FACTS AND PROFILES:

INDIANS IN NORTH DAKOTA
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The Indian Affairs Commission shall have the power to assist and mobilize the support of State and Federal agencies in assisting Indian individuals and groups in North Dakota, especially the five tribal councils, as they seek to develop their own goals, project plans for achieving those goals, and implementing those plans. The commission’s duties are:

1. To investigate any phase of Indian affairs, and to assemble and make available the facts needed by Tribal, State and Federal agencies to work effectively together;

2. To assist Tribal, State and Federal agencies in developing programs whereby Indian citizens may achieve more adequate standards of living;

3. To assist Tribal groups in developing increasingly effective institutions of self-government;

4. To work for greater understanding and improved relationships between Indian and non-Indians;

5. To seek increased participation by Indian citizens in local and state affairs;

6. To confer with and coordinate officials and agencies of other governmental units and Congressional committees with regard to Indian needs and goals;

7. To encourage and propose agreements and accords between Federal, State and local agencies and the several Tribal governments; and pursuant to chapter 54-40.2, to assist in monitoring and negotiating agreements and accords when asked by an affected Tribe.

The North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission consists of the Governor, four members appointed by the governor from the state at large, three of whom must be of Indian descent, must be enrolled members of a tribe, and must be current voting residents of the State of North Dakota, and the Chairpersons of the Standing Rock, Fort Berthold, Fort Totten, and Turtle Mountain Indian Reservations or in the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson. The Governor is the chairperson of the Commission.

The Commission is the liaison between the Executive Branch and the Tribes in North Dakota. Duties include mediation service with the Tribes and State and working with other state agencies regarding proper protocol in working with Indian people and Tribal governments.
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**HISTORY LESSON: AMERICAN INDIANS**

**UNIQUE Relationship:**
- ✓ Political relationship based on TREATIES
  - Laws, legislation, precedent
  - Indian people gave up land, mineral rights, and human life
- ✓ Integral part of the US Constitution
- ✓ Not Race-based

*Many Federal Policies implemented to ‘deal with’ Indian people - colonization, civilization, removal, relocation, assimilation, reservation, reorganization, termination, self-determination…*

1820-1880s  Relocation West of Mississippi (Indian Removal Act of 1830/Cherokee Trail of Tears)

1850s  Reservations (BIA arbitrary & authoritarian)

1851  Treaty establishes Fort Berthold Reservation

1863  Old Crossing Treaty with Pembina Chippewa - 1892 amendment establishes Turtle Mountain Reservation

1867  Treaty establishes Devils Lake Sioux Reservation (now known as Spirit Lake Reservation)

1868  Treaty establishes Standing Rock Reservation (Great Sioux Reservation divided into six small reservations 1869)

1871  End of treaty making

1887  *General Allotment Act* - checkerboard reservation (Whites would help with the civilization process)

1921  *Snyder Act* - authorizes Congress to appropriate funds for the ‘relief of distress and conservation of health for the employment of physicians’ for Indians.

1924  US Citizenship for Indians

1928  Mirriam report on reservation conditions (John Collier - ‘cultural pluralism’ - through preservation of tribal heritage & cultural, Indians would gradually become absorbed into dominant society)
1934  *Indian Reorganization Act* - most Tribal governments formed under this act

*Johnson O’Malley Act*, amended 1936 - authorizes Secretary of Interior to contract with states and other local governments to provide education, medical attention, agricultural assistance and social welfare for Indian people in hardships related to the allotment process or other hardships related to Indians off the reservations

1936  Constitution of Three Affiliated Tribes was approved

1946  Constitution of Devil’s Lake Sioux Tribe was approved

1949  North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission established

1950–1960’s  TERMINATION - 100 Tribes were ‘unrecognized’ to relieve Congress of trust responsibility.  Indian Claims Commission – monetary compensation for land taken, NOT regain land, or acquire new land.  (House Concurrent Resolution of 1953)

States could take civil/criminal jurisdiction onto reservation and did so - CA, MN, NE, OR, WI - though most reverted back under federal control.  (PL 83-280 1953)

1950s  RELOCATION - Move Indians to urban sites for job training (30% return to reservation, PL 959)

1953  Indians could buy liquor and firearms

1954  *Transfer Act* - established U.S. Indian Health Service (Department of Health & Human Services)

1957  *Indian Health Facilities Act* - provides IHS with the authority to fund construction of hospitals for the benefit of Indian tribal patients

1959  Constitution of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe approved

Constitution of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribe approved

*Indian Sanitation Facilities and Services Act* - expands duties of IHS to ensure public health requirements were being met, including safe and sanitary drinking water sewer systems, drainage facilities, waste and access to water and sewer systems for Indian homes
1968-Today  SELF-DETERMINATION era

1968  *Indian Civil Rights Act*

1970  Last amendments to Three Affiliated Tribes’ Constitution

1973  Trenton Indian Service Area established as political subdivision of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

1974  *Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act* - amended 1988, 1992, 1994 - authorizes federally recognized Indian tribes the means to contract or compact with the federal government for the purpose of administering and operating federal programs, services, and functions which were established to serve that tribe

1976  *Indian Health Care Improvement Act* - amended 1980, 1988, 1990, 1992 - landmark legislation elevated and invigorated Indian health care improvement measures to a higher level within Indian communities and within the federal government

1978  *Indian Religious Freedom Act*

*Indian Child Welfare Act*

1981  Last amendments to Spirit Lake Tribe’s Constitution

1984  Last amendments to Standing Rock Tribe’s Constitution

1997  Last amendments to Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribe’s Constitution
Socio-Economic Profile: ND Indian Families

There are four federally recognized Tribes and one Indian community in North Dakota:

- Spirit Lake Nation, Fort Totten, ND (Enrolled members 4,300)
- Standing Rock Nation, Fort Yates, ND (Enrolled members 13,000)
- Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation, New Town, ND (Enrolled Members 8,700)
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Nation, Belcourt, ND (Enrolled members 28,000)
- Trenton Indian Service Area, Trenton, ND (IHS User Population 1,800)

- In September 1998, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the North Dakota Indian population to be about 30,000 - about 5 percent of the State’s population. Only Kidder County reports no Indian population in the Census update.

- The 1990 U.S. Census data estimated 41 percent of the Indian populations live off-reservation in communities near-by or in urban centers.

- The average age for Northern Plains Indians is 18 years old as compared to North Dakota average age of 35 years.

- 43 percent of American Indian population is under the age of 20 years - about 13,000 Indian children in North Dakota.

- 78% of young Indian women, ages 14-24, are at high risk for contracting the HIV/AIDS virus.

- Indian youth, ages 15-24 years, have a 382% higher suicide rate than the white suicide rate. (67.5/100,000 compared to 17.7/100,000)

- Poverty rate for Indians in North Dakota is more than three times the rate for North Dakota All races population - 38 percent compared to 11 percent.

- In the Northern Plains the Median Household Income for Indians is $12,310 as compared to the U.S. All races of $30,056.

- Indians are nearly 7.5 times as likely to live in households without adequate sanitation facilities as the general North Dakota population.

- Approximately 57 percent of the T.A.N.F. caseload in North Dakota is American Indian families.

- Unemployment varies from reservation to reservation but averages 55 percent for North Dakota Indians as compared to the U.S. rate of 4.3 percent.
MANDAN, HIDATSA & ARIKARA NATION  
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES  
NEW TOWN, NORTH DAKOTA

SOCIAL PROFILE:

The Fort Berthold Indian Reservation lies on each side of the beautiful Lake Sakakawea. The Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 established Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. The Fort Berthold Reservation is the home of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Indians, who are joined together as the Three Affiliated Tribes.

LOCATION:

The reservation is located in west central North Dakota and covers approximately 422,750 acres in six counties: McLean, Mercer, Dunn, Mountrail, McKenzie, and Ward. The population is scattered throughout the reservation with major concentrations in Mandaree, New Town, Parshall, White Shield, and Twin Buttes, ND. Cities with over 10,000 residents and within 150 miles driving distance are Minot, Bismarck, Dickinson, and Williston, ND.

ACCESS:

There are 132 miles of paved state highways on the reservation, Highway 37 in the eastern portion and Highway 8 in the south. The BIA maintains an internal road network of 262 miles – 70% graveled, 10% paved, and 20% trails. The Missouri River (Lake Sakakawea), dividing the reservation, can only be crossed at the Four Bears Bridge, west of New Town. This has created a formidable barrier to accessibility and transportation.

A majority of the Indian families own an automobile. However, many are older, undependable models. Those without private transportation depend on relatives or neighbors for rides. Four bus lines, two airlines and an Amtrak train provide passenger service to this part of the state, but access to these services is concentrated in Bismarck, Minot, and Williston.

TOPOGRAPHY & CLIMATE:

The western and southern areas of the reservation are predominately rolling prairie grasslands, occasionally broken by buttes. The northern and eastern areas are desirable fertile farmland. The Missouri River, flowing through the heartland of the reservation, is backed by the Garrison Dam at Riverdale, ND creating Lake Sakakawea. The area’s prime bottom lands and timber have been flooded by the lake, which is a prime recreational site containing over 600 miles of shoreline, in North Dakota.

The continental climate is prominent for this area, experiencing cold winters and warm summers. Dominated by the Arctic jet stream, winter temperatures tend to be extreme, averaging 8 degrees F in January, the coldest month. Summer temperatures are generally warm, averaging 69 degrees F. The area is semi-arid, averaging 15 inches of rainfall annually.
**HOUSING:**

Housing in the major communities consists of mutual help homes built through various government programs and tribal low rent housing units. Mutual help scattered-site homes exist in the rural areas. Private purchase and rental housing are available in New Town.

**GOVERNMENT:**

Under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, the Three Affiliated Tribes are incorporated and operate under a Constitution and By Laws. An elected Business Council consisting of seven members governs the Tribe.

**ECONOMY:**

The basic economy of the reservation is cattle ranching and farming. The Tribe, IHS, and BIA employ a large percent of the work force, while others depend on seasonal agricultural jobs and land lease payments. The Tribe operates the Four Bears Casino (400 employees) and a small industry in the community of Mandaree.

**EDUCATION:**

Mandaree, Twin Buttes, and White Shield have both elementary and high schools. Cooperative agreements between BIA and three public school districts enable Indian students to attend schools in Halliday, Parshall, and New Town. A few students attend BIA boarding schools in Flandreau, SD, Wahpeton, ND, and Chemewa, OR. Fort Berthold Community College is a junior college that offers extension classes in all major categories.

**HEALTH SYSTEM:**

The primary source of acute and preventative care is the Minne-Tohe Health Center in New Town. This IHS health center provides an array of clinical services including dental, pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, and specialty clinics for optometry, cardiology, prenatal, and diabetes. Health stations are established for Mandaree, Twin Buttes, and White Shield and they offer monthly clinics, depending upon availability of providers. Most inpatient care is referred to Minot, ND.

**POPULATION:**

Enrolled members = approximately 8,700 members.
1998 U.S. Census update = 4,866 (Dunn, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Mountrail, and Ward Counties)
Fort Berthold Community College is chartered by the Three Affiliated Tribes, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara tribes, of Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. The college was founded in 1973. In 1974 the tribe granted a charter to the college. The college is governed by a five-member Board of Directors, all of whom are appointed by the Tribal Business Council. The college received accreditation in 1988 from North Central Accreditation Association.

FBCC is located in the northeast corner overlooking the town of New Town. It is located on seven acres of land in a new facility. The facility houses a large library, IVN lab, computer lab, six classrooms, a farm/ranch/agriculture center, and office space. The college is a commuter campus. Therefore, it contains no residence halls or cafeteria. There are local restaurants within walking distance from the college campus.

The college enrolled 288 students during its 1998-99 academic year. It has 66 full-time and part-time staff members. These staff members include faculty, administrative and support staff.

Fort Berthold Community College offers associate degrees and vocational certificates. The following associate degrees and certificates are offered.

**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS**
- Accounting/Business Administration
- Computer Science
- Early Childhood Development
- Human Services
- Liberal Arts
- Liberal Arts/Elementary Education
- Liberal Arts/Special Education
- Public/Tribal Administration

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE**
- Administration Leadership
- Agriculture Business Sales & Service Option
- Agriculture Division/Management Option
- Business Administration
- Business Administration/Management
- Construction Technology
- Information Management Specialist
- Medical Secretary
- Small Business Development Entrepreneurship
- Water Treatment Technician

**ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**
- Agriculture Transfer
- Computer Science
- Environmental Science
- Practical Nursing
- Math
- Science

**CERTIFICATES**
- Administrative Assistant
- Casino Operations
- Child Development Associate (CDA)
- Construction Technology
- Farm/Ranch Management
- Home Health Care Technician
- Horticulture Science
- Management/Entrepreneurship
SPIRIT LAKE NATION  
FORT TOTTEN, NORTH DAKOTA  

SOCIAL PROFILE:  
The Spirit Lake Nation (formerly Devils Lake Sioux) was created by treaty with the U.S. Government in 1867. The predominant tribal division within the reservation is the Dakota, comprised of members from the Yanktonai, Wahpeton, Sisseton, and various other Dakota subdivisions. There are also a small number of Chippewas from the Turtle Mountain Band living on the reservation.

LOCATION:  
The Spirit Lake Reservation is located in east central North Dakota and covers approximately 53,200 acres in Benson, Eddy, Nelson, and Ramsey counties. Fort Totten, ND is the tribal headquarters and primary reservation community. There are three other ‘district’ communities on the reservation - Crow Hill, Mission (St. Michael, ND), and Woodlake (Tokio, ND). Many Indians also live in Warwick, Hamar, and Oberon, three small, incorporated towns on the reservation.

ACCESS:  
Fort Totten is about 15 miles south of Devils Lake, ND and is the commercial center for the area. The primary State Highway that runs through the reservation, Hwy 57, to access Devils Lake is under water due to the flooding of the lake. To the south of Fort Totten are the communities of Sheyenne (15 miles), New Rockford (35 miles), and Carrington (50 miles), where many reservation residents have turned for shopping and medical care due to the condition of the roads. Residents own vehicles, although many are unreliable models. A tribally operated van provides transportation for elderly citizens. The Community Health Representatives program supplies workday patient transportation only. No private carrier or transport service is available on the reservation. Bus, train, and airlines are available in Devils Lake.

TOPOGRAPHY & CLIMATE:  
On the north and west, the reservation borders Devils Lake, North Dakota’s largest natural lake that has been flooding for over five years. The southern boundary is the Cheyenne River. Land along the lake and river is forested while the remainder is rolling prairie hills with high quality farmland and pastureland. The climate is among the most extreme in the continental United States. Temperatures fall below 30 degrees F in the winter and summer Temperatures range between 70 and 100 degrees F. Rainfall is moderate, averaging 24 inches per year.

HOUSING:  
Tribal, low-rent housing units, HUD homes, and mutual self-help homes exist in the four major reservation communities. There is a waiting list for 300 families for housing and because of the flooding approximately 100 homes have been relocated or lost. Rural farmsteads consist of
privately owned homes and mutual help scatter sites. Government quarters are maintained almost exclusively by the BIA. Indian Health Service (IHS) has a few employee quarters, therefore, arrangements have been made to share existing BIA units with IHS and the Tribe. Rental and private purchase housing are available, within commuting distance, in Devils Lake, New Rockford and Carrington.

**GOVERNMENT:**

A six-member Council consisting of a Chairperson, a Secretary/Treasurer and Four District Representatives governs the Tribe. The Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer are elected at large by Tribal member residents. The District Representatives are elected by their respective communities – Mission, Woodlake, Fort Totten, and Crow Hill.

**ECONOMY:**

Principal sources of employment include the school systems, IHS, BIA, and the Tribe. Sioux Manufacturing and Dakota Tribal Industries are Tribal owned companies, each employing approximately 125 people. There is a member-owned grocery store in Fort Totten, which employs about 12 people. The Tribe does manage a bingo hall and casino, which employs about 200.

**EDUCATION:**

Tate Topa Tribal School provides elementary and high school education to students on the reservation. In addition, students are bussed to public school systems in Warwick, Minnewauken, Sheyenne, or Devils Lake. Some students attend parochial school in Devils Lake and a few go to BIA boarding schools out-of-state. Little Hoop Community College, a two year accredited institution, is available for advanced study in Fort Totten.

**HEALTH SYSTEM:**

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is the health care provider for the reservation residents. The PHS Indian Health Center in Fort Totten provides an array of clinical services including acute care, dental, pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, and specialty clinics for optometry, cardiology, prenatal, and diabetes. Patients requiring complex outpatient services or inpatient care are referred to contract providers in Carrington, Devils Lake, and Grand Forks. The Tribal Health Department provides field and community based health promotion and disease prevention activities. A model diabetes project is operated at the Center and maternal-child health services are provided through a contract from the State Health Department.

**POPULATION:**

Enrolled Members = approximately 4,300
1998 U.S. Census update (Benson, Nelson, Ramsey, Eddy Counties) = 3,546
Cankdeska Cikana Community College, formerly Little Hoop Community College, is a tribally chartered college serving the residents and communities on and near the Spirit Lake Reservation, in Fort Totten, North Dakota. The college was founded in October 1974. In 1990 the college was granted accreditation from North Central Accreditation Association.

Cankdeska Cikana Community College was named in honor of the late Paul Yankton, Sr. His Indian name Cankdeska Cikana, means little hoop. PFC Yankton, the recipient of two Purple Hearts, died November 29, 1944, while serving as a rifleman with the Army’s 11th Infantry at Lorraine, France.

The college is governed by a five-member Board of Directors.

Cankdeska Cikana is located in Fort Totten in the old high school building. The college employs 79 staff members. These staff members are faculty, administrative and support staff. The college enrolls 311 students per year.

Cankdeska Cikana offers associate degrees and vocational certificates. The following associate degrees and certificates are offered.

**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS**
- Child Development
- General Education
- Indian Studies

**ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**
- Accounting
- General Education
- Pre-Nursing
- Social Work
- Tribal Administration

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE**
- Building Trades Maintenance
- Food Service
- Office Systems

**CERTIFICATES**
- Casino Operation
- Carpentry
- Food Service
- Hotel Management
- Office Technology
STANDING ROCK NATION
FORT YATES, NORTH DAKOTA

SOCIAL PROFILE:

The people of Standing Rock Tribe are part of the Yanktonis and Teton Lakota Nation that once controlled a vast domain extending from the James River in North and South Dakota west to the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming. The United States reduced the Teton country to the Great Sioux Reservation in 1868 covering all of South Dakota west of the Missouri River.

In 1868, the Teton agreed to accept the Great Sioux Reservation with the Federal government promising that the reservation would be their permanent home never to be sold without written consent of three-fourths of the male adults. In 1869, the Great Sioux Reservation was broken up into six small reservations, one of them being Standing Rock.

LOCATION:

The Standing Rock Reservation is located in south central North Dakota and north central South Dakota. Counties include Sioux in North Dakota and Campbell, Corson, Perkins and Walworth in South Dakota. The reservation boundary covers approximately 848,000 acres.

Fort Yates, North Dakota is the primary reservation community, with Tribal headquarters and an Indian Health Service (IHS) hospital located there. Fort Yates is about 65 south of Bismarck, ND. Other communities include Cannonball, Shields, Solen and Selfridge in North Dakota and Wakpala, Bullhead, Little Eagle, McIntosh, McLaughlin, and Mobridge in South Dakota.

ACCESS:

There is a limited rural transit bus system that transports residents to and from Sitting Bull College and other places of employment on the reservation. Most transportation is by privately owned vehicles and finding a ride is a major problem for individuals without vehicles. The Community Health Representatives program provides transportation for medical appointments. State paved roads connect the major communities. County and Bureau of Indian Affairs graveled roads make up the balance of the road network. The State maintains airports suitable for light aircraft at Fort Yates and McLaughlin. Commercial airline, train and bus services are available in Bismarck.

TOPOGRAPHY & CLIMATE:

The eastern portion of the reservation consists of rolling prairie hills and farmland. The western terrain varies from hilly grasslands to sharply rising buttes. Major rivers include the Cannonball River at the northern boundary, the Grand River to the south, and the Missouri River (also referred to as the Lake Oahe Reservoir) which forms the eastern border of the Standing Rock Reservation. The climate is semi-arid, with annual precipitation averaging 15 inches. Temperature extremes of 100 degrees F to minus 50 degrees F have been recorded.
HOUSING:

Low rent and mutual help housing units are located in the major communities. The Tribal Housing Authority has constructed over 800 HUD housing units and plans another 140 units within the next two years. Rental and purchase housing is available in McLaughlin and McIntosh, South Dakota; and in Fort Yates, Solen, and Selfridge, North Dakota. Farmsteads and ranches, privately owned homes, and mutual help scatter site homes exist in the rural areas of the reservation.

GOVERNMENT:

The Tribal Council is the governing body for the Tribe. The Council is comprised of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, one representative from the eight districts, and six at-large members. This makes for a total of a 17-member Council. The eight districts include – Cannonball, Porcupine, and Fort Yates in North Dakota; Kenel, Bear Soldier/McLaughlin, Little Eagle, Rock Creek/Bullhead, and Wakpala in South Dakota.

ECONOMY:

Employers include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, school systems, and the Tribe. The Prairie Knights Casino, north of Fort Yates, North Dakota employs about 400 and the Grand River Casino near McLaughlin, South Dakota employs about 120 people. With farming and ranching offering only seasonal employment, the Tribe is considering a bison cooperative.

EDUCATION:

Area educational systems consist of public, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal and Catholic schools. Seven of the eight districts have Head Start programs. Sitting Bull College is a fully accredited two-year institution, and offers two-year degree programming along with vocational education.

HEALTH SYSTEM:

Indian Health Service operates a 16-bed inpatient hospital in Fort Yates, North Dakota. The IHS hospital also has a renal dialysis program providing services to about 24 patients. A health clinic is located in McLaughlin, South Dakota. Additionally, intermittent health stations operate in Bullhead and Wakpala, South Dakota, and Cannonball, North Dakota, depending upon availability of providers.

POPULATION:

Enrolled members = approximately 13,000.
1998 U.S. Census update (ND side only, Sioux County) = 3,186
SITTING BULL COLLEGE
HC1 BOX 4
FORT YATES, NORTH DAKOTA 58538
(701) 854-3861
RON MCNEIL, PRESIDENT

Sitting Bull College began as Standing Rock Community College on September 21, 1973. On that date, the Standing Rock Tribal Council granted a tribal charter to SRCC to operate a post secondary education institution with the authority to grant degrees at the Associate level. In 1987, the college was granted accreditation by the North Central Accreditation Association. The name change from Standing Rock Community College to Sitting Bull College occurred in 1996.

The college is governed by a College Board of Trustees elected from the eight districts on the reservation. Advisory boards are made up of community members who provide input that is relied upon for program continuation and changes.

Sitting Bull College is located in Fort Yates and occupies the Skills Center Building. The college has also opened a site in McLaughlin, South Dakota, where classes are offered to the community. Selected programs and courses are available at the community instructional centers throughout the reservation.

The college currently has more than 40 full-time staff members. These staff members are faculty, administrative and support staff. The college enrolls more than 250 students per year.

Sitting Bull College offers academic and vocational training. The following associate degrees and certificates are offered:

**ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREES**
- Agriculture Transfer
- Business Administration
- General Studies
- Native American Studies

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE**
- Bison Management
- Building Trades
- Casino Management
- Farm/Ranch Management
- Office Systems

**ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**
- Agribusiness
- Bison Management
- Business Administration/Management
  - Arts & Crafts Entrepreneurship
  - Grantsmanship
  - Small Business Management
  - Tribal Management
- Early Childhood Education
- Environmental Sciences
- Office Systems
- Teacher Education

**CERTIFICATES**
- Bison Management (Nine months)
- Building Trades (Nine months)
- Business Administration/Management
  - Arts & Crafts Entrepreneurship (6 months & 1 year)
- Business Administration/Management
  - Entrepreneurship (1 year)
- Child Development Associate - CDA (9 months)
- Office systems (Nine month)

Sitting Bull College also offers junior and senior level credits in conjunction with Sinte Gleska University, Rosebud, South Dakota and Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, Montana. The credits earned apply toward the following Bachelor’s degrees:

- Bachelor’s of Science in Elementary/Special Education - Sinte Gleska University
- Bachelor’s of Arts in Native American Human Services - Salish Kootenai College
TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA
BELCOURT, NORTH DAKOTA

SOCIAL PROFILE:

Native American Tribal lore gives North America the name of “Turtle Island.” Close to its exact geographic center is the Turtle Mountain reservation. Cool, green and inviting, dotted with sparkling lakes, it is like an island of trees in the northern Great Plains. It is also in the heart of the rich tribal and spiritual life of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians is the home for members of the Pembina Band of Chippewa. Many of the reservation inhabitants are also of mixed Chippewa and French ancestry, who are known as Mechif/Metis.

LOCATION:

The Turtle Mountain reservation is located in north central North Dakota and about seven miles south of the Canadian border. All 68,000 acres of the reservation are within Rolette County, ND. Belcourt is the central hub of the reservation and is an integrated community with many non-Indians.

ACCESS:

Three state-operated highways available to the community residents - US 281, ND 5 and ND 3. The Tribal government, and the BIA, hard-surfaced the major tribal roads on the reservation. Amtrak service is available at Rugby, ND, 45 miles from Belcourt. Air travel is provided by Rolla Flying Service, a private enterprise located in Rolla. Commercial air travel is available at Devil’s Lake and Minot (100 miles), Grand Forks (170 miles), Bismarck (170 miles), or Fargo (250 miles).

TOPOGRAPHY & CLIMATE:

The reservation land is covered by low rolling hills, trees, brush, and excellent farmland. Lakes, small ponds, and sloughs cover 40% of the area. The winters are cold and it is not unusual for snow to remain on the ground for up to six months. The summers are mostly pleasant with warm days cooling down in the evenings. Severe winter blizzards and summer thunderstorms are not uncommon. Average annual precipitation is between 25-30 inches.

HOUSING:

The various housing programs on the reservation are slowly relieving overcrowded and substandard housing conditions. 800 HUD low rent units are available in Dunseith, Shell Valley, and rural Belcourt. There is a low rent complex in the St. John community. There are two retirement complexes for the elderly, 50 units in Belcourt, and 10 units in Dunseith. These complexes have waiting lists of 7-12 months. Scattered home sites exist throughout the area.
**GOVERNMENT:**

The Tribe is governed by an elected Tribal Council comprised of nine members operating under a Constitution and By Laws.

**ECONOMY:**

Enterprises operated by the Tribe provide jobs for nearly 800 people on the reservation – Turtle Mountain Manufacturing, Uniband Data Processing and the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Casino (300 employees). Other major employers include the BIA, Indian Health Service, and school systems. Construction and agricultural work provide seasonal employment.

**EDUCATION:**

The Turtle Mountain Community School in Belcourt is public and BIA funded. The schools consist of elementary, junior, and senior high. The Dunseith Day School, located three miles north of Dunseith, is grades K-8. The Ojibwa Indian School (K-8) is located in Belcourt. The main Headstart Center is in Belcourt with satellite sites in St. John and Dunseith. There is also the fully accredited Turtle Mountain Community College in Belcourt, which completed construction on its new facility in the summer of 1999.

**HEALTH SYSTEM:**

The Indian Health Service Burdick Comprehensive Health Care Facility is a 29-bed hospital with a new state-of-the-art ambulatory care center. The hospital has the capabilities to provide surgery, ENT surgery, obstetrics, and emergency care. The new clinic offers comprehensive, curative, and preventative medicine in the form of general, diabetic, hypertension, well child, women's wellness, and prenatal clinics as well as specialty clinics. Other services available are audiology, optometry, and dental. The majority of the staff at this facility is Indian - including the physicians.

**POPULATION:**

Enrolled members = approximately 28,000.
1998 U.S. Census update (Rolette County) = 9,782.
The Turtle Mountain Community College is chartered by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. The tribe granted a charter to the college in 1972. In 1976 the college received a Certificate of Incorporation from the State of North Dakota.

The college is governed by a five-member Board of Directors. The board is an all Indian board appointed by the Tribal Business Council. The board serves as policy makers of the college. There is also a ten-member Board of Trustees. Two members are tribal council representatives, two members are student representatives, and six members are lifetime appointments.

The college enrolled 650 students during its 1998-99 academic year. It has 52 staff members. These staff members are faculty, administrative and support staff.

Turtle Mountain Community College offers associate degrees and vocational certificates. The following associate degrees and certificates are offered.

### ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
- Art
- Basic General Education
- Business Administration
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- English
- History
- Journalism
- Natural Resource Management
- Pre-Law
- Secondary Education
- Social Science
- Social Work/Human Services
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Veterinary
- Wildlife Studies

### ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE
- Basic General Education
- Biology
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Mathematics
- Medical Lab Technology
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Pre-Dentistry
- Accounting Technician
- Administrative Assistance
- Automotive Technology
- Construction Technology
- Early Childhood
- Emergency Medical Technology
- Fish & Wildlife Management
- General Agriculture
- Horticulture
- Marketing & Management
- Medical Lab Technician
- Residential Carpentry

### BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS
- Early Childhood
- Elementary Education
- Middle School Education

### CERTIFICATION
- Accounting Clerk
- Automotive
- Casino Management
- Concrete Technology
- Data Entry
- Electronics Technology
- Entrepreneur/Sales/Marketing
- Graphic Arts
- Micro-Computer Operator
- Phoenix program
- Residential Carpentry
- Welding

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS
- Continuing Education
- Customized Training
- Dual Credit
- Non-Traditional
TRENTON INDIAN COMMUNITY
TRENTON, NORTH DAKOTA

SOCIAL PROFILE:

Most of the residents of the Trenton Indian Service Area (TISA) are the descendants of transplanted Turtle Mountain Chippewas. (See Government)

LOCATION:

Trenton Indian Service Area lies within Williams and Divide counties in North Dakota covering 69,860 acres in the northwest corner of the State. The area is bounded on the north by the Canadian border, on the west by the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Montana, and the Missouri River makes up the southern boundary. Trenton, ND is the headquarters and is about 20 miles southwest of Williston, ND.

ACCESS:

Major highways include US 85, US 2 and Highway 1804 are well maintained by the State. Driving conditions often become hazardous during winter blizzards, which produce blowing, drifting snow and icy roads. The nearest Amtrak rail transportation, limited bus service and airline service is in Williston.

TOPOGRAPHY & CLIMATE:

This is an area that was shaped by glacial action and stream erosion into rolling country. Some sections of the Missouri River bottom are wooded, while other sections are typical of what is known as the Missouri breaks: a rugged, hilly, badlands type area. Annual precipitation is as low as 10 inches. This region of North Dakota has a reputation for producing some of the most extreme weather conditions in the United States. Winter conditions are often severe and bitterly cold temperatures compounded by strong winds lowering temperatures to 60-70 below zero (windchill). Summer temperatures have been known to exceed 100 degrees.

HOUSING:

The Trenton Indian Housing Authority has developed housing units under the HUD program for the elderly and low to moderate-income persons. The homes are scattered throughout the service area. Housing is also available in Williston by rental or purchase.

GOVERNMENT:

In 1892, a treaty agreement between the US government and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa set aside two townships in north central North Dakota as a reservation for tribal occupancy. Within the two reserved townships, individual land allotments were made to enrolled members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. However, because of an error in the Tribal enumeration, the reservation land base could not accommodate the number of tribal members eligible for land allotments.
Consequently, the US government, as specified in the 1892 Treaty agreement, provided public domain land in western North Dakota and eastern Montana to Turtle Mountain Chippewa who were willing to relocate and homestead in that area. The treaty agreement assured that services to the relocated membership would be provided as if they resided on reservation land.

In 1973, the Turtle Mountain Tribal government adopted Ordinance 29, empowering the Trenton Tribal members to control their own self-determination. In 1981, Ordinance 29 was modified to strengthen the self-determination efforts of the Trenton residents by establishing the Trenton Indian Service Area (TISA) as a political subdivision with By Laws and an administrative board elected by the enrolled members of TISA. Today the community is governed by an elected Council consisting of a Chairperson and six representatives - two for each of the three voting areas.

**ECONOMY:**

Employment opportunities are severely limited in this community, causing most people to commute to other areas for work. This is reflective of the rapidly decreasing oil field industry and construction business over the past few years. TISA does have some positive economic projects started: a manufacturing plant, recreational venture with BIA at the Trenton Lake, the clinic operations, and the BIA.

**EDUCATION:**

Trenton is served by public school districts grades Headstart to high school. There are a limited number of students who elect to attend Flandreau Indian School in SD. Williston has a local, community college that many of the residents utilize.

**HEALTH SYSTEM:**

TISA operates a community clinic under contract from the Indian Health Services and provides basic outpatient services. Complex outpatient services and inpatient care are referred out to Williston or Minot, ND. The field health component of the clinic provides a wide range of activities including public health nursing, nutritionist, alcohol/substance abuse program, CHR, First Responder, and Healthy Start, which is a maternal/child health service.

**POPULATION:**

Indian Health Service Population is about 1,800.

1998 U.S. Census update (Divide & Williams Counties) = 1,213.
United Tribes Technical College was founded in 1969 by an intertribal organization, the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation. The college is a nonprofit corporation chartered by the State of North Dakota and operated by the five tribes in North Dakota. The five tribes are the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold, the Spirit Lake Tribe, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribe, the Standing Rock Tribe and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. In 1982, the college received accreditation from North Central Accreditation Association. The college was accredited to offer Associate of Applied Science Degrees and Certificate Programs.

The college is the only residential college among the five tribal colleges of North Dakota. It provides housing, recreational facilities, a child development center, and elementary school for its students and their families. Family housing is provided for married students and single parents. Married student houses have one and three bedrooms. Each unit has a washer/dryer, dining set, bedroom and living room furniture, stove, and a refrigerator. There is a 16-unit residence available for single parents with one child. These units have a stove, refrigerator, dining set, couch, bunk bed and crib.

During the 1998-99 academic year the college had a student enrollment of 320 adult students, both Indian and non-Indian. This past year, student enrollment in the elementary, K-8, and early childhood centers, birth to five years, totaled 240 children. The college had 42 full-time and part-time faculty members, and 117 administrative and support personnel. Theodore Jamerson Elementary School had 23 staff members. This number includes teachers, administration, and support personnel.

UTTC offers seven certificate programs and thirteen Associates of Applied Science Degrees. Certificate programs can usually be completed in two or three semesters, while the A.A.S. Degrees are completed in four or five semesters depending upon program requirements.
Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota Nation of the Lake Traverse Reservation
Sisseton, South Dakota

SOCIAL PROFILE:

The Lake Traverse Reservation was created by Treaty with the U.S. Government on February 19, 1867. Today, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota Tribe has over 11,000 enrolled members. Over 5,500 of them live on or near the reservation.

LOCATION:

The Lake Traverse Reservation is located primarily in northeast South Dakota and includes all of Roberts, Day, and Marshall Counties and portions of Grant and Codington Counties. The reservation also extends into Sergeant and Richland Counties in North Dakota and a portion of Traverse County in Minnesota.

The Reservation encompasses 918,799.32 acres of land. Individual Indians and the Tribe own over 111,000 acres. This includes 28,319.25 acres owned and managed by the Tribe and valued at approximately $10 million. The BIA manages the individually owned land. Non-Indians own over 800,000 acres.

GOVERNMENT:

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe is organized under a Constitution and By-laws adopted by the members of the Tribe on August 2, 1966. It has since been revised and updated.

The Tribe is currently governed by a Tribal Council consisting of seven Council members and three officers - Tribal Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Tribal Secretary. The members of the Tribal Council are elected from each of the reservation’s seven political districts according to population every two years. The Tribal Council is the Legislative Branch of Tribal Government. The three officers are elected at large every two years. The officers oversee and manage the Executive Branch of Tribal Government. The officers serve as an Executive Committee, which implements Tribal Council policy and acts on their behalf between their regular monthly meetings. The Judicial Branch of Tribal Government is autonomous, under a separation of powers and includes the Tribal Court. A Judicial Committee appointed by the Tribal Council serves as a liaison between the two branches.

HOUSING:

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Housing Authority manages 631 units of public and mutual self-help housing in a dozen communities across the reservation.
**ECONOMY:**

The Tribe is the largest single employer in an area bounded by Fargo, ND, Marshall, MN, and Brookings and Aberdeen, SD. Tribal employment fluctuates between 1,100 and 1,250 persons depending on the time of the year and current employment needs. Primary Tribal employers include: the three branches of Government, Tribal, BIA and IHS; Tiospa Zina Tribal School (K-12); Enemy Swim Day School (K-8); Sisseton-Wahpeton Community College; Sisseton-Wahpeton Housing Authority; Dakota Western Corporation (manufacturing); Dakota Sioux Casino (Watertown, SD); Dakota Connection; and Dakota Magic Casino in ND.

The Tribe’s annual payroll is approximately $30 million across all of its current entities. Dakota Magic Casino, the Tribe’s North Dakota gaming enterprise, opened on November 15, 1996. It currently employs 375 persons and has an annual payroll exceeding $6.5 million. Other agencies (e.g. BIA, IHS, etc.), programs, and services that support the Tribe and its members account for an additional $8-10 million that benefits the local and area economy.

**EDUCATION:**

Tiospa Zina Tribal School (K-12) and Enemy Swim (K-8) provide elementary and high school education to students on the reservation. Sisseton-Wahpeton Community College is available to those choosing to remain on the reservation in their pursuit of higher education.

**POPULATION:**

Tribal Enrollment is over 11,000.