

Rod Atcheynum Head Judge

Rod Atcheynum is a Neheyo and a Citizen from the Sweet Grass Cree Nation in Saskatchewan. He is married and owns a horse ranch which consists of twenty five registered running bred quarter horses. Rod owned and operated a successful trucking company which offered service for six years throughout North America.

Mr. Atcheynum's spirit name is "*One Who Leads the Grandfathers*". He has dedicated his life to the Neheyo traditional way of life, ceremonies, and traditional dancing and served a two-year term as Chief for his nation.

Rod recently celebrated his twentieth year of dance, life-long journey of learning and the study of traditional law. To honor this life event, he hosted a Chicken Dance Special at the 2015 North Battleford Pow Wow where two horses were the top prizes in accord with traditional teachings. Rod also maintains the Red Road as a sun dancer and attends various ceremonies, lodges, and traditional fasting. He believes it is imperative to promote a positive lifestyle through the sacred gift of dance. He does this by traveling throughout Canada, United States, and overseas to share this sacred gift.

He is a positive role model for youth and promotes healthy lifestyles through traditional teachings, culture, and spirituality. He believes in an education that will promote cultural and traditional lifelong teachings as part of the curriculum. He also believes that our language contains our history, identity, and our laws.

Rod is honored to have been chosen to serve as a Head Judge at the 44th Annual Denver March Powwow. He would like to take this opportunity to thank the many elders and people that have served as his mentors. He looks forward to working with the Committee and seeing his friends and powwow family.

