

# ONEIDA

# INDIAN NATION

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; an 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 venues; 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.

YBR Casino & Sport Book is a 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."

Point Place Casino, located in Bridgeport, features nearly 500 slot machines, 20 table games, two counter-service restaurants, the second location of Opals Confectionery, the popular chocolatier and bakery from Turning Stone, and two bars.

#### Retail:

- SāvOn Convenience stores; Maple Leaf Markets; Turning Stone Car Care; thee marinas; a hunting and a fishing preserve.
- 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. Warrior Archery, a 12-lane indoor archery range, is located at Oneida Heritage.
- Oneida Technical Solutions, a provider of a widerange of general support and administrative services, primarily to federal government agencies.

#### ECONOMIC IMPACT

These enterprises and the Nation's government programs have created more than 4,000 jobs, making the Oneida Indian 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 \$141 million in wages and bonuses during the 2020 fiscal year.

In 2020, the Nation spent \$278 million with other businesses, including about \$75 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.