George	DeVerney	12-Aug	Martin	Baker	22-Aug
Tina	Doody	2-Aug	John	Petoskey	13-Aug	Michael	Thomas	23-Aug
Andrew	Watrous	3-Aug	Elaine	Meszaros	13-Aug	Donna	Washegesic	23-Aug
Diane	McDonald	3-Aug	William	Fish	14-Aug	John	Deverney	23-Aug
Agnes	Cross	3-Aug	Christine	Holliman	14-Aug	Eva	Petoskey	24-Aug
Laureen	Lewis	3-Aug	Margie	Donaldson	14-Aug	Darlene	Guthrie	24-Aug
Angela	Schocko	3-Aug	Gerald	Wasageshik	14-Aug	Leslie	Antoine	24-Aug
Christopher	McClellan	3-Aug	Teresa	DeVerney	14-Aug	David	Dudley	25-Aug
Sean	Lee	4-Aug	Leah	Fernandez	14-Aug	James	Waulkazoo	25-Aug
Pamela	Ureel	4-Aug	Michelle	Hairston	14-Aug	Thomas	Thompson	25-Aug
Sylvester	Bemis	4-Aug	Mark	Wabanimkee	14-Aug	Sandra	Spielmaker	25-Aug
Gerald	Simpkins	4-Aug	Jennifer	Chaudier	15-Aug	Michael	McGrath	25-Aug
Cheryl	Weathers	5-Aug	Larry	Miller	15-Aug	Ronald	Brown	25-Aug
Douglas	Thomas	5-Aug	Bryan	Miller	15-Aug	Lori	Bailey	26-Aug
Roberta	Osborne	5-Aug	Debra	Fox	15-Aug	Norman	Burfield	26-Aug
Helen	Grice	6-Aug	Joseph	Ferrere	15-Aug	Jacqueline	Unger	27-Aug
Keith	Webb	6-Aug	Kenneth	Mitchell	16-Aug	Bernadine	Musielak	27-Aug
Lisa	Stein	7-Aug	Mary	Zambon	16-Aug	Clinton	Chambers	27-Aug
Katherine	Devers	7-Aug	Fred	Weissert	16-Aug	Lori	Sorensen	28-Aug
Linda	Thomas	7-Aug	Julie	Perry	16-Aug	Nancy	Groesser	28-Aug
Melinda	Yarbrough	8-Aug	Randolph	Burchfield	16-Aug	Lawrence	Bailey	28-Aug
Joyce	Smith	8-Aug	Tammy	Broome	17-Aug	Suzanne	Running	29-Aug
Todd	Cote	8-Aug	Ronald	Traylor	18-Aug	Michael	Campbell	29-Aug
Renee	Durrance	9-Aug	Terri	Cobb	18-Aug	Alisha	Wormell	30-Aug
Leigh	Fernstrum	9-Aug	Sandra	Hodge	18-Aug	Virginia	Wabanimkee	30-Aug
Michael	Pressey	9-Aug	Michael	Miller	18-Aug	Bernard	Case	30-Aug
Leslie	Pigeon	9-Aug	Steven	Antoine	19-Aug	Janice	Black	31-Aug
Christy	Martin	9-Aug	Arlene	Kashata	19-Aug	Sherri	Ridge	31-Aug
James	Thompson	9-Aug	Janet	Stainbrook	19-Aug	Mary Jo	McSauby	31-Aug
William	Petoskey	10-Aug	Nancy	Shomin	19-Aug			
Kaye	Stocker	10-Aug	Violet	Creps	19-Aug			



OVERNIGHT TRIBAL ELDERS BINGO

Tuesday August 25, 2026



August 25, 2026

August 26, 2026

Bingo Time: 1:30 pm

Cash only:

\$10 dollar packets

\$10 electronic

There is a 10min video at the Ziiviwing Museum; watch and receive a ticket TID# on back of ticket for a door prize upon our return home

8:30a Check out / Load Bus

Breakfast provided by Andahwood

Ziibiwing Museum Tour & Theater

“Creation Story”

\$25 non-refundable Deposit required
(will receive upon arrival in Mt. Pleasant)

MUST REGISTER WITH ELDERS COORDINATOR

Gas Cards given to those who drive down

Call for Vendors

Set up and sell crafts at Elders All Site Parties



Call your Elders Coordinator for application & to reserve your table to sell your homemade crafts during our next all site gathering.

Antrim/Grand Traverse	Tanya Tanner (231) 534-7710
Benzie/Manistee	Delora Wilson (231) 534-7769
Charlevoix	Agnus Glinski (231) 534-7821
Leelanau	Barb Kenwabikise (231) 534-7066
	Melissa Martinez (231) 534-7743
	Lisa Shawandase (231) 534-7744

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS
PRESENTS
**KCHI WIIKWEDONG
ANISHINAABEK MAAWNJIDOWIN
TRADITIONAL POWWOW**



AUGUST 15TH & 16TH, 2026
PESHAWBESTOWN POWWOW GROUNDS
MINO MI-KUN • 2585 WAABNO MAKWA ROAD
NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, FIREARMS, WEAPONS, OR DOGS

HEAD STAFF

EMCEES

Francis Wanageshik
Michael Medawis

ARENA DIRECTOR

Aaron Chivis

INVITED DRUMS

Dusty Bear
Red Willow
Mountain Town
Under the Pines

HEAD VETERAN

Mikki Pino

HEAD DANCERS

Desiree Schocko & James Broome
Jada Diaz & Kris Anderson
Dawn Shenoskey & Tom Shomin

SOUND

ReZonance Productions



SCAN ME

For More Information:
gtbpowwow@gtb-nsn.gov

Or Reach Out On Facebook At:
https://bit.ly/FB_GTBPW26



SPECIALS

STREET CLOTHES SPECIAL

\$300 | \$200 | \$100

HAND DRUM SPECIAL

\$300 | \$200 | \$100

POTATO DANCE

\$200

SPOT DANCES

All Specials Must Be Approved by **POWWOW**

COMMUNITY FEAST

SATURDAY DINNER BREAK

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

FEATURING GTB MAPLE SYRUP!

Join us during the Saturday Dinner Break for a special Community Potluck Powwow Feast on **Saturday, August 15!** Community members are encouraged to bring their Feast Bundle and a dish to pass, but it is not required.



Main dishes will be provided by the GTB Agriculture & Food Sovereignty Program, which will feature a selection of local foods, including lake trout, rice, potatoes, and maple products, all funded by the USDA Grant.



GTB is proud to acknowledge that the maple syrup used in this feast comes from our community's Sugar Bush Camp, organized by the GTB Agriculture Dept., who will also provide cooking instructions for all featured items.

**KCHI WIIKWEDONG
ANISHINAABEK SOBRIETY WALK**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

STARTS AT 10AM AT THE POWWOW GROUNDS PAVILION

Ends in the Arena with a talking circle to show appreciation for what the walk is for, GTB programs that have helped with sobriety, & an opportunity to tell your story.

Contact: Marion Wabanimkee-Minzey
Marion.Wabanimkee-Minzey@gtb-nsn.gov

GRAND ENTRY

SATURDAY

1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY

1:00 p.m.

DAY PAY

Must Register before
Grand Entry

VENDORS

Vendors Register Using the Link or
Scan the QR Code!

<https://bit.ly/GTBPWVA26>



Scan me!

All Vendors Must be Approved

Vendor Contact: Ta'Shena Sams
TaShena.sams@gtb-nsn.gov

LODGING

RUSTIC CAMPING

Tuesday, August 11 - Monday, August 17
Open for Language Camp, Powwow weekend, and Monday after.

Camping Permit Required: Call Tribal Police at 231-534-7777
Showers Available at Strongheart

RV CAMPING

Power & Dump Station Available

Visit or Call Leelanau Sands Casino for more information at **231-534-8100**

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians POWWOW will not tolerate any drug or alcohol use while on property. Fighting or any related activities to promote a negative atmosphere will not be allowed. Any violators will result in removal from the POWWOW grounds by security and/or on-site law enforcement personnel. The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is not responsible for accidents, damages, and/or stolen items.

Powwow Dance Classes with Vanessa Schocko

Charlevoix Gym

- June 15, June 23, June 30
- July 6, July 14, July 21, July 28
- Aug 4, Aug 11, Aug 18, Aug 25

10am-11:30am

Strongheart Dance Room

- **June 17**, June 24
- July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22, July 29
- Aug 5, Aug 12, Aug 19, Aug 26

10am-11:30am

3-Mile

- June 15, June 29
- July 6, July 20
- Aug 3, Aug 17

4pm-5:30pm

John Hall

- June 25
- July 23
- Aug 13, Aug 27

10am-11:30am

Class Cancellation Today 6.17.26

Snacks and drinks provided

Open to GTB youth girls, women, descendants and community members

For More Information:
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

Powwow Dance Classes with Jared Broome

3-Mile

- June 16, June 23, June 30
- July 7, July 9, July 14, July 21, July 28
- Aug 4, Aug 11, Aug 18, Aug 25

3pm-4:30pm

Strongheart Center - Dance Room

- June 17, June 24
- July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22, July 29
- Aug 5, Aug 12, Aug 19, Aug 26

3pm-4:30pm

Charlevoix Gym

- June 18
- July 2, July 16
- Aug 6, Aug 20

3pm-4:30pm

John Hall

- June 25
- July 23, **July 30th**
- Aug 13, Aug 27

3pm-4:30pm

Open to GTB youth boys, men, descendants, community members

For More Information:
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

POWWOW GIVEAWAY CRAFTING SOCIAL

Help create giveaway items for the August powwow

Come Sew With Us!

MONDAY & WEDNESDAYS
Starting July 1

1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

Cultural Building by powwow grounds
2585 Waabno Makwa

WHAT WE'LL BE MAKING:

- ✓ GIVEAWAY ITEMS
- ✓ COMMUNITY CRAFTS
- ✓ POWWOW DONATIONS
- ✓ BEGINNER FRIENDLY

ALL SKILLS LEVELS WELCOME

Questions?
Isadore Toulouse
231.534.7252

AAMBE NAGAMO-DAA! COME, LET'S SING!

Ptown Powwow Grounds

- June 15, **June 22**, June 29
- July 6, July 9th, July 13, July 20, July 27
- Aug 3, Aug 10, Aug 17, Aug 24

6pm-8pm

3-Mile Building

- June 16, June 23, June 30
- July 7, July 14, July 21, July 28
- Aug 4, Aug 11, Aug 18, Aug 25

6pm-8pm

John Hall

- June 25
- July 2, July 23, July 30
- Aug 6, Aug 13, Aug 27

6pm-8pm

Charlevoix Satellite Building

- June 18
- July 16
- August 20

6pm-8pm

JOIN US

INSTRUCTOR: DEVYN MCKEEVER

Open to GTB youth boys, men, descendants, community members

**Snacks provided

For More Information:
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

COMMUNITY POTLUCK & BEACH NIGHT

New Location!
Recently acquired land by GTB

August 14th, 2026 | 4pm-7pm

Food | Live Music | Swimming | Door Prizes

Don't miss this chance to view our recently acquired land and enjoy some live music, swimming, food and the possibility of winning a prize!

Music/sound provided by **New Leonard Media**

Bring your own lawn chair, enjoy the views and start off this powwow weekend in community

Earn an extra raffle ticket when you bring a dish to pass!!

Location: MASHKIIG AKI
8000-8040 N Indian Camp Rd,
Northport, MI, 49670

Once at the address, follow signage to parking area, and then follow signage to the beach/natural area for the event

For More Information:
Leilani DeFoe 231-492-9956

2026 FAMILY ANISHINAABEMOWIN LANGUAGE CAMP

2585 WAABNO MAKWA ROAD,
PESHAWBESTOWN MI

Gchi-Wiikwedoong Gbeshiwin Maawniidowin Temgok Anishinaabemowin
(GTB Language Camp Gathering Where the Language is at)

Wednesday, August 12th
Thursday, August 13th
Friday, August 14th

More Information:
etblanguagedepartment@gtb-nsn.gov | Isadore Toulouse 231.534-7252

GTB NEWS 9

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BASED ON UNIQUE CULTURAL CONTEXTS

At GTB’s Behavioral Health Services we understand that delivery of mental health services in our community must be based on our unique cultural contexts and interwoven throughout our service array to effectively address behavioral health needs. We understand the importance of providing alternative healing therapies for holistic care. Our alternative healing services are deeply rooted in cultural traditions, community relationships, and connection with our natural world, sky, land and water.

ALTERNATIVE HEALING THERAPIES WE OFFER:

Massage: Dennielle Russ

provides massage therapy using the following modalities: Manual Lymph Drainage (MLD), Face Gua Sha, Cupping, Heat Therapy with Stones, heat packs, and paraffin wax, and Swedish foundation tissue manipulation.

Energy: Debbie Peterson

provides energy healing/Reiki using the following protocols: Holy Fire, Medicinal Herbal Medicine Salve making workshops, and HIA Healing in America.

Traditional Healing: Gerard Sagassige

provides traditional healing services, including guiding fasting camps, sweat lodge ceremonies, sunrise ceremonies, sacred fires, and offering spiritual guidance, traditional teachings, healing, and medicines.

Acupuncture: Bob Storrer

provides Auricular acupuncture and adds frequency healing during the clinic.

TO SCHEDULE,
PLEASE CALL
231-534-7090

GET TO KNOW THE STAFF

Human Services Division Director

Joanie Blamer-Eisner, LMSW, CAADC: I am the Human Services Division Director. I live in Traverse City and have worked in the social services field for the past 29 years. I have experience in delivering services to people experiencing behavioral health concerns. Additionally, I have been responsible for enhancing, implementing, and evaluating programs that have assisted children, young mothers, and adults with mental health, intellectual developmental disabilities, and substance use concerns. If we haven’t met already, I am looking forward to meeting you!

Behavioral Health Therapist

Bill Martell, LMSW, CAADC: I am a new Behavioral Health Counselor; I am a tribal member and have lived in the area most of my life. I was a BH Counselor for over 6 years and have worked in various roles for the tribe in the past. I have also worked as a mental health therapist for Addiction Treatment Services, Pine Rest and most recently at Traverse Health Clinic. I wanted to work for the tribe again because I have found that the best fit for me is to serve my people (and I was told by an elder that is what I should be doing!). As a Native American I like to use traditional ways as well as Person Centered, CBT, DBT, ACT, and Motivational Interviewing approaches to assist people with their mental health and substance abuse recovery needs.

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Intern

Bryan Cloninger, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Intern: I am a Clinical Mental Health Counselor in training and am completing my internship with GTB Behavioral Health. I am learning Bill Martell, LMSW, CAADC as I become more familiar with the community and the services offered by the BHS department. I bring 55 years of life experience and an empathic, attentive, and collaborative approach

Behavioral Health Caseworker

Marion Wabanimkee-Minzey: I am a Behavioral Health Clinical Caseworker. With six years of experience in the Behavioral Health department, I have developed a deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by individuals seeking mental health support. Since 2022, I have provided case management services. Additionally, I have provided some incentives and assistance for people attending counseling and assisting clients in navigating their mental health journeys and accessing the necessary resources. My commitment to helping those in need strengthens our community.

Psychiatric Provider

Rosalyn Stringer, PMHPNP-BC: I am a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Our goal is to enhance or improve each GTB member's general standard of living and well-being. To promote optimal balance in the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual elements of the individual and their family. I provide management of medications for mood disorders, anxiety, and depression. I am a board-certified psychiatric nurse practitioner who listens to you and works in unison with you to provide compassionate, understanding treatment.

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Farmers Market

Drop Off

OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

EVERY FRIDAY FROM JUNE - AUGUST

2PM-3PM

• Rescued items change weekly.

• May include local fresh produce.

• May include fresh bakery items.



GTB Medicine Lodge Human Service Pantry

Lower level, loading dock

2300 Stallman Road, Suttons Bay

Andrea Arroyo: 231-534-7910

Wendi Wilson: 231-534-7906



GTB

ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES

MASSAGE THERAPY

Scan QR code below to
schedule a 25 minute session:
https://bit.ly/GTB_MASSAGE





THERAPEUTIC
SESSIONS

Great for stress relief & muscle
tension

MANUAL LYMPH
DRAINAGE

Provides a boost to your immune
system + great for fluid retention,
lymphedema and pre/post
operative care (with Dr. clearance)

FACIAL GUA
SHA

Reduces puffiness, can
help with sinus pressure,
and feels wonderful

CUPPING

Creates negative
pressure to lift tissue and
increase circulation for
tight muscles

CONTACT:

Marion Wabanimkee-Minzey
(231) 534-7091
Marion.Wabanimkee-Minzey@gtb-nsn.gov

GTB NEWS 10

NIIZH ANIMIKIIG (SPF-PFS) PROGRAM INITIATED THEIR ANNUAL EVALUATION

In 2025, the **Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Niizh Animikiig (SPF-PFS) program initiated their annual evaluation** of current programming, events, activities, and community members’ opinions on mental health and substance misuse/addiction needs and services. Below you will find a few of the questions with responses:

Approximately 46% of survey respondents had seen messaging or information related to the Niizh Animikiig program, and almost 34% did not see any messaging or information.

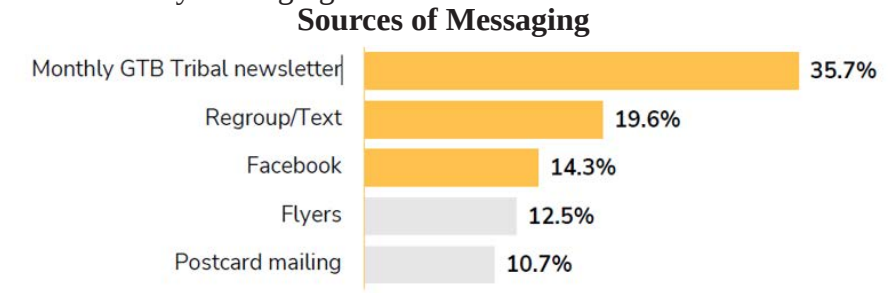


Figure 3. Sources of Niizh Animikiig messaging. Of those that had seen messaging or information related to Niizh Animikiig, most saw information in monthly GTB Tribal newsletters, through Regroup/text message, or through Facebook. Respondents were able to select more than one response, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

The five types of messaging that survey respondents utilize the most are the GTB Tribal newsletter (62.5%), Regroup/text (39.3%), social media (26.8%), the GTB Tribal website (25.0%), and word of mouth/family and friends/community members (14.3%).

Niizh Animikiig Programming and Barriers to Attendance
Just over 25% of survey respondents said that they did not participate in any Niizh Animikiig events, activities, or programming. Those who attended participated in a variety of programming.

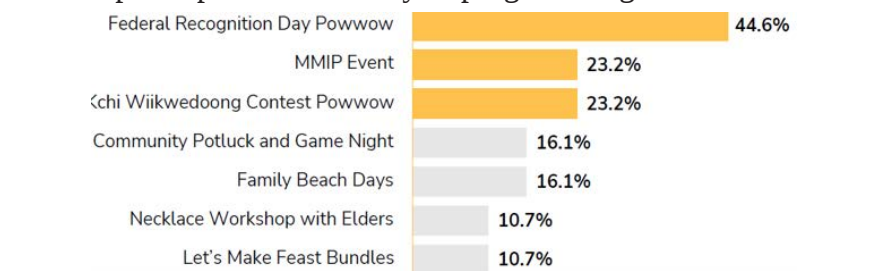
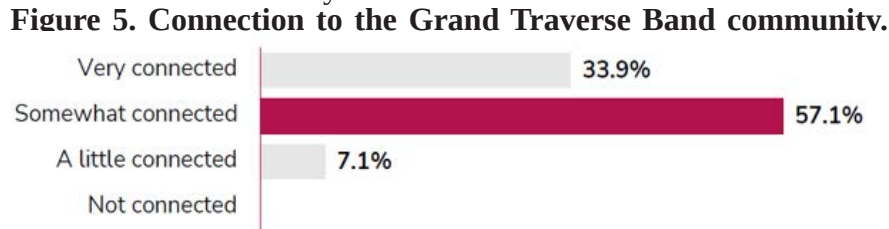


Figure 4. Top Seven Niizh Animikiig programming that survey respondents attended. The events that survey respondents attended the most were the Federal Recognition Day Powwow, the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Event, and the Kchi Wiikwedoong Contest Powwow. Respondents were able to select more than one response, so the total percentage may exceed 100%.

The most well-attended Niizh Animikiig events were larger-scale, community events that appealed to a wide range of ages and interests, with the two powwows receiving the most participation.

Community Connection
Survey respondents were asked how connected they feel to the Grand Traverse Band community.



IT IS OKAY TO CALL FOR HELP!
GTB INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE IS AVAILABLE

Behavioral Health Services

231-534-7090

Health Services

231-534-7200

Nurse Care Navigation

231-534-7237

CRISIS PHONE LINES

AVAILABLE 24/7

National Crisis Lifeline

988 or 1-800-273-8255

National Crisis Text Line

Text NATIVE to 741741

Antrim County

877-470-4668

Benzie County

877-398-2013

Charlevoix County

877-470-4668

Grand Traverse County

833-295-0616

Leelanau County

833-295-0616

Manistee County

877-398-2013

Over half of the survey respondents (57.1%) say that they feel somewhat connected to the Grand Traverse Band community.

Most survey respondents said that they feel somewhat connected to the community. This is because they are not able to participate in community events and gatherings due to various reasons such as work, illness, or lack of time. For those who felt very connected to the Grand Traverse Band community (33.9%), the three main reasons why are:

- ♦ They grew up and/or live on the reservation or in the 6-county area.
- ♦ They participate in events and activities.
- ♦ They are connected with the community and/or have been part of the community for a long time.

Importance of Native American Cultural Beliefs
Survey respondents were asked how important their Native American culture and beliefs are to them.

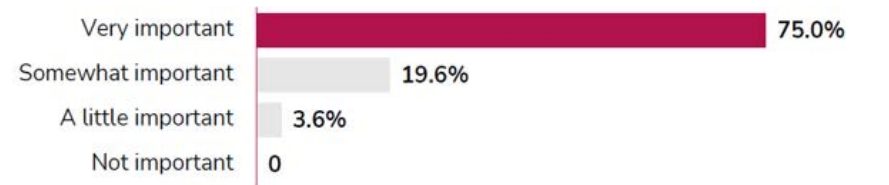


Figure 6. Importance of Native American culture and beliefs. All survey respondents said that Native American culture and beliefs are at least a little important to them, with three-fourths (75.0%) saying that the culture and beliefs are very much important to them. For those who said that Native American culture and beliefs are very important to them, the two main reasons why are:

- ♦ Cultural revitalization; to pass knowledge to future generations.
- ♦ They didn’t learn about culture and beliefs growing up.

Only 3.6% of survey respondents said that Native American culture and beliefs are only a little important to them. Their reason for this is because Grand Traverse Band membership requirements limit participation.

Importance of Culture and Beliefs for Prevention and Recovery
Survey respondents were asked if Native American culture and beliefs are important for prevention and recovery from substance misuse/addiction.

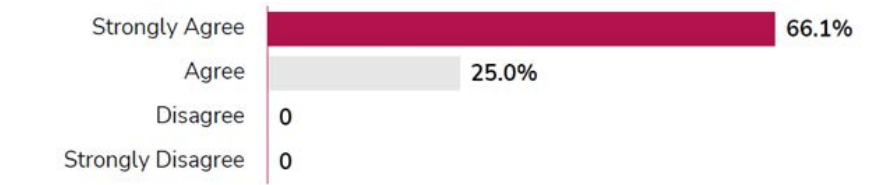


Figure 7. Importance of Native American culture and beliefs in the prevention and recovery from substance misuse/addiction. Over 65% of survey respondents strongly agree that their Native American culture and beliefs are important in prevention and recovery.

NENAANDAWI'IWED

TRADITIONAL HEALER

Gerard Sagassige

Gerard Sagassige is from Curve Lake First Nation with family connections to Serpent River and Wikwemikong. With over 20 years of experience in traditional healing practices across Anishinaabek communities in the United States and Canada, Gerard is dedicated to cultural revitalization, holistic wellness, and community-based healing. For the past seven years, he serves as the Traditional Practitioner for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, providing culturally grounded healing services, ceremonies, and teachings that support the spiritual and emotional well-being of community members.

Gerard also serves as the Cultural Director for Anishinaabemowin-Teg Inc. He is a first-language fluent speaker of Anishinaabemowin, with English as his second language. Gerard believes language is central to Anishinaabe identity, wellness, and spirituality, and Anishinaabe worldview and traditional healing practices are inseparable from our language.

Gerard's responsibilities include guiding fasting camps, sweat lodge ceremonies, sunrise ceremonies, sacred fires, and offering spiritual guidance, traditional teachings, healing, and medicines. He works with individuals of all ages and support staff and organizations in learning and integrating Anishinaabek traditional ways of life into their lives and work.

Call Marion Wabanimkee-Minzey to schedule 231-534-7091

Or schedule online at: <https://massageGTBbh.as.me/>

GTB NEWS 11

Move Better.
Feel Stronger.
Live Freely.

STARTING JUNE 17TH

EVENING CLASS FOCUS
HEART COHERENCE
YOGA & MEDITATION
WEDNESDAYS • 5:30-6:30 PM
JUNE THROUGH SUMMER

Join Mariann (*Selphica*) for a deeply nourishing evening practice designed to help you reconnect to the wisdom of your heart, calm the nervous system, and restore inner balance.

This gentle all-levels class weaves together:

- Heart-centered yoga movement
- Guided meditation
- Breathwork & relaxation techniques
- Sound healing with vibration and tone to help support the nerves system.
- Practices for emotional balance and stress reduction



MORNING
CLASS FOCUS

FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH
& MOBILITY YOGA
WEDNESDAYS • 8:00-9:00 AM
JUNE THROUGH SUMMER

Come join Mariann (*Selphica*) for an energizing yoga class designed to build strength, improve mobility, and support the body you move through life with. This energizing yoga class is designed to enhance the key muscle groups and movement patterns used in:

- Running
- Biking
- Weight Training
- Everyday Movement & Active Living



Strongheart Center
2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown
Telephone: 231-534-7456



• LIVE • LOVE • KAYAK •

Kayaks Available for Tribal Member Use!
GTB Community can sign out (2) Kayaks with valid tribal ID, Phone Number, Address, and Signed User Agreement (2-Day Usage)

**For More Information Call
(231) 534 - 7457**

STRONGHEART CENTER 
2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown



**DON'T KNOW
WHERE TO
Start?**

Join Our Certified **Personal Trainer Group Sessions** led by Certified Personal Trainer **Cheryl Send!**

What We Offer:

- **FREE** with Strongheart Membership!
- Small **Group Sessions**
- **Beginner Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 12:00pm
- **Intermediate Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 1:00pm
- **Advanced Session** - Tues. & Thurs. at 2:00pm

**Don't miss out—Call and Reserve Your Spot Today!
(231) 534-7457**



**GTB STRONGHEART CENTER
PRESENTS**



**FITNESS CENTER
FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE**

**ARE YOU A GTB
TRIBAL MEMBER &
CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE
GTB FITNESS CENTERS?
NO SWEAT!**

- Fitness Center Financial Assistance to GTB Citizens, Within 6 County Service Area, That Do Not Live Near or Have Access to one of GTB Fitness Centers.
 - Antrim, Grand Traverse, & Manistee Eligible!
- Discounts Also Available for Spouses & Significant Others
- Limited Gym Membership During Winter Months

Gym Membership Assistance for GTB Citizens Within Antrim, Grand Traverse, & Manistee County That Don't Have Access to One of the GTB Fitness Centers & Are Interested in Joining a Local Gym. Discounts Are Also Available for GTB Spouses and/or Significant Others to Encourage & Support One Another on Your Wellness Goals!

Call Leanne or Dawn for the Details & Questions!
Contact: Leanne (Tana) Alber
(231) 534-7551 Leanne.Alber@gtb-nsn.gov

www.gtbindians.org/strongheart.asp

DENTAL CONNECTIONS

Greetings from the GTB Dental Clinic and Staff. We hope your summer has been excellent so far, and that you’ve been able to enjoy the beautiful beaches and parks in the area where we call home. This month, we are recognizing Bad Breath Awareness Day, which is on August 6. Bad breath, also known as halitosis, is a common ailment that many suffer from and there are several reasons why it occurs.

The primary reason for bad breath is due to bacteria. Bacteria are always present in our mouth, but when they grow out of control, they cause a strong odor. Poor oral hygiene, gingival disease, dry mouth, and untreated cavities all cause the bacterial load in our mouths to increase and cause unsettling odors to occur.

If plaque and food are not brushed off regularly, the food particles rot and break down, and cause rank odors to emanate from the mouth. Additionally, if periodontal disease and pockets are present, bacteria

grow in these hard-to-reach areas and cause foul smelling odors to present in the mouth. Our mouths are intended to be moist, and if salivary flow is reduced due to medications, gland issues, or other habits, the food particles and dead skin cells can’t get washed away and will also cause bad breath to arise. Last, cavities are colonies of bacteria on the



teeth, and allowing these colonies to grow without treatment will cause foul odors to be increasingly present.

Other factors that contribute to bad breath are lifestyle choices such as eating strong and odorous foods like onions/garlic, smoking (leads to periodontal disease and dries out the mouth), and strict low carb diets (cause the body to break down fat, releasing a fruity or acetone-like breath odor). Bad breath is also caused from medical issues outside of the oral cavity like sinus or throat infections, tonsil stones, acid reflux (GERD), or uncontrolled diabetes, kidney failure, or liver disease. Now that you know what causes bad breath, take control of the situation! Practice excellent home hygiene, drink plenty of water to hydrate the mouth, address your dental decay, and stop smoking! If you follow these guidelines and are still experiencing bad breath, please talk to your primary care physician to rule out other systemic issues that were mentioned previously.

YOUR MEDICATIONS, YOUR SAFETY: A GUIDE TO MANAGING YOUR MEDICINES

Why Medication Safety Matters

Taking medicine the right way helps you feel better and stay healthy. But mistakes with medicines happen more often than you might think. The good news? There are simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your family.

Keep a List of All Your Medicines

One of the most important things you can do is keep an up-to-date list of everything you take. This includes:

- ◆ Prescription medicines
- ◆ Over-the-counter medicines (like ibuprofen, antacids, or allergy pills)
- ◆ Vitamins and supplements (like vitamin D, fish oil, or herbal products)

Carry this list with you at all times — in your wallet, purse, or phone. Share it with every doctor, dentist, and pharmacist you see. This helps your care team spot problems, like two medicines that should not be taken together.

Tip: Bring all of your medicine bottles to your pharmacy or doctor visits so your pharmacist or doctor can review them with you.

Know the Basics About Each Medicine You Take

For every medicine you take, make sure you can answer these questions:

1. What is the name of this medicine?
2. Why am I taking it?
3. How much do I take, and when?
4. Should I take it with food or on an empty stomach?
5. Are there foods, drinks, or other medicines I should avoid while taking it?

What to Do If You Miss a Dose

Missing a dose can happen to anyone. Here are some general tips:

- ◆ **If you remember soon after:** Take the missed dose as soon as you can.
- ◆ **If it is almost time for your next dose:** Skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the regular time.
- ◆ **Do not double up** unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you it is safe to do so.

Some medicines have special rules for missed doses. Ask your pharmacist what to do for each of your specific medicines so you have a plan ahead of time.

Store Your Medicines Safely

How you store your medicines matters:

- ◆ Keep medicines in a cool, dry place — not in the bathroom, where heat and moisture can damage them. A bedroom shelf or kitchen cabinet (away from the stove) works well.
- ◆ Always keep

medicines in their original containers with the labels on them.

- ◆ Store all medicines out of the reach and sight of children — ideally in a locked cabinet or box.
- ◆ Check expiration dates regularly. Expired medicines may not work as well and could be harmful.

Ask Your Pharmacist, We Are Here to Help

Your pharmacist is one of the most accessible members of your health care team. You do not need an appointment to ask a question. Reach out any time you:

- ◆ Start a new medicine
- ◆ Have questions about side effects
- ◆ Want to know if a supplement or over-the-counter product is safe with your other medicines
- ◆ Need help understanding your medicine schedule
- ◆ Want to review all of your medicines

Remember: There is no such thing as a silly question when it comes to your health.

Please reach out to GTB Pharmacy with any questions at 231-534-7350.

We are here Monday-Friday 8:30am to 6pm.

GTB
HEALTH
FAIR

The GTB Health Department is hosting
**OUR Annual Health Fair! EXCEPT
THIS YEAR IS OUR 30TH AT THE
Medicine Lodge!!**
Please join us:

**AUGUST 14TH AT THE MEDICINE
LODGE FROM 11A-2P.**

**WE WILL HAVE VENDORS, HEALTHY
SNACKS AND DRINKS, GIVE AWAYS
AND PRIZES.**

Contact: Mary Agosa 231-534-7556 or Sonya Zotigh 231-534-7241

HEALTH SERVICES DEPT. REMINDER

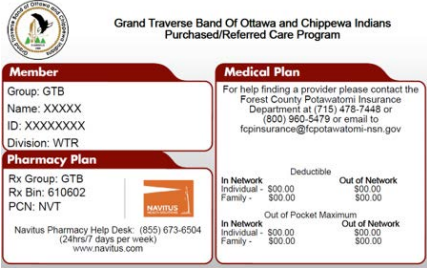
GTB patients to please arrive 15 minutes early before your Clinic and/ or Dental Clinic appointments. If you are running late, please call 231-534-7200 for the Clinic and 231-534-7211 for the Dental Clinic to ensure that your appointment can be accommodated. **Please remember to bring all your IDs and insurance to every appointment, especially if there are any updates to be made. If you are experiencing any covid or flu-like symptoms let staff know when you are checking in.** GTB Transportation and CHR sub-departments are reminding all patients that if you are being transported to an appointment that requires any type of anesthesia you will need to have someone 18 years or older with you for the pick-up and drop-off of the transport and during the procedure. This process will protect our patients and health staff should any issue or complication arise during or after the procedure. Chi-Megwetch, Sonya Zotigh, MPA, GTB Health Administrator Sonya.Zotigh2@gtb-nsn.gov 231-534-7241 or cell: 231-463-7193

GTB MEMBER EMPLOYEES FOR BOTH GOVERNMENT AND EDC/AND PRC CLIENTS

Below you will find examples of both cards:

1. An employee insurance card and it is BLUE.
2. The PRC Card is Red/brown.

PRC (RED/BROWN) is secondary and the PAYER of LAST RESORT.



Please ensure to present your employee insurance for all appointments and as needed for your PRC card.



Slip 'n' slide kickball!

August 20, 2026

1PM - 3PM

Snacks
Provided

M22 Youth Building
28 21 NW Bayshore Dr.
Peshawbestown, MI 49682



Hannah Pelcher
Ph: 231-534-7747
cell: 231-631-0828
Email:
Hannah.pelcher@gtb-nsn.gov

Torie Chippewa
Ph: 231-594-7230
Cell: 231-590-2395
Email:
Victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov



FAMILY **AUGUST 21, 2026**
CANOE/KAYAK/
TUBING TRIP
DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE
EVENT

OPEN TO ALL GTB MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES
LIVING IN THE SIX-COUNTY SERVICE AREA
(DESCENDANTS AND COMMUNITY WELCOME)
LUNCH 11:00AM-12:00PM AT THE PARK ACROSS
THE STREET
SIGN UP DEADLINE AUGUST 11TH, 2026

FOR ASSISTANCE OR INFORMATION CONTACT
TORIE CHIPPEWA CELL: 231-590-2395, OFFICE:
231-534-7230
HANNAH PELCHER CELL: 231-631-0828, OFFICE:
231-534-7747
AARON CHIVIS OFFICE: 231-534-7764
DANA MCCLELLAN CELL: 231-631-9628 OFFICE:
231-534-7356



USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP OR
<https://forms.gle/vUZi3qh8w6XBrarp6>



A monthly gathering for Leelanau County families to connect, learn, and grow together. Dinner Provided!

- CONNECT**
Build relationships with other families
- LEARN**
Explore topics on parenting and child development
- PLAY**
Kids enjoy supervised playtime

- Build relationships with other families
- Learn about parenting and child development
- Enjoy a family dinner (provided!)
- Let children participate in supervised play while caregivers connect and learn

Beginning this October, we'll meet on the Mondays below from **5:15-7:00PM** at Keswick Church in Suttons Bay. Registration is now open, and we'd love to welcome both returning and new families. If you're looking for a supportive community where your whole family can learn and grow together, Families Together is for you.

Prefer to join us for the first session before committing to the series? No problem, just select single session registration and come and try it out. We would love to have your family join us!

Keswick United Methodist Church
3376 S Center Hwy. Suttons Bay

October 19	December 7	February 22	April 19
November 16	January 18	March 15	May 17



Register today: parentingcommunities.org



Free playgroups and events for Leelanau families with children from birth through age 6



Tie Dye & Ice Cream Social
What: Celebrate summer with us! Children ages 0-6 will tie-dye a PC t-shirt and enjoy a treat!
Where: Outdoors at the PC office 7401 E Duck Lake Rd. Lake Leelanau
When: Tuesday, August 18th 3-6pm
Find more details: parentingcommunities.org/events



Families Together
A monthly gathering for Leelanau County families to connect, learn, and grow together. Dinner Provided!
3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER-MAY 5:15-7pm
KESWICK CHURCH
Suttons Bay

MONDAY Art in the Park 1:30 - 3 PM Sutton Park Beach St. SB Aug 10 & 17 LUNES	TUESDAY Glen Lake Playgroup 10-11 AM Old Settlers Park Maple City Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 MARTES	WEDNESDAY Northport Playgroup 10-11 AM Northport School playground Aug 5, 12, 19, 26 MIERCOLES	THURSDAY Suttons Bay Playgroup 10-11 AM Sutton Park Beach St. SB Aug 6, 20, 27 JUEVES	FRIDAY Cedar Playgroup 10-11 AM Bee Well 9044 S Kasson St Aug 7 VIERNES
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Parenting Communities is a proud member of the Great Start Collaborative of Traverse Bay

(231) 256-0227 www.parentingcommunities.org @parentingcommunities @PCLeelanau 7401 E Duck Lake Rd. Lake Leelanau

GTB NEWS 14



Youth Services DAY CAMP

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
11AM - 3PM

Ages 10 - 17

Starting July 15th through end of AUGUST

Fun Activities

Creative Activities

field trips

OUTDOOR

PLAYING



Torie Chippewa
ph: 231.534.7230
Email: victoria.chippewa@gtb-nsn.gov

M22 Youth Building
2821 NW Bayshore Dr.
Peshawbestown, MI 49682



Youth Services Day Camp

JULY 14 THROUGH AUGUST

Ages 8-17

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
11-3

SPACE FOR 10 CHILDREN
PICK UP 10:30 - 11AM

AFTER PICK UP WE WILL TRAVEL AND JOIN OUR NORTHWESTERN COUSINS IN PTOWN (2821 NW BAYSHORE DR. PESHAWBESTOWN, MI 49682)

before our outdoor events(1-3) we will practice anishinaabemowin, have lunch, and small crafts/short teachings



Hannah Pelcher
C#231-631-0828
O#231-534-7747
hannah.pelcher@gtb-nsn.gov



BENZIE & MANISTEE COUNTY ACTIVITY DAY CAMP

JUNE 22 - AUGUST 27
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
10AM-4:30PM

GRADES K-6



HIKING

READING

RAFTS

Get ready for a summer full of fun!

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday at Benzie Outpost.
7282 Hoadley Road, Benzonia, MI 49616

Breakfast, lunch and snacks provided.
Closed toe shoes please.

Sign up today for a summer they won't forget!

Join us!

- BREAKFAST 9:30-10:30 T/W/TH
- LUNCH @LOCAL LIBRARY
- OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES & FUN CRAFTS
- HELD RAIN OR SHINE (ACTIVITIES MAY VARY)

For more information or to volunteer contact:
KIMBERLY.HINMON@GTB-NSN.GOV
(231) 534-7825



Youth Services Day Trip to Tahquamenon Falls

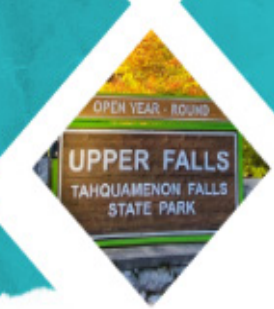
Postponed until August 6, 2026
due to Air Quality Advisories

we will explore and hike the lower and upper falls.

Weather Permitting
Alternate Date For trip is July 27, 2026

Ages 10-17 Tahquamenon river michigan
Paradise MI 49769

Limited space please use QR code or Link to sign up
<https://forms.gle/nNQzBCsL6LDEMDNd6>



HANNAH PELCHER
PH: 231.534.7747
CELL: 231.631.0828
EMAIL: HANNAH.PELCHER@GTB-NSN.GOV

TORIE CHIPPEWA
PH: 231.534.7230
EMAIL: VICTORIA.CHIPPEWA@GTB-NSN.GOV



Serve Safe Safe Food Handling Class will be offered

*Tuesday, August 4, 10a - 4p, 3 mile/Traverse City building or
*Wednesday, August 5, M-22 building/Heritage Library, 10a -4p

Bring bag lunch (lunch not provided)

The class is open to staff and community members who are planning on cooking or helping in GTB kitchens in the coming year. You only need to attend one session, and you will receive certification upon completion.

Pre-registration is requested
To sign up, e-mail: CindiMcTeacher@gmail.com

For questions:
e-mail CindiMcTeacher@gmail.com
Or Call Tangila Lemcool - 231.534.7760

NATURAL RESOURCES

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- ♦ August 6th @ 9:00AM NREC regular session
- ♦ August 26th @ 12:00PM all agenda requests will be due to NRD for September 3rd NREC regular session.

NRD@gtb-nsn.gov | 231-534-7500
NREC Regular Session Meeting

August	NREC	Thursday	8/6/26	7/29 9:00 AM
September	NREC	Thursday	9/3/26	8/26 9:00 AM
October	NREC	Thursday	10/1/26	9/23 9:00 AM
November	NREC	Thursday	11/5/26	10/28 9:00 AM
December	NREC	Thursday	12/3/26	11/25 9:00 AM

RENEW HUNTING, FISHING, GATHERING, AND TRAPPING LICENSES

All licenses expire every April 1st. These renewal stickers for your licenses can be requested at NRD and at the Benzie satellite office. Benzie office phone number: (231) 534-7821.

If you need to be licensed immediately: Go to your smartphone internet browser or to your nearest computer/laptop internet explorer: Type in the search bar: <https://hunt.gtbindians.org/> You'll want to follow the prompts as requested.

Everything you can do in the HFGT Online-App:

- ♦ Request your license to be renewed in real time (immediately).
- ♦ Request and utilize your harvest tags (Deer and Turkey); meaning your digital tags would be available to you through the App instantly.
- ♦ The most up-to-date Hunting and Fishing Regulations are available in the App.



GREAT LAKES COMMERCIAL FISHERY

For Commercial Fishermen, if you are utilizing a GTB Marina building/unit and if you haven't done so already; please stop by NRD to make sure your Building Use Application is up to date for this 2026

NRD Office Hours:

**Monday through Thursday
8:00AM – 5:00PM**

You can always email your requests to

NRD@gtb-nsn.gov

P: (231) 534-7500

- ♦ Receive important Notifications through the App
- ♦ Sign up for the Elk, Bear and Sturgeon lotteries.

Having trouble with the app? Email NRD@gtb-nsn.gov with your contact details, and our team will assist you. This is a new app and for the next couple of years, we'll be working out any hang-ups that may arise. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we navigate this new innovative system for everyone.

SEPTEMBER HUNTING SEASONS

**SIMPLIFIED
(PLEASE READ THE
REGULATIONS FOR
MORE INFORMATION)!**

Deer (Waawaashkesh) - Allotted 5 Deer tags total annually
Season Opens Tuesday, September 8th (Day after Labor Day)

- ♦ **Deer Bow/ Crossbow/ Edge bladed Spear** (on Public, Tribal, and Tribal Owners/Lessee Land)
 - ♦ All Deer tags can be used, only 2 may have antlers 3" or longer.

- ♦ **NOTE Deer Firearm/ Muzzleloader/Air-Gun** (Public, Tribal, and Tribal Owners/Lessee Land)
 - ♦ One deer with antlers 3" or longer and other deer must be antlerless.

NOTE: Deer Firearm/ Muzzleloader/Air Gun/ Suppressed Firearm (Non-Tribal Private Land with Owner Consent)

- ♦ Any firearm season open to state licensed hunters is open to GTB Tribal Citizens. These dates change year to year, but they include the Michigan DNR Youth Hunt, Liberty Hunt and any other rifle hunt the Michigan State DNR allows in the 1836 Treaty Ceded Territory.

Turkey (Mizise) – Season 1 Opens September 15th

- ♦ Allotted 5 birds (either sex) for season one

Bear (Mukwa) – (successful lottery winners only)

- ♦ Season Opens – September 9th
- ♦ Season Ends – October 26th

SAVE THE DATE EVENTS

**NRD Annual Sturgeon Release
Saturday, September 12th**
Traverse City Hannah Park
Time: TBD

**NRD Annual Fair & Feast
Saturday, September 19th**
Location: TBD
Time: TBD

AGRICULTURE & FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER COOKOUTS!

We are excited to be hosting our 2nd Annual Farm Cookout Series! The August Cookout will be on August 12th from 4:00 – 7:00 at the Peshawbestown Farm. The September Cookout will be September 2nd, same time, same place. We will have fresh harvested produce for distribution. We will be featuring traditional foods like bison burgers, grilled lake trout, and ashed corn. We will have some traditional crops like winter squash and beans in by the September Cookout. Please come hungry and enjoy all that the farm has to offer. Our cucumber, potato, tomato, pepper, and onion crops are doing really well this year. As some of you remember our 1st cookout

last year we ran a little short on food with over 120 people turning up to the farm! The following cookouts we had more food than everyone could eat. We are trying to gauge the turnout, but without any RSVP requirement we are not able to determine how much food to prepare. We ask for peoples patience and grace as we offer these free services and goods. We obviously want to have enough food for everyone, but we don't want to have so much prepared food that is goes to waste. We will plan to have enough food for at least 50 people. We will have some extra food prepared in case we have a big turnout like our 1st one last year! We cant wait to share in all the bounty of the season with the community.

COMPOST BETTER THAN EVER

As make dedicated Newsletter readers may know we have continued to expand and improve our fish waste management system. Since 2022 we have received over \$500,000 from the State of Michigan and Rotary Charity to allow us to take fish waste from Leelanau County commercial fishermen and turn it into compost. Most of the fish waste is tribally caught and processed by Carlsons Fish Market in Leland. This last year saw more improvements with the addition of a new larger tractor, a compost screener and a compost spreader. All this equipment allows us to process and spread the compost more efficiently. Here you can see a picture of our compost spreader in action.

TRADITIONAL COOKOUTS

Celebrate Food, Culture, & Community

Wednesday, July 22, 2026
Wednesday, August 12, 2026
Wednesday, September 2, 2026

4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Peshawbestown Gitigaan Garden
Located north of the Strongheart Center
(2700 Strongheart Way, Peshawbestown, MI)

Come enjoy a feast of traditional foods and Anishinaabe culinary knowledge.

What to Expect:

- Open to all ages – bring your family and friends
- Outdoor seating in the garden space
- Opportunity to learn and ask questions about traditional food preparation — a gathering rooted in health, heritage, and harvest

Contact:
William Derouin
William.Derouin@gtb-nsn.gov
(231) 534-7023

5 COMMON CAUSES OF SEPTIC BACKUP AND HOW TO PREVENT THEM

Dealing with septic backup is more than just an inconvenience, it can lead to significant property damage and costly repairs. Identifying the most common causes of backups is crucial for homeowners who want to avoid these issues.

WHAT CAUSES A SEPTIC TANK TO BACK UP?

1. Lack of Regular Septic Pumping
2. Flushing Non-Biodegradable Items
3. Overloading the System with Excessive Water Usage
4. Tree Root Intrusion into the Septic System
5. Damaged or Failing Drain Field

LACK OF REGULAR SEPTIC PUMPING

How It Causes Backup: One of the most frequent causes of septic backup is the lack of regular septic pumping. When solids accumulate in the septic tank over time, they can block the system and prevent wastewater from flowing properly. This buildup eventually leads to backups that can overflow into your home or yard.

Prevention: To prevent this problem, it’s essential to schedule regular septic tank services. Typically, septic tanks should be pumped every 1-3 years, depending on factors such as household size and water usage. Regular maintenance ensures that solids are removed before they can cause backups.

FLUSHING NON-BIODEGRADABLE ITEMS

How It Causes Backup: Household items that aren’t biodegradable can cause serious problems for your septic system. Flushing items like wipes, feminine hygiene products, and paper towels can lead to clogs in the pipes and tank, leading to septic backup.

Prevention: Educate everyone in your household about what should and shouldn’t be flushed down the toilet. Proper waste disposal keeps your septic system in good working order, stick to toilet paper and human waste only.

OVERLOADING THE SYSTEM WITH EXCESSIVE WATER USAGE

How It Causes Backup: Overloading your septic system with excessive water usage can overwhelm the drain field and cause a backup. Running multiple loads of laundry in one day,

taking long showers, and similar activities put a strain on your system and prevent proper drainage.

Prevention: Manage your water usage by spreading out laundry loads, fixing leaks, and using watersaving appliances. By controlling the amount of water that enters your septic system, you can reduce the risk of overloading and backups.

TREE ROOT INTRUSION INTO THE SEPTIC SYSTEM

How It Causes Backup: Tree roots can invade your septic system and pipes, causing blockages that lead to septic backups. Roots are attracted to the moisture in the pipes and can cause significant damage if not addressed.

Prevention: Plant trees away from your septic system to avoid root intrusion. Regular inspections by a professional can help identify and address root problems early. If you suspect root intrusion, contact a septic tank services provider to assess and resolve the issue.

DAMAGED OR FAILING DRAIN FIELD

How It Causes Backup: A failing drain field can’t properly absorb wastewater, which leads to backup. Issues such as soil compaction, oversaturation, or aging components can contribute to drain field failure.

Prevention: Maintain a healthy drain field by avoiding heavy traffic or construction on it. Manage water usage and schedule regular inspections to ensure that the drain field is in good condition. Address any problems early to prevent more serious issues.

PREVENT SEPTIC BACKUP WITH OUR SEPTIC TANK SERVICES

It’s essential to understand and address the common causes of septic backup to maintain a healthy and functional septic system. Regular septic tank services, mindful waste disposal, controlled water usage, and proactive maintenance prevent backups and avoid the need for costly emergency septic tank services.

By taking these preventive measures, you’ll ensure that your septic system remains in top condition and avoid the disruptions and expenses associated with septic backup. If you’re experiencing any issues with your septic system, contact a service provider near you for an inspection and service.



Pathways Home: For the Homebuyer

Obtain a homebuyer's education certificate through the National American Indian Housing Council's *Pathways Home: A Native Homeownership Guide* eLearning program! The course is designed for prospective homebuyers in tribal communities nationwide and may be required for lenders.

Target Audience

- ✔ Mortgage-ready households
- ✔ Tribal housing professionals
- ✔ Interested individuals
- ✔ Any tribal citizen

REGISTER ANYTIME!

www.naihc.net/elearning

National American Indian Housing Council
122 C Street NW, Suite 505 | Washington, DC 20001 | 202-789-1754 | naihc.net

Cost:
\$20
/course



Grand Traverse Band Job Shadowing Program

Program: The Grand Traverse Band Housing Department is launching a Job shadowing program. It will be a short-term 4-week work-based learning experience that allows participants to follow an assigned Tribal Department employee during a typical day. Job Shadowing Participants, between the ages of 17-24. Individuals will observe and participate in daily activities and ask questions in a particular career. We are hoping to encourage the building of lasting partnerships among the participants, parents, and departments through education and knowledge.

Benefit: Job shadowing provides valuable experience by offering a glimpse into the realities of different professions, helping participants make informed career decisions, and developing essential skills.

Impact: Participants will gain a realistic understanding of the tasks, work environment, and required skills for different careers allowing the participant to assess their own strengths and area of development. Participating leads to valuable connections with professionals in the field, potentially opening doors for future opportunities within the workforce.

Requirements & Payment: Program participation is up to 4 weeks. Participating Students who are in school must be able to participate 6 hours a week maximum, have a parent's signed consent and will be eligible for a stipend payment up to \$120 per week. All other participants must be able to work 24 hours a week minimum and will be eligible for a stipend payment of up to \$500 per week.



Application: Job Shadowing applications are available from Housing and HR. Additional paperwork will be required for each job shadowing position and evaluations to be turned into Housing for stipends to be issued.

Contact for application and questions:
Housing-(231) 534-7800 Lori Dudley, (231) 534-7805 Lilyan Allard
HR -477 Darrell Shaw at (231)534-7767

This program is open to GTB Tribal Members Only. A Tribal ID will be required.

ICBG Grant 21-GC-2625480

This grant will end on 3.31.27

04/14/2026

HOUSING DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

After Hours Emergency Hot Line	(231) 866-1290
Lori Dudley - Administrative Assistant (Front Desk)	(231) 534-7800
Joe Kaubenaw - Interim Department Manager, Lead Occupancy Specialist & GTB Rental Info/ Down Payment/Homebuyer Education	(231) 534-7803 (231) 883-1328
Danielle Chippewa - Occupancy Specialist (Low-Income)	(231) 534-7385
Sharon Wasageshik - Occupancy Specialist (LIHTC)	(231) 534-7800
Tarik Bouguettaya - Emergency Home Repair & Handicap Accessibility Program	(231) 534-7886 (231) 866-1107
Steven Alberts - Program Director & Procurement Coordinator	(231) 534-7804 (231) 360-3478
Lilyan Allard - Assistant Manager	(231) 534-7805

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100 Employment

Government Operations

Accounting Assistant/Cash Receipts (FT)

High School diploma or GED is required. Two or more years of experience in office management required. Two years of experience in computerized accounting data entry is required. Experience in developing and maintaining databases is required or any equivalent combination of education, experience, and training that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. -\$19.54/hr. - until 8.3.26

Administrative Assistant (FT)

Associate Degree in Business related discipline. A min. of four (4) years of work experience as an Administrative Assistant. Knowledge of Gaming Commission & background functions are helpful and the ability to work independently is essential. -\$19.84/hr. - until 8.3.26

AFS Caseworker (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, Family Studies, or related field required. A minimum of two years' experience in a social services field, specifically working with children and their families in a social services field, required. A minimum of one year experience working in a field of child welfare required. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$57,729/yr. - until filled

Benodjenh Center Bus Driver (FT)

High School Diploma or GED required. Must possess a valid Michigan Driver's License and ability to be insured under the GTB insurance carrier. Must obtain and maintain a valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with Passenger ("P") and School Bus ("S") endorsements within the first twelve (12) months of employment, or sooner if required by program operations. Must meet all Federal DOT drug and alcohol testing requirements Current CPR and First Aid certification for infants and children, or ability to obtain within 30 days of hire. Previous school bus, passenger transportation, or childcare experience preferred Ability to work effectively with young children and families. Strong communication and interpersonal skills. -\$21.21/hr. - until filled

Clinical Coordinator (FT)

Associate degree in in a human services field is required. A minimum of three years' experience in office administration is required. A minimum of two years' experience in electronic records management is required. A minimum of one year experience working in the with substance abuse treatment, recovery, and mental health centers is required. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier.. -\$23.30/hr - until filled

Court Clerk/Assistant Probation Officer (FT)

Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, Legal, Paralegal, Business, Administrative Services, Social Work/Services, Social Science, Sociology, Psychology, Liberal Arts or similar degrees may be considered. A combination of education and experience may be considered in lieu of a bachelor's degree. General knowledge of applicable law, regulations, rules, policies, procedures and administration is required. Must

have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$22.26/hr. - until filled

Dental Hygienist (FT)

Associates Degree in Dental Hygiene and Licensure in State of Michigan. Twenty-four hours of biennial continuing education including four hours' HIV-AIDS and three hours' CPR training. Competence in operation of standard dental equipment: cavitron, prophyjet, X-ray, radiograph processor, panelpse, dental chair and unit, sterilizers, hand scalers, and currettes. At least one year of experience as a full time dental hygienist preferred. -\$35.27/hr. - until filled

Early Head Start Assistant Teacher (FT)

Child Development Associate (CDA) required. Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field required. Experience working with infants/children. -\$17.83/hr. - until filled

EHS Education & Family Services Coordinator (FT)

BA in Human Services or Social Work field. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain CPR/First Aid certification. -\$61,983/yr. - until filled

EHS/HS Bus & Classroom Aide (PT)

Must have High School diploma or GED. Must be able to effectively communicate with children and adults in an appropriate manner. Must be willing to obtain a CPR/ First Aid certification. Ability to observe and evaluate children in a non-biased manner. Must be willing to and as well as obtain a CDA within first two years of hire. -\$16.73/hr. - until filled

EHS/HS Bus Driver (PT)

High School diploma or GED. Must be able to effectively communicate with children & adults in an appropriate manner. Must have First Aide Certification or obtain a CPR/ First Aid certification (within 30 days). Ability to observe & evaluate children in a non-biased manner. Must be willing to & as well as obtain a CDA within first (2) yrs. of hire. -\$21.21/hr. - until filled

Executive Director (Regulatory Affairs) (FT)

Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Business Management, Finance, Accounting, or related field required; Master's degree preferred. Min. five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in regulatory compliance, investigations, auditing, or gaming operations. Min. two (2) years of management experience Demonstrated knowledge of Tribal Gaming Codes and regulatory frameworks. Experience with background investigations, vendor licensing, internal audits, and compliance monitoring. Must be able to obtain and maintain and valid Tribal Adjudication Certification within 1 year of starting the Executive Director position. Valid unrestricted Driver's License and ability to be insured under GTB insurance carrier. -\$DOE/yr. - until filled

Housing Maintenance I (FT)

High School diploma or GED. Previous experience in the repair

and maintenance of housing units. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance. Must have appropriate endorsements for all vehicles required to operate in the performance of duties, within 6 months. -\$22.64/hr. - until filled

HS Education & Family Services Coordinator (FT)

Must have BA in Education or related field and be a certified teacher, preferably with Early Childhood (ZA) endorsement. Must have experience in a supervisory position, with strong team leadership skills. One to three years experience in working in an Early Head Start and/or Head Start program preferred. Previous experience in the field, with skills in classroom management, and curriculum planning. Must obtain CPR/First Aid certification. -\$55,433/yr. - until filled

Infrastructure Director (FT)

Bachelor's degree in Facilities Management, Construction Management, Engineering, Public Works, Public Administration, or a closely related field. Minimum five (5) years of supervisory or management experience in infrastructure, facilities, public works, fleet, or utility operations. Demonstrated experience coordinating multiple technical trades or service departments under a unified operational plan. Knowledge of safety, environmental, and operational regulatory requirements applicable to infrastructure systems. Valid, unrestricted Michigan driver's license and ability to be insured under GTB's insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

Medical Director/Physician (FT)

Must have an active State of Michigan Physician License, State of Michigan Controlled Substance License, and Federal DEA License, with Board Certification in Family Practice. Must have Community Staff Privileges at Munson Medical Center or obtain within a reasonable time. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$DOE - until filled

Membership Manager (FT)

High School diploma or GED required; Bachelor's degree in Human Services, Public Administration, Business Administration, or a related field preferred. Min. (3) to (5) years of progressively responsible experience in membership, enrollment, genealogy, or records management. Min. three (3) years of supervisory or lead experience in an office or public service environment. Demonstrated knowledge of Tribal enrollment processes and genealogical research methods. Genuine interest and demonstrated aptitude in genealogy and historical record analysis.Strong interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills. Ability to manage multiple priorities, maintain attention to detail, and handle sensitive matters with discretion. -\$DOE/yr. - until 8.3.26

On-Call Receptionist - Charlevoix

High School Diploma or GED equivalent. Prefer (1) yr. experience in office management. Must have basic math skills & written skills. -\$21.24/hr. - until filled

Peer Recovery Coach/Peer Support Specialist (FT)

High School graduate or equivalent required. A min. of one year experience of proven experience as a Peer or Recovery Coach required. A minimum of one

year experience working in a drug treatment environment or with substance use disorders required. Must be currently certified and maintain requirements as a State and/or National Peer or Recovery Coach. Knowledge of substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders required. Knowledge of the principles, philosophies, practices, and procedures involved at inpatient and outpatient drug treatment facilities is required. Successful in own recovery for a minimum of three years and have a proven ability to share experience and knowledge with others required. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$21.75/hr. - until filled

(2) Police Officer (FT)

Must be at least 21 Years of Age at the time of hire. High School diploma required, Associates Degree preferred in law enforcement, criminal justice, corrections or related field. One-year prior experience working in a law enforcement setting preferred. Must be certified or certifiable by Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) required. Must obtain and maintain a BIA (Special Law Enforcement Commission. Must become LEIN certified. -\$22.12 - \$27.92/hr. - until filled

Probation Officer (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Health Administration or equivalent education and experience. Minimum of and Associates Degree and five (5) years of experience in Purchased Referred Care. Minimum of five (5) years of experience with Health Database and Financial budget management skills. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$26.35/hr. - until filled

Recruiting Specialist (FT)

Bachelor's degree in Human Resources, Business Administration, or related field preferred. Three (3) years of recruitment or talent acquisition experience required. Demonstrated experience in full cycle recruiting and use of applicant tracking systems (ATS). Understanding of (or commitment to learn) TERO requirements and tribal hiring preferences. Excellent communication and relationship building skills. Proficiency in social media recruiting, digital sourcing, and networking for hard to fill roles. Valid driver's license and acceptable driving record required. -\$60,670/yr. - until filled

Registered Nurse (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in the Registered Nurse Program, with a current State of Michigan RN License. Three to five years of nursing experience in a family clinic setting. Must have current BLS Certification. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$70,033/yr. - until filled.

Revenue Cycle and Data Manager (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration or Finance. Thorough understanding billing, collections and payment posting, revenue cycle, & third-party payers. Thorough understanding of budget management and reporting for business planning and development, as well as program specific management and reporting. Thorough understanding of Database creation, data analysis, compiling and interpreting data from several systems. (2-3) years' progressive and successful billing cycle and data

management experience preferred. Must have a valid unrestricted driver license and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. -\$71,913/yr. - until filled

Student Support Advisor- Grand Traverse (FT)

Associates degree is required in social work, education or related field. 1-3 years' experience working with Native American Youth. Must have a valid Michigan Chauffeur Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier. Must have and maintain current CPR/First Aid certification. -\$22.30/hr. - until filled

(3) Summer Youth Worker (Temp)

High School Diploma or GED. Some experience working with youth. Valid Michigan Chauffeur Licenses. Insurable by GTB insurance. Preferred. Must have reliable transportation. -\$16.73/hr. - until filled

Truancy Intervention Specialist (FT)

Must possess a bachelor's Degree in Counseling, Social Work, Psychology, Education, or a related field. Must have 3-5 years of experience working with youth. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and be insurable by the GTB insurance carrier.. -\$47,713/yr. - until 7.1.26

Government Operations RFP

RFP - Dental Hygienist 2025

GTB is seeking proposals for an in-person workshop to support Tribal Council's Yearly Budgeting Process, Strategic Planning, Team Building, and Goals and Objectives. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - Tribal Leadership Alignment Workshop

GTB is requesting proposals from Dental Hygienist Providers interested in providing as needed Dental Hygienist for our Community. Must be a Licensed Hygienist in Michigan to include a CPR license. Liability insurance is required. -\$RFP - until 8.7.26

RFP - 2026 Personal Trainer

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB, Grand Traverse Band) is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for a Certified Personal Trainer at the Strongheart Civic Center located in Leelanau County. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - 2026 Pilates Instructor

GTB is requesting bid proposals for a Certified Pilates Instructor to offer classes at the Strongheart Center dance room. Each class will be offered once a week for 1 (one) hour duration on day/time agreed upon. -\$RFP - until filled

RFP - 2026 Yoga Instructor

GTB is requesting bid proposals from companies or adult individual/s for yoga instructor(s) for Leelanau county. -\$RFP - until filled

150 Bereavement

Deborah Jo McDonald
GTB Tribal Elder
Missoula, Montana
10/30/1959- 6/15/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss

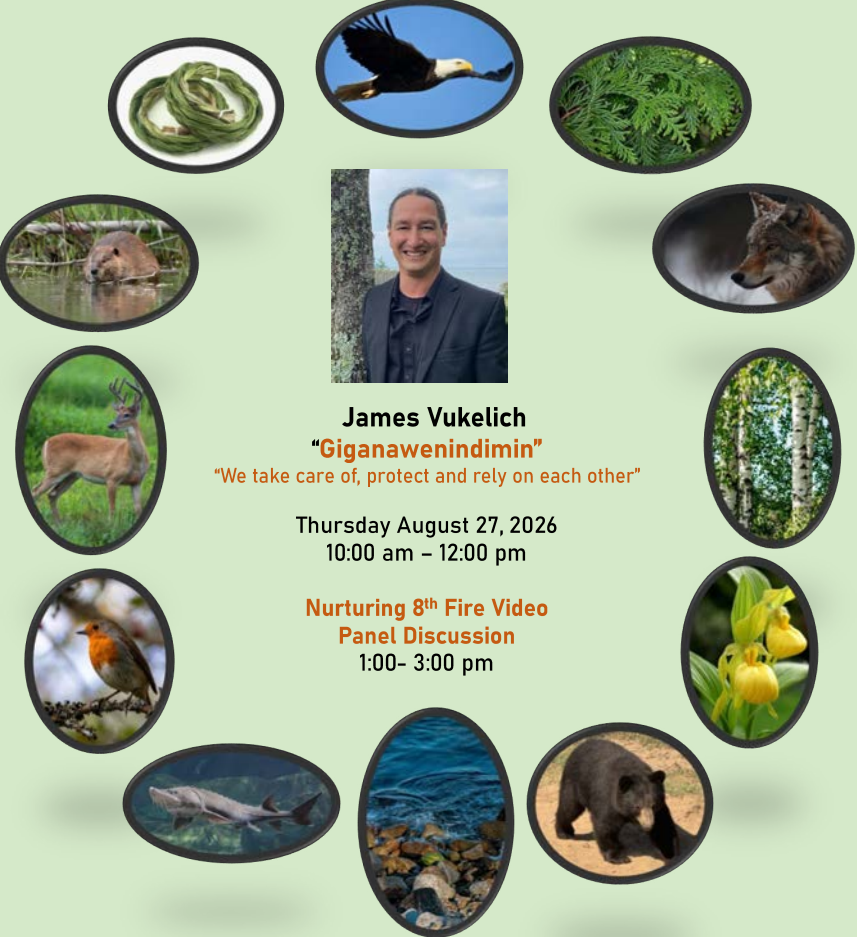
Theresa Elizabeth Huey
GTB Tribal Elder
Lake City, MI
2/22/1948- 7/1/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Erma Peters
GTB Tribal Elder
Shelbyville, MI
11/19/1946- 7/2/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



Jeffrey Eaton
GTB Tribal Elder
Charlevoix, MI
7/24/1958- 6/29/2026
Respectfully Acknowledging Our Loss



James Vukelich
"Giganawenindimin"
"We take care of, protect and rely on each other"

Thursday August 27, 2026
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Nurturing 8th Fire Video
Panel Discussion**
1:00- 3:00 pm

Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
2846 3-Mile Rd N.
Traverse City, MI
Light luncheon at 12:00

Registration Link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/giganawenindimin-we-take-care-of-protect-and-rely-on-each-other-tickets-1994583116795?aff=oddtcreator>

Sponsored by:
Mindimooyenh Healing Circle



Grand Traverse Band News

Submissions due by the 3rd Friday each month

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BELLAMY BROTHERS

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MyNorthTickets

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Please see Players Club for promotional rules and details. Management reserves the right to alter or withdraw this promotion at any time. Owned and Operated by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.



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SNAP

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TOGETHER WE CAN HELP KEEP FOOD ON THE TABLE.

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