



25th Navajo Nation Council

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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25th Navajo Nation Council calls on President Nygren for State of the Navajo Nation Address



Navajo Nation President Dr. Buu Nygren (left) and Vice President Richelle Montoya await the Council's approval to return to the State of the Navajo Nation report, after his late arrival.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the 25th Navajo Nation Council convened for the 2024 Summer Council Session in Window Rock, Ariz. and adopted an agenda that included the regularly scheduled State of the Navajo Nation Address from Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren.

When called upon by Speaker Crystalyne Curley to provide the Address, President Nygren was not present at the Council Chamber despite being notified by the Office of the Speaker well in advance. The Council patiently waited for several minutes while Speaker called for President Nygren three times, before moving forward with the next agenda item, in accordance with the Council's rules of order.

"It's with great respect that we welcome President Nygren and his administration to the People's House. The Council's proposed agenda is made public three days in advance of the start of the session. As the Speaker, it is my responsibility to keep the agenda moving forward so that Council can tend to the order of business for the Nation," Speaker Curley said. "Council Delegates have repeatedly asked President Nygren to be on time so that we can hear his report. We waited patiently and eventually moved forward when the President did not arrive

promptly.”

Council Delegate Nathan Notah attempted to suspend the Council’s floor rules to return to the President’s report, which required 16 supporting votes to pass. The motion was debated and ultimately failed by a vote of 10-7. President Nygren immediately departed the Council Chamber following the vote.

The Council has designated seating for the Navajo Nation President and Vice President inside the Council Chamber where they can sit at any time. At the start of the session on Monday, Vice President Richelle Montoya sat in the designated seating area for the opening ceremonies.

A similar situation occurred last October during the Fall Council Session when President Nygren failed to arrive on time when called upon to provide his report.

Speaker Curley noted that President Nygren is welcome to present his report before the Council adjourns from the summer session this week, which will require a suspension of the Council’s floor rules. The State of the Navajo Nation Address remains on the Council’s Summer Session agenda.

“It’s important for the Navajo people to hear from their leaders. As Speaker, I welcome President Nygren to deliver the State of the Navajo Nation Address before the Summer Council Session adjourns upon a vote of approval by my Council colleagues,” Speaker Curley said.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council Summer Session is open to the public and is live-streamed online at: <https://youtube.com/@navajonationcouncil>.

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