



For Immediate Release

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**The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi
Swears In Tribal Council Member**

The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (NHBP) appointed tribal elder Nancy Smit to fill the vacant seat on Tribal Council today at the Pine Creek Indian Reservation in Fulton, Michigan.

Upon Smit's completion of the oath of office, NHBP Tribal Council conducted its appointment of officers. Jamie Stuck was appointed Chairperson, Dorie Rios was appointed Vice Chairperson, Nancy Smit was appointed as Secretary, Dr. Jeff Chivis was appointed as Treasurer, and Homer A. Mandoka was appointed as Sergeant-at-Arms.

"The NHBP community welcomes the addition of Nancy Smit to Tribal Council," Stuck said. "Nancy is a tribal elder with many years of leadership experience in both tribal government and casino operations. Her knowledge base will ensure that we are building a solid foundation for the wellbeing of the next seven generations."

Stuck, of Scotts, has served on Tribal Council since 2006. Rios, of Battle Creek, has served on Tribal Council since 2010. Smit, of Battle Creek, although newly appointed, served one previous term as Tribal Council Secretary. Chivis, of Middleville, has served on Tribal Council since 2017. Mandoka, of Bronson, has served on Tribal Council since 2002.

Smit graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in American Indian Studies from Bemidji State University, a Master of Arts from Briercrest Biblical Seminary with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Counselling and holds a master's degree in social work from Western Michigan University. She has served on a variety of NHBP committees for over 15 years. Smit has worked for FireKeepers Casino Hotel since 2013, most recently as Team Member Relations Supervisor.

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About The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi

NHBP, a federally recognized Tribal government with over 1,400 enrolled Tribal Members, gained federal recognition December 19, 1995. The Tribe's main offices are located at the Pine Creek Indian Reservation near Athens, Michigan, and in Grand Rapids, Michigan. NHBP provides benefits, programs and services to Tribal Members through various Tribal government departments, as well as a Tribal Police Department, Tribal Court and Gaming Commission.

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

Under the Tribal-State Gaming Compact, NHBP distributes a percentage of its annual slot machine revenue from FKCH to both the State of Michigan and to the Local Revenue Sharing Board (LRSB). The Native American Heritage Fund, established in 2016, serves to provide resources to improve curricula and educational resources related to Michigan Indian history, as well as to fund initiatives that promote mutual respect and cooperation between local communities and Michigan's federally recognized Tribes.

For more information visit: www.nhbpi.com

Attached Photo: (L-R) NHBP Vice Chairperson Dorie Rios, Secretary Nancy Smit, Treasurer Dr. Jeff Chivis, Chairperson Jamie Stuck, Sergeant-at-Arms Homer A. Mandoka.