

## 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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## Speaker Curley responds to President Nygren's misleading financial claims

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** - The Navajo Nation Council rejects President Nygren's latest attempt to distort financial information in order to advance a false narrative against the Navajo Nation Council.

On Navajo Nation Family Day, a day in which all families across our Nation should be embracing each other's love and compassion, Nygren chose to post misleading information on social media outlining erroneous and inflated financial figures related to 7 specific members of the Council. This is nothing more than retaliation for the ongoing investigations, ethics complaints, and court filings involving his administration.

The figures released today are deliberately inflated, incomplete, and designed solely to benefit the President's continued pattern of misinformation. None of the information released by Nygren was compiled by the Office of the Controller or any objective source.

President Nygren's presentation of Council expenses is not only misleading, it leaves out critical details about his own spending. The public should know that many of the President's travel costs never appear under his office's expense reports because he routinely demands Executive Branch divisions and programs to cover his travel expenses. This practice deflates his reported totals while driving up costs across the government. Any comparison he presents is completely inaccurate.

It is also important to clarify that the Navajo Nation Council's expenditures reflect the work of 24 delegates serving distinct communities across the Nation through committee meetings, oversight, legislative responsibilities, and local government support. These are not optional activities, many are required by law. Attempting to compare collective expenses of 24 lawmakers to the spending of the President is intentionally deceptive and meant to distract from the serious issues facing the Office of the President and Vice President.

President Nygren's release of manipulated financial data follows a familiar pattern. When confronted with investigations, subpoenas, court actions, and allegations of wrongdoing within his administration, he responds by attacking the Council rather than addressing the facts.

Nygren has not provided any documents or factual information related to the unaccounted \$24 million related to ZenniHome, \$55 million related to Native Community Capital, and many other allegations of wrongdoing under his presidency.

The Navajo Nation Council remains committed to transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of public funds. We encourage the President to apply those same standards to his own office, including a full disclosure of every instance in which he has required other divisions and programs to pay for his travel, lodging, and related expenses.

Just two days after President Nygren entered the Council Chamber and publicly apologized for calling the 24 members of the Council "scumbags" and demanding the termination of specific Navajo Nation employees, he issues this false information once again.

The Navajo people deserve honesty from the President, not political retaliation or fabricated numbers designed to mislead the public. Nygren is once again following in the footsteps of his mentor, former President Joe Shirley, Jr., using old politics and tactics to distract and divert attention from his wrongdoings. The fact is that President Nygren has lost the trust of the Navajo people and he is feeling the pressure of overwhelming calls for his resignation by our people and chapters.

Crystalyne Curley, Speaker 25th Navajo Nation Council

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