

INFORMATION ON HOW TO REGISTER A CHILD

1. You will require the Statement of Live Birth from any Provincial Vital Statistics office in your area (**Thunder Bay - 1-800-461-2156**) or the nearest Office of the Registrar General in your area. There is a cost for obtaining this document (do not send a check, try to get a money order. You must remember to state that you want the **8½ x 14½** or whatever size the document is in that province/state. The birth document must have the parents names on it in order for Indian Affairs to accept the document, the wallet size birth certificate or Notice of Birth Registration is **not acceptable to Indian Affairs** but is always good to have for identification purposes. You can also order the birth document on line at: **<https://www.serviceontario.ca>** , but make sure that you have a guarantor's name available and a Credit Card to pay for it.
2. You are also required to complete a Parental Consent form (attached) whereby each parent completes and signs;
3. One of Garden River's requirements for Band Membership is to complete the attached Membership Application for your child as Band membership does not come automatically any more since Bill C-31 was enacted. The parent who belongs to Garden River is the parent who should complete the attached application on behalf of his/her child.
4. Once you have the **Original Statement of Live Birth** from Vital Statistics and the Parental Consent form is completed, mail or bring in all of the documents to our office and our Membership department will complete the necessary paperwork that is needed to send to Indian Affairs;
5. Band membership is different from being registered with a Registry number, band membership is a process that only the Band can determine who can become a Band member according to the Band Membership Code that was passed by a referendum of the people back in 1987. All children born whose opposite parent is either non Indian or from another First Nation must apply for Band Membership.
6. It takes a couple of weeks after we send out the documentation to Indian Affairs when your child is given a Registry number; if I have your most recent address or email address, I will send you a letter stating that the child is now registered and what his/her new Registry number is; at that time you also may call for an appointment to get the child's status card, we can also mail out the necessary forms to do by mail.