



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Festive Christmas tree lighting fills People's House with holiday spirit and cheer



Council Delegate Casey Allen Johnson and Speaker Crystalyne Curley caroled with children during the 2024 Tree Lighting Ceremony.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Friday, Dec. 13, the 25th Navajo Nation Council hosted its annual Christmas tree lighting event in front of the Navajo Nation Council Chamber, also known as the People's House, in Window Rock, Ariz.

Hundreds of local attendees embraced the holiday spirit through gift-giving, caroling, and storytelling during the Christmas tree lighting event. Speaker Crystalyne Curley welcomed the crowd into the Council Chamber, where she delivered a seasonal message highlighting the importance of K'é.

"The holiday season is a time for families to come together to share meals, stories, and, above all, meaningful time with one another," Speaker Crystalyne Curley said. "Tonight, the People's House is alive with that spirit. It's heartwarming to see families filling the gallery."

Resources and Development Committee Vice Chair Casey Allen Johnson also addressed the crowd, emphasizing the extended support offered through the Navajo clan system. He shared that his mother instilled the importance of establishing kinship ties through clanship introductions.

The evening featured storytelling by Earl Tulley, Vice Chair of the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission, who reflected on his grandparents' teachings that have guided him throughout his life.

"I've sat in this council chamber and listened to many great leaders. Right now, in the gallery,



we have our future leaders,” Tulley said, encouraging the young attendees to remain engaged with their elders.

The event culminated with the lighting of the Navajo Nation Council’s Christmas tree, illuminating the sky against the scenic backdrop of the Nation’s capital.

Following the tree lighting, the Navajo Nation Council hosted a Toys for Tots gift distribution, providing Christmas gifts to over one hundred children.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council extends its gratitude to the Navajo Nation Police Department for assisting with the gift distribution and to all Legislative Branch staff and departments who contributed to making the event a success.

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