



ONEIDA

FACT SHEET

THE ONEIDA INDIAN NATION

The Oneida Indian Nation is a federally recognized Indian nation in Central New York. It is a member of the Haudenosaunee (hoe-dee-no-so-nee), known in English as the Six Nations or Iroquois Confederacy. The word Haudenosaunee means “people of the longhouse.”

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

The Oneida Indian Nation is composed of approximately 1,000 enrolled Oneida Members, about half of whom live in Central New York. Nation Members belong to one of three family clans – Turtle, Wolf or Bear. Both Nation membership and clan membership are determined through the mother’s bloodline. Each clan chooses representatives to the governing body, the Nation Council. Tradition requires both the Nation’s leaders and its Members to consider the impact on the next seven generations when making decisions. The Nation is headed by a federally recognized Representative. That position is held today by Ray Halbritter.



ECONOMIC INITIATIVES

The Oneida Indian Nation operates a variety of businesses to fund its government programs. These enterprises include:

Gaming and Hospitality:

Turning Stone Resort Casino, a destination resort featuring world class gaming, more than 700 hotel rooms and suites, RV park, three nationally-ranked 18-hole championship golf courses and two nine-hole courses, an indoor golf training center and tennis facility, more than 15 restaurants, Ska:ná Spa offering American Indian treatments, entertainment and conference facilities.

Turning Stone has earned AAA four-diamond ratings for The Lodge, The Tower Hotel and Wildflowers restaurant. The Lodge has earned two Condé Nast Johansens Awards for Excellence.

The Atunyote Golf Club hosted The Turning Stone Resort Championship, an official PGA TOUR event.

Turning Stone’s entertainment and meeting venues include the 5,000-seat Event Center, the 800-seat Showroom, its newest multi-entertainment venue EXIT 33, LAVA Dance Club and the Conference Center. These venues host many of the nation’s top entertainers each year, as well as special events such as trade shows and cooking demonstrations by celebrity chefs.

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In 2015 the Oneida Indian Nation opened Yellow Brick Road Casino, a \$20 million, smoke-free, 60,000-square-foot gaming venue located in Upstate New York in the Village of Chittenango. The casino celebrates the community's connection with the iconic story, "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz."

Retail:

- Twelve SavOn Convenience stores; Car Care; three marinas and a hunting preserve.
- Four Directions Productions, a HD cinematography/3D animation studio that in 2007 produced "Raccoon & Crawfish," an award-winning animated short.
- Oneida Technical Solutions, a provider of a wide-range of general support and administrative services, primarily to federal government agencies.
- Oneida Heritage, a shop that sells, rents and showcases props and paraphernalia from the American wars, as well as sells one-of-a-kind Oneida hand-crafted jewelry, baskets and other artwork.
- Indian Country Today Media Network, the first ever all-inclusive media network for American Indians featuring a website, Indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com. The website provides essential news and information from Indian Country, featuring new artists and cultural highlights and the most influential voices in the national Native community.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

These enterprises and the Nation's government programs have created 4,750 jobs, making the Oneida Nation the largest employer in Oneida and Madison counties and one of the largest employers in the 16 counties of Central New York. The Nation's workforce earned more than \$139 million in wages and bonuses during the 2016 fiscal year.

In 2016, the Nation spent \$224 million with other businesses, including about \$60 million in Central New York for goods and services. Since Turning Stone Resort Casino opened in 1993, the Nation has infused more than \$6 billion into the economy through its direct spending.



GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Proceeds from the Nation's enterprises are funneled into essential services for Oneida Members. The Nation's services to Members include:

- A comprehensive health clinic, open to all Native Americans in a six-county area.
- Education scholarships, tuition assistance and educational incentive programs.
- A congregate meals and enrichment program for Nation Elders.
- An early childhood learning center.
- A multi-faceted recreation and youth development program.
- Continuing cultural education initiatives, including Oneida language and dance classes.
- The Village of the White Pines, a residential community providing affordable housing for Members.
- The Ray Elm Children and Elders Center, centerpiece of the Village of the White Pines and home to a variety of programs targeted for these key populations.

The mission of the Oneida People is to restore their Nation to the strength and stability it enjoyed before Europeans landed on the shores of this country. The Oneida Nation is well on its way to achieving this goal.