**Induction Ceremony**

**Tribe-New Tribal Members-The Great Spirit Speaks**

**Overview:** This ceremony is written especially for when a new parent and child are inducted into an existing tribe. The inducting Chief seated himself on the floor with the new members seated in front of him. Other tribal members were seated in a semi-circle around them. Portions of the following ceremony were pre-recorded or could be read by an Elder. For effect, the recorder was concealed inside/behind an Indian-decorated mannequin head that wears an NSD headband. There are two white feathers inside the back of the headband. The head is intended for use by all tribes of the Longhouse.

**Participants:**

* Tribal Chief: Ceremonial Leader
* Tribal Elder (or Assistant Chief): Co-leader of ceremony

**Relevant Ceremonial Pieces:** You may wish to incorporate this ceremony with other Tribal ceremonial components to form your full ceremony. The following are basic suggestions. Your creativity is your limit.

* Parade to Ceremonial Location
* Giving or Announcing of Indian Names
* Sacred Fire Lighting
* Special Awards
* Ceremonial Closing

**CEREMONY**

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| Chief | This is a special meeting of the (**Tribe Name**) tribe. Our tribe is here to welcome (**New Parent Name**) and his son (**New Child Name**) into its membership. All Fathers and Sons of Native Sons & Daughters are pals. (Recite all the tribe members by families such as “Will Bosanko and his son Bill are pals…) and our newest members (**New Parent Name**) and his son (**New Child Name**) are pals. They have heard the call of Gitchi-Manito, the Giver of Life. They have seen what can be done when Father and Son work and play together. They now wish to become members of the (**Tribe Name**) Tribe. Listen as The Great Chief (**Indian Name**) tells us the purpose and aims of the Native Sons & Daughters Program |
| Recorded, Assistant or Elder | Listen well, new and old Braves as I repeat for you the ideals & aims of the Native Sons & Daughters Program. Our purpose is to foster the companionship of Father and Son. *(Recording is paused or time is allowed to further explain the purpose more as well as the Aims).* |
|  | The Six Aims of the Native Sons & Daughters Program are:   1. To be clean in body and pure in heart 2. To be Pals Forever-Friends Always, father and son 3. To love the sacred circle of the family 4. To listen while others speak 5. To love my neighbor as myself 6. To seek and preserve the beauty of the Great Spirit’s work in forest, field and stream |
| Chief | (**New Parent Name**) and (**New Child Name**) will learn these Aims and they will be willing and ready to accept these duties that come with membership in the (**Tribe Name**) Tribe. Great Chief (**Indian Name**), tell us the sign of Native Sons and Daughters that these new braves should know. |
| Recorded, Assistant or Elder | There is a sign of the buffalo, assign of strength and power on which we base the strength and power of companionship in our tribe. There is the sign of the sun, the moon and the stars, which are signs of the Great Spirit. There is also the beaver and his dam, the signs of the worker and his house. As in the beaver tribe, there can be no lazy ones, so to must we all share in the work and duties of Native Sons & Daughters. The teepee, the peace pipe and the council fire are signs of our home, their peacefulness and their good will. When we see the sign of the beaver and the squirrel playing, we know that there should be plenty of time for playing, and our big and little braves should play together. The sign of the eagle, the king of the air, which has always been a sign of majesty, courage and high ideals to mankind, we know it stand for our ideals |

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| Chief | (**New Parent Name**) and (**New Child Name**), you have now heard the purpose and Six Aims of Native Sons and Daughters and some of the signs that we live by. |
| Recorded, Assistant or Elder | Oh Chief, take the feathers from my headband and present them to the new members. (the Chief does so) |
|  | *(If they are prepared, the New Members may want to choose and/or announce their new Indian names to the Tribe)* |
| Chief | We welcome you to the (**Tribe Name**) tribe with our slogan, “Pals Forever-Friends Always” |
| Chief / ALL | *(Chief shouts the Tribe/Longhouse salutation, then all repeat/shout in approval)* |
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Contributed by: Gerry Johnson, Northwestern Detroit