

# Chief Kay Rhoads Address To The Nation

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mented. Each suggestion will be considered but sometimes they cannot be implemented because of Federal grant requirements or laws prohibiting the recommendation. Additionally, all changes must be reviewed to ensure tribal member rights are not ignored and the change is good for all members, the Nation and not just special interest groups.

The RAP meeting was held on October 24, 2015 to approve the per capita and RAP budgets. These funds are used for services to the tribal members in areas of health, education, social services, safety, cultural preservation, elders and veteran services. These RAP funds are very much appreciated and although the programs do not have an abundance of funds to serve all the needs, these funds supplement the programs and allow more tribal members to receive help rather than relying on limited federal funding.

The Business Committee and the Sauk Business Enterprise Board are working to expand gaming to help increase the program dollars. We are working together to develop a casino in the Cushing area. The project is in the beginning stages of trying to identify funding, size of facility, and number of games to include in facility, additional amenities such as restaurant, meeting rooms, gift shop, covered parking and development of the infrastructure. The target deadline is late 2016 for completion. This project will not only increase program services but per capita as well.

There has been several request to develop a casino on the Tanger Mall site. Gaming facilities can only be opened on trust land. The Tanger Mall is still not in trust but we are working to have it placed in trust. The previous Business Committee has placed the land in trust using the

Charter but it is not clear if the National Indian Gaming Association will recognize the trust status using the Charter. We will continue to work with the BIA to try to place the land into trust.

The space at the Tanger Mall is comprised of 18.3 acres. Many tribal members are under the impression we purchased the entire Tanger Mall, however, the Nation under the direction of the Governing Council purchased only 18 acres of the Tanger Mall site for approximately \$72,000 per acre. We own about half of the former mall and the huge gully behind where the mall once stood. There is also question about do we have a right of way to our property. There were recommendations to not purchase the land without further considerations but the motion was made on Council floor to purchase the land and the Enterprise Board proceeded with the purchase. Although the price was not reasonable, we now have the land and must utilize it to bring economic development to the area and to our Nation. A feasibility study was conducted and gaming was an option for the site but was not the number one recommendation. Gaming for this site is being considered but we must proceed with caution to avoid problems with NIGC.

Economic development will happen for our Nation but we must work together. If we can work toward a common goal we can grow our Nation. We must overcome the criticism and negative comments about one another. Respect for each other is necessary to make us united. Support must be given for those that step out and try to make a difference for the good of our people. These are the people who work in the programs, those that serve on committees and boards and act as advisors to our programs and op-

erations. We have to be united and work as one.

We need to become role models for our youth, they are our future leaders and they mimic our behaviors. We must return to our traditional values and teach and guide our youth so they can make our Nation stronger and more progressive. Just like the need to break the cycle of drugs and alcohol, we have to break the cycle of negative behavior and be the example for our youth.

I have to praise the Grievance Committee for being open-minded and willing to work together with advisors to modify the Grievance Policy. It is actions like this that make a difference for our people. It is the cooperative behavior that was exhibited on the Council floor at the October 10 meeting that gets work

done and make progress happen.

Working as a team to hear opposing ideas, willingness to find solutions that can work for the improvement of programs, rules, regulations, and laws are essential for growth. Going to the source to find out the truth rather than rely on rumors also eliminates negativity and strengthens us.

By working cooperatively, it encourages other to take a part in decision making and provides for a broader perspective of the issues. It becomes a lesson and pattern for our youth to follow. We must be concerned not just about today but what we leave behind for our youth and the next generations. Let's make them proud to be Indian and Sac and Fox Nation members. Together we can make a difference and grow our Nation.

## Tribal Member Jimmy Stephens Receives Award

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DeSoto 100% smoke free beginning January 1, 2016.

Jimmy Stephens has been an active member of both the Texas Environmental Health Association (TEHA) and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) since 1991. He has also held a number of TEHA officer positions at both the local and state level with pro-

gressively more responsibility.

"We are fortunate to have an employee of Jimmy's caliber and experience managing the environmental health issues in our community," said Tracie Hlavinka, Assistant City Manager for City of DeSoto. "We are so proud that his efforts have been recognized on the state level."

### INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE WATER AND SEWER ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Indian Health Service, Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, offers programs to install water and sewer facilities to qualified Indian Homeowners. Funding and construction of sanitation facilities, such as wells, water service lines, septic tanks and drain fields, wastewater lagoons and sewer service lines, are available.

Minimum eligibility requirements include:

- Property must be located within the local Indian Health Service jurisdiction: The greater portion of Oklahoma County; Pottawatomie County north of the North Canadian River; Cleveland County west of the Indian Meridian; Lincoln County; Logan County, and a portion of southern Payne County.
- You must be a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, band or group;
- If renting, you must obtain a lease agreement (minimum of five years) and a copy of the landowner's deed/title and CDIB. Property owner must possess a Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB).
- HUD homes must be paid in full before services can be provided.

Documentation of tribal affiliation and home ownership or long-term lease will be required with the application for services. Mobile homes must be tied down, skirted and wheels removed prior to service.

Absentee Shawnee and Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members must apply for services through their tribal OEH offices.

Please note that applying for service does not guarantee you will receive service. Service depends on the availability of funding.

Please call (405) 214-4200, or stop by our office at 14106 Highway 177, Shawnee, Oklahoma, for more information.

SAC AND FOX  
NATION  
BIGGEST  
LOSER!

Contact Anthony Ramirez at the Merle W. Boyd Center, by email: [Anthony.Ramirez@IHS.GOV](mailto:Anthony.Ramirez@IHS.GOV) or by phone at 918-968-9531 EXT. 3039

Program starts **December 1st, 2015** and will last until the **first full week in September 2016**. Weigh in first week of each month at the MBC on our scale.

Prizes at the end of the program to be determined by percentage of **BODY FAT MASS LOST!**

Participants must have an active medical chart with Black Hawk Health Center

HELP WANTED!  
SAC & FOX NATION  
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITES

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF JOB VACANCIES WITH THE SAC & FOX NATION:

- Accounting Technician (Finance)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Education Director (Stroud)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Resident Advisor (Juvenile Detention Center/Stroud)**  
Open Continuously
- Cashier (Finance)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Elders Program Coordinator (Stroud)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Reception Clerk III (BHHC/Stroud)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Maintenance Tech (Stroud)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Environmental Technician**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Administrative Assistant (Economic)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement
- Surveillance Observer (Shawnee)**  
Seeking Immediate Placement

Applicants must successfully pass an OSBI/National background check and drug screen. Preference in hiring is given to qualified Native Americans. Applicants claiming Indian Preference must provide a copy of their CDIB. For more information and to learn how to apply please visit our website at: [www.sacandfoxnation.com](http://www.sacandfoxnation.com) or contact Human Resources, Sac and Fox Nation, 920883 S Hwy 99, Bldg. A Stroud, OK 74079 or by phone (918) 968-3526



## Annual Christmas Party

Sponsored by  
Sac & Fox Nation  
Activity Committee

December 19, 2015

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sac & Fox Nation  
Community Building



Activity Committee NOT Responsible for accidents or thefts