skull remains as one. The skull has a jagged line from horn to horn representing the Milk River, a major tributary of the Missouri. Snake Butte is illustrated above the skull. This butte is a well-known landmark for tribes throughout the North.

The two arrowheads facing each other emphasize the strong traditional ties with the past.

Seven feathers hang from the shield. Each feather is for every two of the twelve council members who represent the reservation’s three districts and the center feather represents the tribal chairman.

**Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes**

Tribes: Assiniboine and Sioux

Tribe Names: Nakoda, Lakota, Dakota

Reservation: Fort Peck Indian Reservation

Website: [http://www.fortpecktribes.org/](http://www.fortpecktribes.org/)

Tribal College: Fort Peck Community College [http://www.fpcc.edu/](http://www.fpcc.edu/)

Flag: The Fort Peck Reservation is home to several bands from each tribe of the Assiniboine and Sioux. The Assiniboine are represented by the Canoe Paddler Band and the Red Bottom Band. The Sioux include parts of the Sisseton, Wahpeton, Yanktonai and Hunkpapa Teton bands.

The tribal flag of the Fort Peck Tribes was designed and sketched by artist Roscoe White Eagle. The flag of the Fort Peck Tribes is depicted on a field of blue sky. The two chiefs displaying the robe of the prairie buffalo is befitting of the fact that two tribes, Assiniboine and Sioux, reside together on the same reservation. The tribal names appear along the trail of the two chiefs’ headress in white. The sacred robe of the buffalo symbolizes the tight and lasting bond of friendship and understanding between the two tribes.

Seal: The seal was created in the 1980’s. The Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) received a request from oil companies drilling on the reservation to purchase water from the tribes. The oil companies requested a map of water ways on the reservation. After the map was created by TERO, it was discovered that the water ways on the map resembled the outline of a buffalo in the middle of the reservation boundaries. The seal includes this representation of the buffalo and the Fort Peck Reservation boundaries were added to the drawing displayed on a hide.

**Northern Cheyenne Tribe**

Tribes: Northern Cheyenne

Tribe Names: Tsetséhéséítȟáhase- So’taa’e’o’o

Reservation: Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation

Website: [http://www.cheyennenation.com/](http://www.cheyennenation.com/)

Tribal College: Chief Dull Knife College [http://www.cdkc.edu/](http://www.cdkc.edu/)

Flag and Seal: The Northern Cheyenne Flag was developed during the tribal administration of Chairman John Wooden Legs. The diamond shape represents the Morning Star, which was also another tribal name of Chief Dull Knife. His descendants are called “The Morning Star People.”

The Morning Star on the flag has a symbolic Cog but its message is the past and present survival of the people. The Morning Star will rise each day and bring light to the Cheyenne people now and to those yet to be born. The Northern Cheyenne identify themselves as the people of Chief Morning Star and Little Wolf, who led their people on a heartbreaking journey back from their forced placement in Oklahoma to their homelands in the great Northern Plains.

There is the sun and its rays. These represent the clans of the Crow. Three mountains are depicted. They are the three mountains on the present day Crow Reservation: the Wolf Teeth, the Pryor and the Big Horn Mountains. They are considered sacred by the Crow. The two rivers depicted are the Big Big Horn and the Little Big Horn Rivers.

The tipi is white because it represents purity and goodness. The tiptips has the foundational structure of the four base poles. They represent the never ending Cycle of the Seasons. The tiptip has the two ventilator flaps. They are the sentries that watch over the home: the Coyote by day and the Owl at night. The tipi is anchored by stakes, which were gifts from the badger who said the stakes have the strength of his claws when they are imbedded in the ground. The tiptip is flanked by the two war bonnets, representing the Crow clan system.

The Crow belief system has four major foundations, and each is represented on the emblem: the clan system, the sweat lodge, the sacred tobacco bundle, and the pipe. The tiptip on the emblem represents the white tipi given to Yellow Leggins by White Owl. The sweat lodge is a gift from the Creator since the beginning of the Crow. The sacred tobacco bundle represents the foundation of the religion of the Crow. The pipe is the spiritual gift from the Seven Sacred Buffalo Bulls and Buffalo Woman. When the pipe is lit, the mind is to be filled with good, pure thoughts and peace.

**Montana Tribe Flags and Seals**

**CROW TRIBE**

Tribes: Crow

Tribe Names: Apsaalooke

Reservation: Crow Indian Reservation

Website: [http://www.crowtribe.com/](http://www.crowtribe.com/)

Tribal College: Little Big Horn College [http://www.lbhc.edu/](http://www.lbhc.edu/)

Flag and Emblem: The Crow Cultural Commission designed the Crow tribal emblem and flag and the graphic illustration was designed by Lawrence Big Hair. The flag is trimmed in gold, symbolizing the horns and hooves of the Seven Sacred Rams. The flag background is blue. The belief it represents states that when the sky and the waters are clear everything between them is good and peaceful.

The emblem on the flag is encircled. This represents the Path of All Things.

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Tribes: Northern Cheyenne

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Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Tribes: Bitterroot Salish, Pend d’Oreille, and Kootenai

Tribe: Flathead Indian Reservation
Website: http://www.cskt.org/index.htm
Tribal College: Stone Child College
http://www.ffc.edu/
Flag and Seal: The official seal of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes shows one of the last chiefs, Chief Koosta’stah, standing on a rock outcropping that overlooks roaring white water. The current seal was inspired by a talented young tribal artist, Corkey Clairmont, who had not yet reached high school at the time. This was the early 1980s. Corkey is now passing his artistry to a new generation at Salish Kootenai College. He said in an interview that his original intention was to show the people connecting to the land and water. He chose one of the last chiefs to help capture that sacred connection. The original work was revamped in the early 1980s, which made the raised hand more of a pointing gesture. More colors and textures were also added.

Blackfeet Tribe

Tribal Name: Blackfeet
Reservation: Blackfeet Indian Reservation
Website: http://www.blackfeetnation.com/
Tribal College: Blackfeet Community College
http://bbcc.edu/
Flag and Seal: The Blackfeet flag was created in 1980. The Blackfeet Media Department sponsored a contest for the design. A panel of judges consisting of elders, clerks, and community members chose it. The design is black and white on blue sky. A multitude of single eagle feathers creates a feeling that the eagle is flying, with the circle the current land base of the Blackfeet Nation. To the left of the circle of feathers stands the traditional flag of the Blackfeet people, the Eagle Feather staff. Colors and design represent the earth, the cosmos, the elements, the plants and animals, as well as the people. The circle represents the cycle of life. The many feathers equating to the bands of the numerous Blackfeet are arranged in a circle, like life. The sun rises in the East and circles to the West. The moon rises and sets in this circular motion, as does the cosmos. Blackfeet people pitch the lodges with the doors to the East, knowing that they start life with the circle in mind. The feathers represent the majesty and mysticism of the eagle. Eagle feathers represent long life, energy, power, and accomplishment or coup. The way the eagle feathers are arranged equating to the bands of the numerous Blackfeet are arranged in a circle, like life. The sun rises in the East and circles to the West. The moon rises and sets in this circular motion, as does the cosmos. Blackfeet people pitch the lodges with the doors to the East, knowing that they start life with the circle in mind. The feathers represent the majesty and mysticism of the eagle. Eagle feathers represent long life, energy, power, and accomplishment or coup. The way the eagle feathers are arranged.

Little Shell Chippewa Tribe

Tribal Name: Chippewa & Metis
Tribal Office: Great Falls, Montana
Website: http://www.littleshellmt.com/
Flag and Seal: A ‘Aaniiih and Nakoda College
http://www.ffc.edu/
Flag and Seal: The ‘Aaniih and Nakoda College logo has the sun rising from the West to symbolize the Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation. The sun is also a sacred animal representing the source of life and a sacred animal of the tribe. The buffalo skull symbolizes the existence of two tribes on the reservation, who function as a whole. The colors divide it, yet the tribe is one, with the sacred buffalo skull and the colors representing the two tribes. The buffalo skull represents the protection of the two tribes, the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine.

Chippewa Cree Tribe

Tribal Name: Chippewa and Cree
Reservation: Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation
Website: http://www.chippewacree.org
Tribal College: Stone Child College
http://www.stonechild.edu/
Flag and Seal: The Chippewa and Cree have come from two nations of the American continent. Each tribe has come together to form the present day Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation. The picture of this seal represents the circle of life on the Rocky Boy’s Reservation. Baldy Butte is the sacred mountain of the tribe. The buffalo, a source of food and shelter for the tribe for many years, is also a sacred animal representing the source of life and a sacred element of the tribe. The buffalo skull represents the existence of two tribes on the reservation, who function as a whole. The colors divide it, yet the tribe is one, with the sacred buffalo skull and the colors representing the two tribes. The buffalo skull represents the protection of the two tribes, the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine.