

Community of Wisconsin, the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians of Kansas, and the Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, whose members are also descendants of the signatories to one or more of the aforementioned treaties, have been recognized by the Federal Government as Indian tribes eligible to receive services from the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) Beginning in 1935, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians petitioned for reorganization and assistance pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 461 et seq., commonly referred to as the "Indian Reorganization Act"). Because of the financial condition of the Federal Government during the Great Depression it relied upon the State of Michigan to provide services to the Pokagon Band. Other Potawatomi bands, including the Forest County Potawatomi and the Hannahville Indian Community were provided services pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act.

(6) Agents of the Federal Government in 1939 made an administrative decision not to provide services or extend the benefits of the Indian Reorganization Act [25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.] to any Indian tribes in Michigan's lower peninsula.

(7) Tribes elsewhere, including the Hannahville Indian Community in Michigan's upper peninsula, received services from the Federal Government and were extended the benefits of the Indian Reorganization Act [25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.].

(8) The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians consists of at least 1,500 members who continue to reside close to their ancestral homeland in the St. Joseph River Valley in southwestern Michigan and northern Indiana.

(9) In spite of the denial of the right to organize under the Indian Reorganization Act [25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.], the Pokagon Band has continued to carry out its governmental functions through a Business Committee and Tribal Council from treaty times until today.

(10) The United States Government, the government of the State of Michigan, and local governments have had continuous dealings with the recognized political leaders of the Band from 1795 until the present.

(Pub. L. 103-323, §1, Sept. 21, 1994, 108 Stat. 2152.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Reorganization Act, referred to in pars. (5) to (7) and (9), is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter V (§461 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 461 of this title and Tables.

§ 1300j-1. Federal recognition

Federal recognition of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians is hereby affirmed. Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, all Federal laws of general application to Indians and Indian tribes, including the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.; commonly referred to as the "Indian Reorganization Act"), shall apply with respect to the Band and its members.

(Pub. L. 103-323, §2, Sept. 21, 1994, 108 Stat. 2153.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Indian Reorganization Act, referred to in text, is act June 18, 1934, ch. 576, 48 Stat. 984, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter V (§461 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 461 of this title and Tables.

§ 1300j-2. Services

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Band and its members shall be eligible, on and after September 21, 1994, for all Federal services and benefits furnished to federally recognized Indian tribes without regard to the existence of a reservation for the Band or the location of the residence of any member on or near an Indian reservation.

(Pub. L. 103-323, §3, Sept. 21, 1994, 108 Stat. 2153.)

§ 1300j-3. Tribal membership

Not later than 18 months after September 21, 1994, the Band shall submit to the Secretary membership rolls consisting of all individuals eligible for membership in such Band. The qualifications for inclusion on the membership rolls of the Band shall be determined by the membership clauses in the Band's governing documents, in consultation with the Secretary. Upon completion of the rolls, the Secretary shall immediately publish notice of such in the Federal Register. The Bands shall ensure that such rolls are maintained and kept current.

(Pub. L. 103-323, §4, Sept. 21, 1994, 108 Stat. 2153.)

§ 1300j-4. Constitution and governing body

(a) Constitution

(1) Adoption

Not later than 24 months after September 21, 1994, the Secretary shall conduct, by secret ballot and in accordance with the provisions of section 476 of this title, an election to adopt a constitution and bylaws for the Band.

(2) Interim governing documents

Until such time as a new constitution is adopted under paragraph (1), the governing documents in effect on September 21, 1994, shall be the interim governing documents for the Band.

(b) Officials

(1) Election

Not later than 6 months after the Band adopts a constitution and bylaws pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall conduct elections by secret ballot for the purpose of electing officials for the Band as provided in the Band's constitution. The election shall be conducted according to the procedures described in subsection (a) of this section, except to the extent that such procedures conflict with the Band's constitution.

(2) Interim government

Until such time as the Band elects new officials pursuant to paragraph (1), the Band's governing body shall be the governing body in place on September 21, 1994, or any new governing body selected under the election procedure.