

OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION

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• EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Office of the President	Theresa B. Two Bulls	(605) 867 5821 Ext. #220
Office of the Vice-President	William “Shorty” Brewer*	(605) 867 5821 Ext. #213
Office of the Secretary	Rhonda J. Two Eagle	(605) 867 5821 Ext. #268
Office of the Treasurer	Crystal Eagle Elk*	(605) 867 5821 Ext. #218
Office of the 5 TH Member	Myron Pourier	(605) 867 5821 Ext. #239

• OGLALA SIOUX TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Oglala District:

Barbara Dull Knife	(605) 454 0769
Valerie Kills Small~Janis	(605)

Pine Ridge Village District:

Ella “John” Carlow*	(605) 685 5607
Robin Tapio	(605) 454 0771
John Mousseau	(605) 454 0775

Wounded Knee District:

Garfield Little Dog*	(605) 685 5326
Phillip Jumping Eagle	(605)

Porcupine District:

Philip Good Crow*	(605)
Anthony Wounded Head, Sr.	(605) 454 1044

Medicine Root District:

Joseph Rosales	(605) 454 0772
Stanley Little White Man	(605)

Eagle Nest District:

Billy Amiotte	(605) 454 1045
Jim Meeks*	(605) 454 3883

Pass Creek District:

Lydia Bear Killer	(605) 454 0376
James Cross	(605) 454 4693

La Creek District:

Kim Clausen*	(605) 454 3880
Craig Dillon*	(605) 685 8594

Wakpamni District:

Sonia Little Hawk~Weston*	(605) 441 7120
Ricky Grey Grass	(605) 454 0339

**Denotes Re-Elected Incumbent (2006-2008 / 2008-2010 Administration's)*

Critic/Sergeant-At-Arms:

Abraham Tobacco	(605) 454 0093
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- GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Oglala Sioux Tribal government maintains jurisdiction within the boundaries of the reservation including all rights-of-ways, waterways, watercourses and streams running through any part of the reservation and to such others lands as may hereafter be added to the reservation under the laws of the United States. The Tribal government operates under a constitution consistent with the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and approved by the Tribal membership and Tribal Council of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The Tribe is governed by an elected body consisting of a five (5) member Executive Committee and a nineteen (19) member Oglala Sioux Tribal Council, all of whom serve a two (2) year term of Office.

- MISSION

THE MISSION IS THE PREAMBLE TO THE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBAL CONSTITUTION (AMENDED 2008):

We, the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, in order to develop a more perfect organization, promote the general welfare, conserve and develop our lands and resources, secure to ourselves and our posterity the power to exercise certain rights of home rule not inconsistent with Federal laws and our treaties, and in recognition of God Almighty and His Divine Providence, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

- VISION

THE VISION OF THE OGLALA LAKOTA NATION 2030 DEVELOPED AS PART OF THE EMPOWERMENT ZONE STRATEGIC PLAN:

The vision is for a sovereign, self-sufficient, Lakota language and culture-based people who are players in the global economy on Oglala terms.

THE VISION INCLUDES:

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- Full Employment;
- A skilled workforce;
- Adequate wages;
- Employers use management based on Lakota values;
- Tiospayes (communities) control a self-sustaining community economy;
- Business Friendly Environment: financing, training and technical assistance available, sustainable, culturally-appropriate development;
- Seamless birth to death Education: culturally-based systems to prepare tribal members for life and jobs, 100% literacy in English and fluency in Lakota, community controlled;
- Safe, natural environment: free of crime, violence, pollution, respect for the earth practiced by tribal members and visitors;
- Oglala infrastructure: utilities, roads, parks, museums, theaters, pow wow grounds, internet, phone system, land use, etc.;
- Lakota-based governance: responsive to the grass-roots people, performance based, traditional peacemaking and mediation, nation to nation agreements;
- Strong Lakota families: social norms and institutions supporting Lakota values and wellness, basic needs met for all Tribal members: affordable housing, public transportation

- HISTORY & CULTURE

Crazy Horse and Red Cloud were Oglala traditional leaders. Billy Mills, an Oglala, is the only American ever to win an Olympic gold medal in the 10,000 meter run. *Dances with Wolves* tells a story of Oglalas in the 19TH Century. *Thunderheart* tells a story of Oglalas in the 20TH Century. *Black Elk Speaks* tells of the Oglalas at the Little Big Horn and a vision of Oglala holy man, Black Elk. *The Broken Cord* tells a story of an Oglala child with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Wounded Knee and the Badlands are on the Reservation. Rapid City is in the Black Hills. The one-hundred-and-fifty (150) year history of the Oglala since contact with the encroaching settlers and gold seekers is a familiar story of wars with the United States, taking of lands, confinement to a reservation, breaking of treaties by the U.S. government and attempts to stamp out Lakota language and culture. U.S. Government policies have reduced the Oglala Lakota to the economically poorest people in the country.

The Tribal Nations have a government-to-government relationship with the United States. The Tribes of the Great Sioux Nation signed treaties in the 1824, 1851, and 1868 with the United States which recognized rights as a sovereign government. Pine Ridge Reservation was originally part of the Great Sioux Reservation which was created by treaty which included the whole of South Dakota west of the Missouri River. By the Great Sioux Settlement of 1889 the Great Sioux Reservation was reduced to five (5) separate reservations one (1) of which was the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The people of the Sioux Nation refer to themselves as Lakota or Dakota which means friend or ally. The United States government took the word Sioux from (Nadowes Sioux), which comes from a Chippewa (Ojibway) word which means little snake or enemy. The French traders and trappers who worked with the Chippewa (Ojibway) people shortened the word to Sioux.

The Oglala Lakota are a part of the Titowan Division. The Black Hills are sacred to the Lakota/Dakota people and today considered an important part of our spiritual lives. A direct violation of the 1868 Treaty was committed in 1874 by General George A. Custer and his 7TH Cavalry which entered the Black Hills illegally and discovered gold. On June 15, 1876, the Battle of the Little Big Horn between the 7TH Cavalry and Lakota Nation with their allies Cheyenne and Araphoes at Greasy Grass, Montana took place. The Sioux Nation won a victory over General George A. Custer and his 7TH Cavalry but lost a public relations battle in the East.

The Great Sioux Nation scattered, some to Canada and others surrendered to the reservations. Many of the Lakota people began believing in the Ghost Dance as a way to restore their lands and way of life. The 7TH Cavalry caught them at a place called Wounded Knee on December 29, 1890. The 7TH Cavalry took all the weapons from the Lakota people. The 7TH Cavalry massacred three-hundred (300) people at Wounded Knee and left the bodies to freeze in the snow. The American Indian Movement made a cry for tribal rights during a takeover at Wounded Knee in 1973.

- POPULATION

The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation has 28,787 Indian people (Dr. Kathleen Pickering *Pine Ridge Work Force Study*, Colorado State University, 2005). This figure has been accepted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for funding purposes and is probably the most accurate population figure calculated in the last ten (10) years. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Labor Force Study (2003) shows 42,357 enrolled tribal members and 45,432 Indians eligible in the service area which is on or near the Reservation. The OST Census Office puts tribal membership at 47,197 in 10/2008. Rapid City, So. Dakota has over 15,000 Indians according to the US Census 2000 of whom about 12,000 are Oglalas.

THE POPULATION BY DISTRICTS AND AGE ARE:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>UNDER 18</u>	<u>OVER 18</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	45%	55%	100%
Eagle Nest	1,534	1,874	3,408
La Creek	398	486	884
Medicine Root	2,042	2,496	4,538
Pass Creek	469	573	1,042
Porcupine	1,451	1,774	3,225
Wakpamni	1,711	2,091	3,802
Pine Ridge	2,484	3,036	5,520
White Clay	1,633	1,996	3,629
Wounded Knee	1,098	1,506	2,739
TOTAL	12,820	15,832	27,787

The population in Shannon County which makes up the majority of the Reservation has 45% under age 18 vs. 27% for the State of South Dakota. Shannon County also has 27% of the state's birthrate but only 3.5% of the population. The population of the Reservation is 94.2% Native American. The % of males is 48% and females is 52%.

<u>CENSUS 2000</u>	<u>SHANNON COUNTY</u>	<u>US</u>
Median Age	20.6	35.3
Native American	94.2%	.9%
Average Household Size	4.36	2.59
Average Family Size	4.72	3.14
Housing Units	3,123	
	Owner Occupied	1,380
	Rented	1,405
High School Grads (25+)	70%	80.4%
Bachelors (25+)	12.1%	21.4%
Speak other than English	26.2%	17.9%
Median Household Income	\$20,916.00	\$41,994.00
Median Family Income	\$20,897.00	\$50,046.00
Families below Poverty	45.1%	9.2%
Individuals below Poverty	52.3%	12.4%
Median Home Value	\$25,900.00	\$119,600.00

US DOI LABOR MARKET INFORMATION ON THE INDIAN LABOR FORCE BIA:

	TOTAL
Tribal Enrollment	43,146
Total Resident/Service Area Population	43,146
Number under age 16	10,941
Number 16-64	29,004
Number over 64	3,201
Population not available for work	2,666
Workforce	29,539
Employed	3,131
Employed in public sector	2,784
Employed in private sector	347
Employed but below poverty line	1074 (34%)
Unemployed as a % of labor force = 89%	

- RURAL ISOLATION

The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is larger than the state of Connecticut (over 70,000 square miles.) People live in eleven (11) major towns/housing areas and along the creeks.

There are nine (9) political districts which are listed above (Pine Ridge Village is physically enclosed by Wakpamni District but is considered a political district which elects Representatives to the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council).

The major towns are: Pine Ridge, Kyle, Porcupine, Martin, Wounded Knee, Manderson, Allen, Wanblee, Wakpamni Lake, Evergreen and Sharp's Corner. The 2000 Census shows six (6) persons per square mile on the Reservations vs. 9 square miles in South Dakota and 79.6 in the United States.

Distance, weather conditions, and the lack of automobiles are the major deterrents to access at Pine Ridge. Highway 18 travels across the reservation from east to northwest and is the major artery. Other paved major all-weather roads include S.D 87, 29, and 75, and BIA 2, 27, 28, 40, and 41. There is an approved paved landing strip near the Pine Ridge community. One (1) key issue is that almost all major roads are directed off the Reservation and east-west access is not very good, e.g. Kyle to Oglala.

Pine Ridge Village, in the southwestern corner of the reservation, is the administrative headquarters for the Indian Health Service Unit, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Tribal Government and State Agencies. Kyle, the approximate geographic center of the reservation, is the second largest community and the headquarters for Oglala Lakota College (OLC.)

The only major city within a couple of hours driving distance from Pine Ridge is Rapid City, So. Dakota with a population of 57,700; Chadron, Gordon and Rushville, Nebraska are all also shopping centers for the Reservation. The Reservation is 2,800,000 acres with 706,340 tribally owned and 1,064,840 allotted to tribal members, the government owns 1,536. The other land has been taken or sold. The largest percentage of land is grazing with some farm land and some forest land. The Badlands are prime tourist attractions.

The climate of the reservation is typical of the Northern Great Plains with extremes during the summer and winter that vary from 105 to -30F respectively. The average temperatures range from 74 in July, to 21 F in January. The normal precipitation for the year averages nineteen (19) inches.

- GOALS

FROM TEN (10) YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 1999 TO 2008 FOR EMPOWERMENT ZONE:

- Business Development: provide community-based small business development technical assistance and training through partnerships, establish expanded loan and development systems to aid job creation, establish Lakota Pride Shopping Center and provide job readiness training for three hundred (300) people;
- Infrastructure: sewage treatment facilities, water facilities, industrial park, and establish tribal utility commission;
- Tourism Department: build trails and roads for biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing, historical and cultural attractions;

- Education: Alternative schools, leadership training for tribal legislative members, school to work, tech prep, job shadowing, and related programs, scholarship program for reservation residents interested in earning degrees, and parental training for parents with young children;
- Health Services: Coordinated nutrition program;
- Housing: Establish manufactured housing assembly plant, provide subsidized homeownership opportunities for elderly and disabled;
- Transportation: Assure workers, students, etc., will have access to affordable transportation; improve bus service systems, improve road systems and road maintenance.
- KEY VALUES

THE KEY VALUES OF THE OGLALA LAKOTA OYATE ARE SHOWN BY THE FOLLOWING QUOTES AND DEFINED AS THE VALUES THAT FOLLOW:

“By lifting our vision, the petty quarrels of our daily existence will be overcome by a view of our future and our communities will emerge as sacred places” | Vine Deloria, Jr.

“I have seen that in any great undertaking it is not enough for a man to depend simply upon himself” | Loneman, Teton Lakota

“The purpose is to achieve Wolakolkiciyapi - mutual respect, cooperation and understanding with everyone working toward one (1) goal” | Calvin Jumping Bull

“You have always noticed that everything an Indian does is in a circle and that is because the Power of the World always works in circles, and everything tries to be round...The sky is round, and I have heard that the earth is round like a ball, and so are all the stars. The wind, in its greatest power, whirls. Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing, and always come back to where they were. The life of a man is a circle from childhood to childhood, and so is everything where power moves” | Black Elk, Oglala Lakota