**Induction Ceremony**

**Tribe-New Tribal Members-Short Form**

**Overview:** This short ceremony is especially for when a new parent and child are inducted into an existing tribe, primarily after the main Longhouse Induction Ceremony has occurred. The Longhouse or Tribal Chief will conduct this ceremony at a tribe meeting location. The tribe is gathered/seated in a circle with new members seated nearest the Chief. All returning tribal members should be wearing their NSD regalia… headbands, vests, etc.

The new members will receive their headbands and program patches in person so they will need to be removed from the New Member Packets in advance.

The new members should have selected their Indian name in advance of this gathering.

**Participants:**

* Tribal Chief: Ceremonial Leader
* Tribal Assistant Chief (or Elder): 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.

* Ceremonial Parade to meeting place (if outdoors)
* Ceremonial Fire Lighting (if outdoors)
* Tribal Meeting Opening Ritual
* Giving or Announcing of Indian Names
* Tribal Meeting Closing Ritual

**CEREMONY**

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| Assistant | Chief (**Chief Indian Name**), there are new members among us who have not received their headbands and patches, the official symbols of the Native Sons & Daughters Program. |
| Chief | (**Assistant Indian Name**) Please gather the new members. |
| Assistant | New members, come forward to receive your headband and official patch of the Native Sons & Daughters Program. |
| Chief | *(WILL NOW BEGIN TO WALK AROUND THE CIRCLE TO EACH NEW MEMBER, GIVING THEM THEIR HEADBAND. HE WILL PLACE THE HEADBAND ONTO THE HEADS OF THE CHILDREN.)* |
| Assistant | *(will present NSD patches and a WHITE feather TO EACH NEW MEMBER)* |
| Chief | *(To each new Big Brave, Son or Daughter)*  What is your Indian Name? [*WAIT FOR RESPONSE*]  [**Indian Name**] Receive these symbols of the Native Sons & Daughters Program.  I welcome you as a member of the (**Tribe Name**) Tribe and the (**Longhouse Name**) Longhouse.  *(Once all have received headbands, patches & feathers)*  Sons & Daughters, please turn and face your fathers. [WAIT] I ask you now to take your fathers feathers and place it into his headband. [WAIT]  Big Braves, I ask you now to place your child's feather into their headband. [WAIT]  This passing of feathers symbolizes the passing of hopes, dreams, ideals, and heritage, from a father to his child. A father's prayer for his child's success in life.  As Native Sons & Daughters, so to must we take pride in our fathers, our mothers, our families, our heritage. Realize that the time that fathers and children have together is a special once-in-a-lifetime gift.  Assistant (**Assistant** **Indian Name**), please lead all Big Braves, Sons & Daughters the pledge.... |
| Assistant | All Big Braves, Sons & Daughters, repeat after me... We, fathers and children, / pledge ourselves, / to observe all the aims / of the Native Sons & Daughters, / and to foster the companionship, / of father and child, / in teepee, / tribe, / and longhouse, / under the four winds of heaven. |
| Chief | New members... May you as fathers and children create many special memories together. The (**Longhouse Name**) Longhouse officially welcomes you. |
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Contributed by: The Cheyenne Nation, Bedford, OH