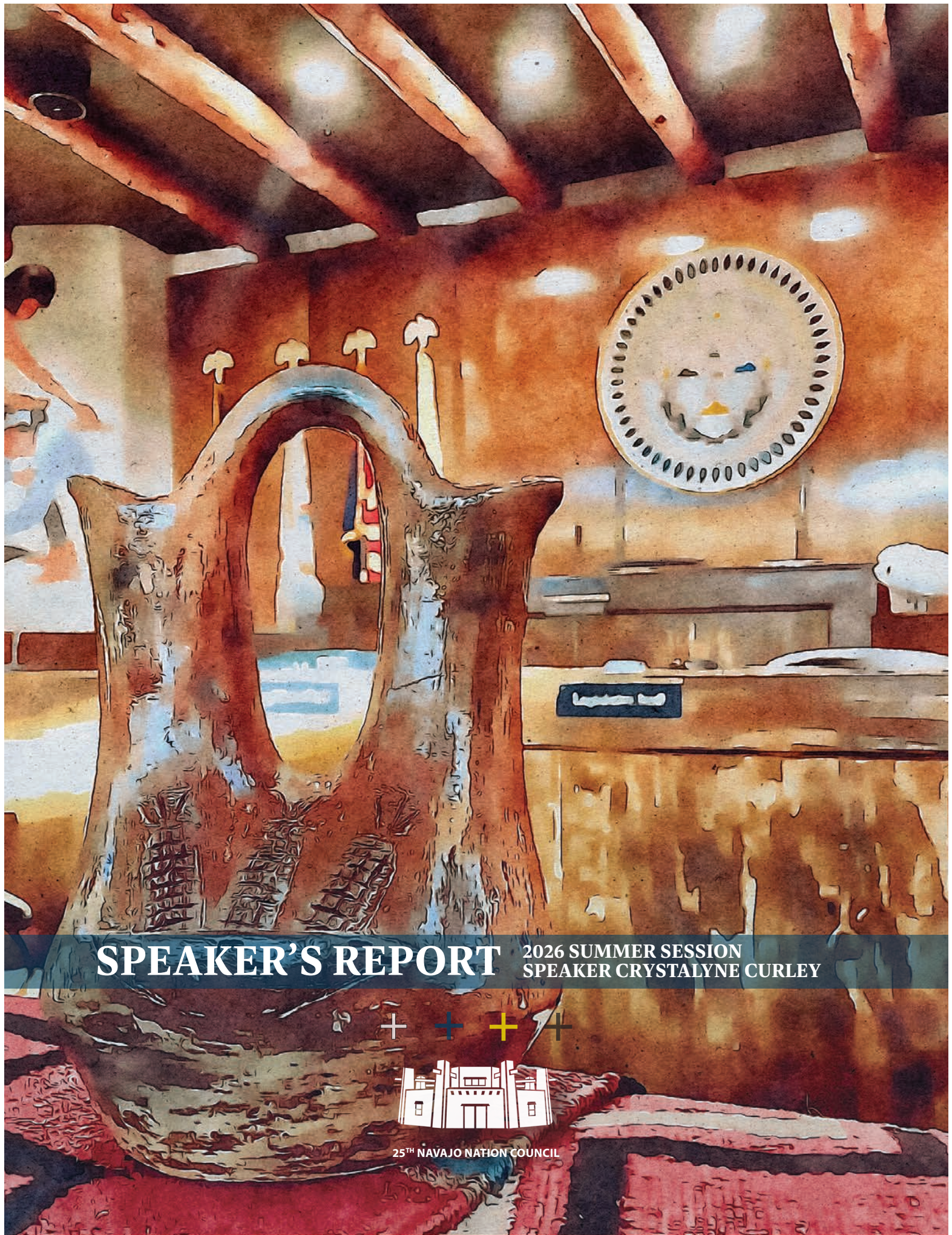




SPEAKER'S REPORT

2026 SUMMER SESSION
SPEAKER CRYSTALYNE CURLEY



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL



Speaker Curley joined Navajo Nation elders for a celebration of the Older Americans Act in Crownpoint.

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Speaker Curley joined members of the Resources and Development Committee, representatives from Navajo DOT, and Alamo Chapter officials for the ribbon cutting of the N55 Pavement Rehabilitation Project.



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SPEAKER'S REPORT - SUMMER COUNCIL SESSION

Message from Speaker Crystalyne Curley

Yá'át'ééh and welcome my colleagues of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, President Dr. Buu Nygren, Madam Vice President Richelle Montoya, Interim Madam Chief Justice Eleanor Shirley, chapter officials, federal, state, and county officials, legislative staff, and most importantly, to our Diné People. Thank you for joining us as we welcome you to the 2026 Summer Council Session.

On behalf of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, I extend a very special welcome to all the horse riders and many others who made the journey over the last several days to be with us on the opening day of the session. Over the past several days, riders began their journey from their respective communities to honor the tradition started many years ago by our past Navajo leaders.

Long ago, community leaders and Council members rode on horseback or in horse-drawn wagons from their homes to the Council Chamber, bringing with them their community issues and recommendations – this tradition continues today, and we are proud to share this special occasion with all of our Navajo people, especially our youth and elders.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council also recognizes all the participants and advocates who led the Angels vs. Drunk Drivers Awareness Walk to the Council Chamber, to honor the Peshlakai family and bring awareness to the prevention of driving under the influence. We also recognize and thank all of the grassroots people and groups that will make their way to the session this week, to voice their concerns on various issues that are very important to our communities.

As we proceed with the summer season, we encourage everyone to take time to reflect on the teachings of our elders in relation to kinship and decision-making. As our grandparents always taught us, Ni'hi'saad ayoo bi'dzil, our spoken words have power to create change that improves the livelihood of our people for many years to come, but we must work together and move forward on a positive path during this session.

As the 25th Navajo Nation Council convenes, I am confident that we will continue to make progress and plan for the future of our Nation. On behalf of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, I again thank our Diné Citizens for your guidance and support as we move forward.



Crystalyne Curley, Speaker of the 25th Navajo Nation Council



Speaker Curley placed a wreath on the Wall of Fallen Navajo Warriors at the Veterans Memorial Park on Navajo Nation Memorial Day.

Monumental Investments in Broadband Development

On July 2, the 25th Navajo Nation Council unanimously approved a historic investment totaling \$244,617,938 to fund broadband infrastructure projects throughout the Navajo Nation. The resolution, signed into law on July 14, appropriates \$75,546,678.33 from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance to the Navajo Nation Broadband Office and approves the Broadband Infrastructure Projects Plan.

I commend and thank my Council colleagues for their unanimous support of the legislation, which also amends Resolution CJA-05-26, which enacted the Capital Development Financing Act and established the Capital Development Financing Fund (CDFF) to permit refinancing and reimbursement of funding sources. In addition, the measure authorizes \$169,071,259 in debt financing from the CDFF, bringing the total investment in broadband infrastructure projects to \$244,617,938.

The measure underscores the 25th Navajo Nation Council's commitment to expanding, improving, and modernizing broadband infrastructure in all chapters across the Navajo Nation, with the goal of providing reliable internet access to every household.

The approved funding will expand broadband access to all 110 chapters across the Navajo Nation. Currently, 52 chapters are connected to fiber optic infrastructure, while the remaining 58 chapters will receive low Earth orbit satellite (LEO) internet service through Starlink as fiber networks are extended to those communities. Starlink service is expected to be deployed within 90 days to provide immediate connectivity while long-term fiber construction continues.

The investment also includes matching funds for the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, which is projected to connect approximately 31,000 homes to high-speed internet, with an estimated 6,000 homes expected to be connected by the end of the year.

Broadband enhancements will be carried out in three phases to expand 5G service. Existing fiber-connected towers will be upgraded first, followed by extending fiber and 5G capabilities to additional sites. New towers will then be constructed in underserved areas to provide reliable broadband access to remaining households.

The resolution also authorizes future debt financing through the Capital Development Financing Act (CDFA) for Phase 2 of the Dilkon Justice Center and the Tsé Bit'á'í Justice Center in Shiprock, N.M. The Dilkon project will include facilities for Adult Corrections and Programs, Intake and Juvenile Services, the Department of Corrections, Public Safety, and support services. The Tsé Bit'á'í Justice Center will house law enforcement, courts, peacemaking, criminal investigations, probation services, a detention facility, and a medical examiner's building.

Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council Priorities

On June 13, the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council (NNYAC) held its monthly business meeting to discuss preparations for the National UNITY Conference. Members also discussed opportunities to network with youth leaders from across Indian Country, share the results of their youth survey, and participate in cultural exchange activities while attending the conference.

The Youth Advisory Council established four priority pillars to guide its work throughout the term:

1. Creating a Safe and Supportive Space for Native Youth
2. Protecting Shimá Nahasdzáán (Mother Earth)
3. Increasing Sexual Health Awareness
4. Supporting Unsheltered Relatives
5. These priorities will serve as the foundation for future youth initiatives and advocacy efforts.

The NNYAC also looks forward to participating in upcoming agency parades and Navajo Nation Fair Kids

Day to increase youth engagement, introduce NNYAC members to local communities, and distribute youth surveys. Additionally, members expressed interest in organizing a future youth leadership conference.

In addition, Youth Council members participated in a recent Diné Action Plan (DAP) meeting, where discussions focused on violence prevention, substance abuse, suicide prevention, and Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR). NNYAC Chair Ariyah James represented the Youth Advisory Council during the meeting and participated in discussions as a member of the MMDR Task Force.

Planning is underway for a potential Youth Mental Health Panel Discussion to be hosted by the NNYAC. Overall, the month of June focused on organizational planning, conference preparation, establishing Council priorities, strengthening partnerships, and expanding opportunities for youth leadership and community engagement.

In June, the Office of the Speaker appointed Legislative Staff Assistant, Desiree Fowler, to work with the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council, to immediately begin supporting Council operations, coordinating activities, and preparing for upcoming events.

\$120 Million for Roads and Transportation Improvements

We are pleased to report that the 25th Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CAP-25-26 was signed into law in May, allocating \$120 million for transportation infrastructure projects across the Navajo Nation. This measure allocates funds from the Síhasin Fund to support the Transportation Improvement Expenditure Plan, which focuses on repairing, rehabilitating, and improving roads, bridges, and transportation systems throughout the Navajo Nation.

This investment comes directly from the Navajo people's resources and will go back into our communities to address dirt roads, improve safety, and support long-term transportation planning for future generations. Resolution No. CAP-25-26 was sponsored by Council Delegate Arbin Mitchell.

The legislation was unanimously approved by the 25th Navajo Nation Council during the Spring Session with a vote of 21 in favor and none opposed. The Council thanks the Navajo Division of Transportation and state and county officials and agencies who will partner on road projects for prioritizing the safety and continued strengthening of transportation infrastructure for the Navajo people.

Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force

The Naabik'iyati' Committee's Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR) Task Force has continued its efforts to finalize the Tribal Community Response Plan (TCRP). After more than two years of requesting collaboration from the Navajo Police Department to complete the law enforcement section of the TCRP, the Task Force has decided to move forward without its participation.

The MMDR Task Force is also working to finalize the MMDR Database prototype in partnership with Navajo Technical University (NTU). Members of the Task Force recently reviewed the prototype and provided recommendations, edits, and technical feedback to improve its functionality. The next step is for the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety to coordinate a meeting with NTU to finalize a data-sharing agreement. The Task Force's goal is to complete the prototype by the end of October and present it to the Navajo community.

During this reporting period, the Task Force provided direct assistance to four families by connecting them with available resources, victim advocates, and support services. Assistance has included coordinating efforts to recover the remains of missing loved ones and helping families submit DNA samples to national databases to determine whether their missing relatives may have been identified as unidentified Jane or John Does in other jurisdictions.

In addition, the Task Force supported search efforts in Wheatfields, Arizona, in collaboration with advocates

from Victim Witness Services for Northern Arizona and 4 Corners K-9 Search and Rescue. Families are reminded that deployment of search-and-rescue teams typically requires a request from the Navajo Police Department, the family of the missing individual, or a Navajo Nation Council Delegate.

The MMDR Task Force remains focused on completing three major initiatives:

- Finalizing the MMDR Database in partnership with Navajo Technical University.
- Completing the Tribal Community Response Plan.
- Establishing a coordinated family assistance system to provide timely resources, guidance, and case support to families seeking help with their missing or murdered loved ones.

The Task Force remains committed to strengthening collaboration, improving community response, and enhancing support services for families affected by missing and murdered Diné relatives across the Navajo Nation.

Improving Council Chamber ADA Accessibility

We are pleased to report that the Office of the Speaker has completed several ADA-compliant improvements to the Council Chamber to make our facilities more accessible and welcoming for everyone including elders and those with disabilities.

The recent upgrades include improved wheelchair accommodations within the Council Chamber, including enhanced accessibility behind the Council Delegates' seating area. We also added additional accessible parking spaces on the north side of the Council Chamber, improved wheelchair access along the surrounding sidewalks, and installed new doors at the main entrance to better accommodate wheelchairs.

In addition, the previous individual sandstone walkway was removed and replaced with a decorative concrete walkway, creating a smoother and safer path for individuals who use wheelchairs or have mobility challenges. These improvements reflect our ongoing commitment to ensuring that all members of the public can safely access the "Peoples' Home," the Navajo Nation Council Chamber.

Northern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement

Leaders from the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe continue a unified effort urging congressional support for legislation to enact the Northern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement. We continue to emphasize the importance of securing federal approval and funding to implement the settlement, which represents years of negotiations among tribal nations, the State of Arizona, water users, and the federal government. The congressional bill seeks to resolve longstanding water rights claims and provide long-term water security for communities across northern Arizona.

The Office of the Speaker has assisted with coordinating consistent meetings with the Navajo Nation Water Rights Commission, the water rights settlement negotiation team, and technical experts to review details of the settlement costs. The Navajo Nation has held meetings and discussions with the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Land Management regarding the estimated costs of the settlement.

In meetings with congressional members, the Council continues to emphasize that many Diné families still lack reliable access to clean water and that the settlement will help advance critical water infrastructure and economic development for future generations. This agreement represents decades of work and collaboration among tribes, the state, and the federal government.

The settlement involves 17 parties, including the United States, the State of Arizona, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe. Under the agreement, the Navajo Nation would receive allocations from the Colorado River Upper Basin, a portion of Lower Basin water, all groundwater underlying the Navajo Nation, surface water that flows to the Nation from the Little Colorado River, and wash water that reaches the Nation south of Hopi lands.

The bill has bipartisan support in Congress and has been introduced in the Senate by U.S. Senator Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and in the House by U.S. Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-AZ). The 25th Navajo Nation Council continues to prioritize the protection of tribal water rights and the advancement of critical water infrastructure to serve communities throughout the Navajo Nation.

Chaco Canyon Land Withdrawal

On July 15, the Bureau of Land Management announced a public comment period regarding the environmental assessment for the proposed revocation of Public Land Order No. 7923, affecting public lands surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park. This is an issue that impacts many Navajo allotment owners in New Mexico.

The Naabik'iyat' Committee's resolution opposing the 10-mile buffer remains the official position of the Navajo Nation. The Office of the Speaker has taken steps to reach out to the Office of the President and Vice President to formalize a unified public comment submittal.

25th Navajo Nation Council members continue to coordinate with federal officials, congressional members, and others to support the rights of Navajo allottees who are impacted by the current land withdrawal. The Office of the Speaker will continue to support these efforts.

Closing Remarks

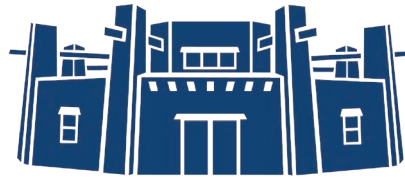
On behalf of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, we thank our Diné people for joining us for the 2026 Summer Council Session. As we move forward, the 25th Navajo Nation Council will continue to voice the concerns brought forth by our Navajo people to help resolve the challenges and put our Nation on a path of healing. We appreciate your continued support and prayers as we move forward together.

Áhé'héé



Crystalyne Curley, Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council





LEGISLATIVE BRANCH PROGRAMS FY2026 THIRD QUARTER REPORTS

NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Clarence Rockwell, Executive Director
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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- **Montezuma Creek Market Analysis Project**

The Navajo Utah Commission, the Aneth Chapter, and Southwest Business Development Consultants, LLC are making substantial progress in completing the Montezuma Creek Market Analysis Project. The project is approximately 70 percent complete and is on target to be completed by August 1st. The project has depleted funds provided for the project by the Rural Development RBDG and administered by Navajo Nation Contracts & Grants. The Navajo Utah Commission will be utilizing a contract with the Utah Navajo Revitalization Fund as a matching contribution in completing the project. The last stakeholders meeting took place on May 28th to discuss Masterplan Conceptual Options for the selection of a site plan.

- **Elections and Voting Assistance**

Pursuant to the Navajo Nation-San Juan County Voter Settlement Agreement, the county is currently required to provide satellite election offices to assist Navajo voters at three polling sites on the Navajo Nation one month prior to elections. The San Juan County Office of the Clerk, Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission Office, Navajo Utah Commission, Stewardship Utah, and the Navajo Elections Administration collaborated to provide election and voting seminars at Monument Valley and the Red Mesa Chapter during April to educate voters. The San Juan County election satellite offices will be in operation again one month prior to the upcoming general election. There are at least five Navajo candidates seeking offices in county and state government in Utah, including county commissioners, clerk-auditor position, school board seat, and a state representative for the Utah legislature. Navajo voters have the opportunity to regain the Navajo majority on the county commission, establish a Navajo majority on the school board for the first time, and have a Navajo leader on the Utah House of Representative. The Utah Primary Elections took place on June 23, 2026 and had a light voter turnout with Republicans choosing their candidates for the general election. Poll watchers identified some issues to be addressed before the general election in November.

- **Education Workshops**

The Navajo Utah Commission continues to work with the Western Educational Equity Assistance Center (technical assistance provider) to address educational issues and concerns identified in the San Juan School District. Workshops were conducted in Monument Valley and Montezuma Creek during April to address chronic absenteeism and parental involvement. Workshop participants included representatives from the Utah Department of Education, San Juan School District, parents, community leaders, and WestEd team members. The partnership with WestEd has been ongoing for three years now and previously focused on the school district's Indian Policies and Procedures, equity in funding, the achievement gap, and community engagement. The Navajo Utah Commission hopes to continue this collaboration with the adoption of a Utah Indian Education Plan (HB 75) as the next priority.

- **Transportation Work Session**

The Navajo Utah Commission and the Utah chapters conducted a work session with the Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT) and the BIA Roads Department in June to discuss the San Juan County-BIA Cooperative Agreement, Navajo Nation-San Juan County Cooperative Agreement, and the NDOT \$120 million Transportation Appropriation, among others. The purpose of the work session was to foster collaboration between the Navajo Nation and other governmental partners to share cost and responsibility in maintaining roads in the Utah region of the Navajo Nation. The Utah chapters were

informed of the various challenges confronting the three governmental entities and ongoing efforts to maintain community roads with limited resources. The Navajo Utah Commission appreciates NDOT's effort to reorganize and establish regional districts, including assignments of district managers and collaboration with local leadership.

- **Laptop Computers**

The Navajo Utah Commission Office is making progress in updating the program's IT capacity by working with non-tribal partners since funding is limited for IT upgrades in the NUC FY26 budget. The Navajo Utah Commission collaborated with San Juan County's economic development department in securing two laptop computers with the support of external grants. The Navajo Utah Commission is also submitting a funding application to the Utah Navajo Revitalization Fund (NRF) to purchase two desktop computers, software, and to enhance virtual meeting capabilities. Finally, the NUC Office is addressing slow internet services by working with the Utah Navajo Health System to strengthen internet connectivity.

GOALS FOR 4TH QUARTER IN FY2026

- Complete Montezuma Creek Market Analysis Project.
- Continue selection of grant recipients for Utah OWHLF housing project.
- Prepare priorities for 2026 Native American Summit.
- Prepare and submit Utah NRF grant applications.
- Seek unmet needs funding to supplement NUC's FY27 budget.

ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Navajo Utah Commission was allocated a planning base amount of \$258,402 for FY27 budget preparations and is an amount sufficient only for salaries and partial fringe benefits for three full-time positions. The Navajo Utah Commission is lacking \$120,033 for an adequate operating budget, including full fringe benefits, meeting stipends for 16 meetings, meeting mileage, program vehicle usage and mileage, staff travel, office and operating supplies, communications, and special transactions. The Navajo Utah Commission is seeking the support of the Navajo Nation Council for appropriation of an adequate operating budget. The funds are necessary to fulfill program duties and responsibilities.

OFFICE OF NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Darlene Womochil, Interim Executive Director

Office of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- **Collaboration with New Mexico Department of Justice**

The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission achieved a significant milestone this quarter through its sustained advocacy and oversight concerning student discipline practices within the Gallup McKinley County School District. Following the Commission's public hearings and the release of its own report and recommendations, the Commission maintained consistent engagement with the New Mexico Attorney General's Office, contributing to the completion of the State's investigation into the district's discipline practices. The New Mexico Department of Justice subsequently released its investigative report, *Forced Out: How Exclusionary and Disparate Disciplinary Practices at Gallup McKinley County School District Rob Students of Instructional Time*, which identified concerns related to exclusionary and disparate discipline and outlined recommendations for the district in the areas of policy development, training, data collection, and auditing.

As a direct follow up to its public hearings and recommendations, the Commission also initiated proposed amendments to Title 10 of the Navajo Nation Code to address student discipline through restorative justice principles. These proposed amendments are expected to be considered during the Navajo Nation Council's summer session. Together, these accomplishments-one advancing accountability in the State of New Mexico and the other strengthening protections with the Navajo Nation-represents meaningful progress for Navajo students. This progress would not have been possible without the policy leadership and decision making of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission.

- **Collaboration with Arizona Attorney General's Office**

Another significant accomplishment this quarter was the Office's collaborative work with the Arizona Attorney General's Office regarding the Flagstaff AAMCO business and the AAMCO corporation. During the quarter, the Flagstaff location was closed by the corporation. Through continued coordination with our office, the Arizona Attorney General's Office is negotiating more than twenty consumer complaints on behalf of Navajo citizens directly impacted by the business. Although resolution of these complaints remains ongoing, our office is confident in its partnership with the Arizona Attorney General's Office and its continued efforts to secure restitution for affected Navajo citizens.

- **Collaboration with New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department**

This Office's collaborative work with the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department also resulted in the closure of a non-Native business in Kirkland, NM, after three Navajo citizens filed complaints regarding poor or incomplete services. One Navajo complainant received full restitution, while the remaining two complaints continue to be investigated. In response to a recognized pattern of deception, the Office solicited additional complaints against the business, which targeted Navajo elders by marketing its services as less expensive than other businesses on or near the Navajo Nation. The Office determined that Navajo complainants had paid substantial amounts for services that were either not completed or poorly performed by an unlicensed contractor and plumber. Our office will continue to work closely with the State of New Mexico to ensure that the business ceases harmful practices against Navajo consumers and provides appropriate restitution.

- **Work with Navajo residents and Apache County**

During this quarter, the Office actively participated in numerous meetings opposing an application filed with the Arizona State Liquor Board for a liquor license to sell alcohol in Chambers, Arizona. The Office accepted a complaint filed by a Navajo citizen asserting that the proposed liquor sales in Chambers targeted Navajo residents and posed harm to the Navajo Nation. Strong advocacy against the application was led by Navajo community members and Chambers residents. The Office also worked collaboratively with the Apache County Attorney's Office to advance the opposition. As a result of these collective efforts, the Arizona State Liquor Board denied the application following an eight-hour hearing.

VOTER RIGHTS & ELECTION OUTREACH

During this quarter, the Office of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission continued its public education outreach efforts for Navajo citizens by planning and facilitating five public education election seminars. These seminars were initiated and planned by the Office, after which respective county officials were invited to participate as partners in collaboration with county government representatives in Apache County, Utah San Juan County, and other outreach locations serving Navajo citizens, including urban Navajo communities.

The five seminars were held on April 17, 2026, at the Phoenix Indian Center in Phoenix, Arizona; April 22, 2026 at the Gateway Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico; May 5, 2026, at St. Michaels Chapter House; May 6, 2026, at the Monument Valley Utah Visitor Center; and May 7, 2026 at the Mexican Water, Utah Chapter House. At each seminar, the Office provided information on state election deadlines, new federal and state elections laws, polling locations, voter registration requirements, and recognition and use of tribal identification cards for voting purposes. Approximately 200 attendees participated across the five

seminars, reflecting continued community interest in voter education and access to election information.

CONTINUED DIRECT SERVICES

Additional public education efforts included the development and dissemination of materials on Know Your Rights when encountering ICE agents, voting rights and election deadlines by the Senior Public Information Officer. The Office also continued to monitor its website to receive, review, and address complaints submitted by the public. Looking ahead to the general elections, the Office plan to expand its public education outreach by providing additional voter education materials, coordinating informational sessions for Navajo citizens, and continuing to share timely information on voter registration, election deadlines, polling locations, voter identification requirements, and voting rights.

The Office will also continue organizing staff training, with a focus on advanced consumer law, complaint intake and response processes, election related public education, and effective community outreach. These training efforts are intended to strengthen staff capacity so the Office can provide accurate, timely and accessible education and assistance to Navajo citizens.

STAFFING

The Executive Director position was readvertised within this quarter. The Commission will be conducting interviews on July 17, 2026.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION

- NNHRCAPR-05-26: Approving and Recommending Proposed Amendments to the Navajo Nation Sovereignty in Education Act of 2005 to Recognize and Implement Alternative Restorative Justice in Schools Serving Navajo Students.
- NNHRCAPR-06-26: Opposing Voting Rights Suppression Targeting Navajo and Native Peoples by the 47th United States Administration, Congress and State Officials.
- NNHRCMAY-07-26: Supporting and Recommending the Designation of the Confluence of the Colorado River and the Little Colorado River as Traditional Cultural Property Under Navajo Nation law.
- NNHRCJUN-08-26: Recommending the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, the Budget & Finance Committee and the Navajo Nation council to Reconsider the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Allocation for the Office of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission and to Consider an Unmet Needs Budget Request in the Amount of \$58,489.00.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: G. Michelle Espino, Chief Legal Counsel

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- Provided legal representation for the 2026 Spring Council.
- Provided legal services and drafted legislation for the FY 2027 Comprehensive Budget and all related oversight committees hearings and sessions.
- Provided legal services to the Title II Reform Committee and draft amendments to the Council Rules of Order.
- Continued to represent Navajo Board of Elections Supervisors (NBOES), on election matters.
- Drafted and finalized 146 legislation requests and contract reviews.
- Provided legal guidance and assistance at over 78 Committee/Council meetings and work sessions, as

well as over 39 Subcommittee/Boards/Commission meetings, work sessions and administrative hearings.

- Provided legislative legal services at all Navajo Nation Council and Standing Committee regular and special meetings, leadership meeting and work sessions.
- Litigating on behalf of the Speaker and the Navajo Nation Council in two matters currently before the Window Rock District Court.
- OLC upholds its responsibilities to the public by maintaining mandatory training requirements for attorneys and advocates under professional responsibility rules.

GOALS & PRIORITIES

- Continue to advise and assist the NNC, Standing Committees and sub-committees. Attend all meetings, advise on procedural and substantive questions.
- Continue to attend all Office of the Speaker meetings to keep abreast of all pertinent information received to ensure that OLC is kept updated and proactive concerning legislative needs, projects, and priorities.
- Continue filling remaining vacant attorney and staff positions to meet the increase in meetings and legislation requests.

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Upon completion and Council approval of proposed amendments to the Rules of Order for Council and Standing Committee meetings, it is recommended that OLC facilitate a work session to orientate and address questions for Navajo Nation Council Delegates and Legislative Staff.

NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF ETHICS AND RULES FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Rodriquez Morris, Executive Director

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

During the third quarter of fiscal year 2026, ERO concentrated on advancing several high priority cases, providing continued support to the Special Prosecutors. Other efforts with our operations involved multiple Navajo Executive programs as well as Chapter related inquiries.

During the previous quarter, ERO operated with two vacant positions. Active recruitment efforts have moved us closer to filling both roles: the Director of Ethics and Rules, who is scheduled to begin on June 29, 2026, and the Ethics Presenting Officer, who is currently completing the required Navajo Nation onboarding documents. Once both individuals are fully onboarded, ERO will be fully staffed. With a complete team in place, we anticipate stronger progress toward our benchmarks and enhanced organizational capacity.

A comprehensive review and update of the ERO Plan of Operations is essential to sustaining our progress and ensuring the office is positioned to meet future operational demands. To support this effort, the review process will occur on a weekly basis until the updated Plan of Operations is fully drafted, vetted, and finalized.

The ERO continues to experience a significant increase in intake volume, including multiple complaints requiring coordination with the Executive Divisions. Due to this high volume, several intake cases have been temporarily suspended to allow for thorough investigation and proper case management with the Executive Branch, related to Division responsibilities. Additional cases will refer to the appropriate external entities for further action. Furthermore, this structured approach will help stabilize operations, improve investigative efficiency, and ensure that all complaints receive the level of attention and follow through required.

ERO has begun preparing the upcoming budget reports. Although our program experienced significant funding reductions of approximately 30%, we remain optimistic that future allocations will increase. Additional support will strengthen our program's capacity to fully serve the Navajo Nation and ensure that essential services, resources, and initiatives continue to meet community needs.

Investigative Highlights & Case Management

The following activities represent the core investigative workload for the quarter:

- Interviews & Evidence Gathering: 148 Cases Starting from FY26 (October 2025 to Present Date)
- Supreme Court Ruling: 0
- Ethics Intakes: 82
- Ethics Clearance: 339
- Office Visitors: 283
- Incoming Telephone calls: 240
- Restitution Collections: \$4450.00 (Working Creating Page on existing website to display names of unpaid restitutions)
- Order to Show Cause Hearings: 4
- Case hearing: 4

Inter-Agency Collaboration

- Legal Coordination: ERO is still currently working with and referring cases when needed with internal and external sources to the Navajo Nation Prosecutors and Special Prosecutors to transfer files via SharePoint and discuss case referrals; one case referred. External
- ERO Presentations has been highly requested by multiple entities, programs and Navajo Nation Programs.
- Collaborating with internal resources to update a new planned ERO operational policy. On-going for a few years.

Administrative & Operational Tasks

- Program Performance: ERO program performance measures continue to meet or exceed established benchmarks.
- Data Organization: Improved office efficiency by developing Excel-based case-tracking tools and restructuring both physical and digital filing systems.
- Compliance: Staff and operations remain compliant, consistently initiating and following required processes.
- Order to Show Cause Listing: Assisted with maintaining the listing; recommended posting the information on the website and sharing it with news media for broader public access.
- Technology Advancement: Actively exploring new technologies to enhance daily operations and investigative workflows.
- Leadership Oversight: Ms. Wauneka continues to monitor and evaluate budgetary needs and operational requirements.

NAVAJO NATION LABOR COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Arthur Hardy, Jr., Acting Executive Director
Phone: (928) 871-6805

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- The NNLC continues to conduct formal hearings as mandated by the NPEA. The staff are processing complaints from start to finish and comply with the NPEA, adopted Case Management Policy, Fiscal Year performance measures.
- The NNLC office continues to successfully hear grievance cases. We continue to assist parties and await a final decision from the NNLC presiding members.
- The NNLC members are making amendments to the NNLC Rules and are in the process of finalizing them.
- The Commission staff have continued to process complaints to the end.
- We continue to dispose of pleadings, exhibits etc. of closed cases which are from the NNLC Commission members files.
- NNLC closed cases are being scanned for further storage.
- NNLC continues to participate in the 25th NNC/Committee meetings
- Programs & Projects Specialist position has been reclassified to an Executive Director per the Plan of Operation.
- NNLC & staff will continue to preserve substantial rights of all employees and employers in accordance to Navajo Law.
- NNLC office has made changes to the Notice of Hearing format.
- NNLC office has made changes to forms ex: sign in sheet, docket sheet, time sheet, letter head, NNLC calendar, etc.

ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Advertise for NNLC membership. Continue to refer candidate(s) to appointing authority. (NN Presidential Appointment of NNLC Membership (2) & HEHSC (3) per CJY-42-16)
- Efficient use of allocated funds.
- NNLC requested assistance of the IT staff for a Zoom account for NNLC hearings. NNLC office is still in need of permanent account for future hearings.
- Create a website for the NNLC office.
- Create AMS position for NNLC Administration.
- Reclassify Legislative Reporter position to Legal Secretary.

EASTERN NAVAJO LAND COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Leonard Tsosie, Executive Director
Phone: 505-786-2431
Email: Ltosie44@navajo-nsn.gov

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- Recently, the Eastern Navajo Land Commission office (Office) discovered a more recent data regarding the Land Buy-back (LBB). The Office considers the booklet edition of the LBB as outdated and no longer references it. The Office continues to incorporate the new data to make the LBB maps for the 29 Eastern Navajo Agency (ENA) Chapters more current. The Office has undertaken effort to incorporate new data on the Navajo Nation percent ownership interest in Land Buy-back (LBB) in Indian Allotments. Upon request, some of the LBB maps have been shared with ENA Chapters.
- The Office continues to deliver LBB maps to ENA Chapters and some of the Land Use Committees (e.g., Littlewater, Crownpoint, Alamo, Torreon Chapters). Newly elected Chapter officials are requesting maps.

Chapters are requesting more developed maps from the Office. ENA BIA is no longer assisting the ENA Chapters with the maps. The main Realty Officer has finished his employment.

- The Office continues to attend meetings and give comments to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and others regarding remediation of Uranium mining waste. Before, the Commission and Office worked closely with NNEPA to examine the use of new technology called High-Pressure Slurry Ablation (HPSA) as to minimize uranium mining waste. USEPA has recently announced that it signed an action memo to finalize the plan to transport low-level radioactive material from Churchrock site to the Red Rock Landfill property near Thoreau Chapter. USEPA has also announced action plans for mining waste near Mariano Lake and Smith Lake. To our disappointment, USEPA is still proceeding with its Cap-In-Place (CIP) alternative. The Office, along with NNEPA and DURAC, fervently pushed for NN version of its remediation plan at a recent meeting. USEPA did not consider ENLC (neither the Navajo Nation or Thoreau Chapter's) request to remove the waste from Navajoland or its objections to the proposed repository in Thoreau, NM. Due to the reluctance of USEPA to remove uranium mining waste from Navajoland, the policy is being reexamined. Director attended Resources & Development Committee (RDC) meeting with USEPA to air concerns about USEPA reluctance and about its plans to do regional repositories at the borders of Navajo Nation. RDC has positively accepted the new approach. ENLC Director worked with various Principle Responsible Parties (PRP) and NNEPA to plan an alternative to USEPA's CIP alternatives. PRPs are accepting of the new approach.
- In March 2026, the Commission and Office worked closely with RDC to plan and convene a worksession with five federal departments (USEPA, U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), BIA and IHS) to hear progress reports on the federal 10-year cleanup plan. All five federal departments were present to give a report. Congratulations to RDC for carrying out this important meeting. Some of the federal departments did not adequately give a report.
- Previously, the Office and NNEPA worked with Sen. Munoz's office regarding SB316 regarding uranium transport. The Office called upon NNEPA, NNDOJ and DURAC to assist with amendments. Speaker's office and ENLC met with Sen. Munoz in Santa Fe at NM legislative session. SB316 did not pass, but ENLC Office has recommended presentations to the NM legislative interim committee for further discussions. Discussions were had with Senator Pinto and plans are being made to have an information meeting with NM legislators.
- Before, the Office held various meetings regarding the plight of Rock Springs Chapter Navajo families living on private lands owned by Gallup Land Partners. The leases have expired and the effort, in concert with OPVP and Navajo Land Department (NLD), is to work out a solution. OPVP has taken the lead role. NLD office has stated its position. OPVP was encouraged to negotiate on the land acquisition. The Chapter and the Office did meet with identified families and they decided to go with homesite leases. The Chapter is helping the families to submit applications for Homesite Leases. The Office did advise the Chapter and families that since the Homesite Lease option was selected, the Office's service may no longer be required.
- Previously, the Commission met with Regional BIA office in a leadership meeting to begin preparations for a Fee-to-Trust application to BIA. Before, ENLC managed to have the President sign a letter deferring to ENLC to submit fee-to-trust application to BIA. The Office is now working to prepare for the application. The Office also worked with OPVP to approve the deferral to ENLC in the submission of an application for fee-to-trust conversion of Navajo Nation fee lands (approx. 380,000 acres). Due to federal office and budget certainties, not much has happened. Now that a new ENA Superintendent has been announced, ENLC Office will start the discussion again. This is part of the NELI effort and is a priority for the Office. The Office has invested into drones to study tribal fee lands. The Office is also looking at other alternatives for the Fee-to-Trust effort.
- The Office continues to monitor NN Department of Agriculture's request to acquire a land withdrawal or assignment for its office and livestock processing facility on a land west of Crownpoint, NM. BIA notified the ENLC Office that this may be a land that is equivalent to tribal trust land. Upon confirmation, ENLC will assist the department to prepare the proper land withdrawal.
- The Office continues to work with BLM to plan Navajo cultural sites visit. Unfortunately, the assisting BLM culture employee has resigned and this effort is suspended. A meeting was held with NN Historic Preservation Office, Dine Haatali Association and from local Chapters to learn more about cultural sites, including Chaco Canyon.
- ENLC met with BLM to discuss the programmatic agreement (PA) and is awaiting further meetings.

BLM has advised that the new discussion on PA does not involve Navajo lands. The Office is reluctant to accept such a view and is monitoring the new discussions. Recently, the Office and NN Historic Preservation Office (NNHPO) met with BLM in March 2026 for further discussions. BLM will be meeting soon to proceed to finalization.

- Certain members of ENLC and the Office met with BLM to discuss the plan for the acquisition of federal disposal lands (approximately 340,000 acres) in Eastern Navajo Agency. Before, the Office, in coordination with the Chairman, requested President Nygren to defer to the ENLC to submit the application. He has signed a letter to that effect. Due to federal office and budget certainties, not much has happened. This is part of the NELI effort.
- Previously, the Commission and Office met with various offices on the divided/undivided oil & gas leasing in northern ENA like BLM, BIA and FIMO in an attempt to resolve the issues for the benefit of Navajo allottees. ENLC is proud to report that it convinced BLM to change its policy as to give preference to Navajo Indian Allottees' lands (Indian Allotments). Recently, ENLC held an update meeting with BLM and oil/gas operators. The Office continues to monitor and no new issues have arisen with respect to this issue. It appears that this issue is resolved. In a recent meeting with NM Oil & Gas Association, it was learned that Allottees are benefitted through the new way of leasing.
- Before, the Office procured from a law firm the documents of legal litigation acquired through the years; and made plans to prepare the documents for archiving. ENLC will make preparations for receiving further documents. The procurement of the equipment for archival has been done and the staff is beginning to work on this effort. The Office has planned the incorporation of the historical land information into a database. The database has already been used to identify allottees who lost their Indian Allotments when Chaco Canyon Historical Park (CCHP) was formed. The Commission plans to meet soon with CCHP about these issues.
- The Office applied for a federal grant for its land acquisition work and has not received notice of approval. A few federal litigations have developed over these USEPA grants. It appears that the Office will not receive its grant. The Office continues to monitor the grant application.
- The Office had discussion with Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Company (NNOGC) regarding oil and gas reserves in ENA. No new development has occurred and the Office continues to monitor.
- Before, ENLC Director participated in consultation meetings with US Department of Interior (DOI) along with the Speaker's office to encourage the Trump administration to not do away with ENA BIA office. Director attended the federal Indian Energy Resources meeting in Lakewood, CO, near Denver. This continues to be a concern with many federal programs being targeted for closures. Much of the Commission and Office's work depends on dialogues with federal agencies. The federal government continues to reduce the number of employees through incentives to retire. Many seasoned BIA employees have retired or participated in the buy-out. The Office has expressed its concerns to Washington DC BIA Office and NN leadership.
- ENLC and its Office has been working with the President Trump's administration to rescind the Chaco Canyon Law Withdrawal Order while being mindful of Navajo Nation Department of Justice lawsuit regarding the same matter. Possible settlement talks are underway and the Office has been involved. This has reached the stage of consultation. The Commission and Office recently attended the consultation with BLM and is thankful for Speaker Curley and Chairperson Jesus attending. News about the rescission have picked up, but no formal notice has been received. The Commission will soon be meeting with BLM again. Formal notice has finally arrived for comments and ENLC is preparing its comments. The Office has requested for coordination among relevant NN offices in providing the comments.
- The Office continues to monitor Eastern Navajo Joint Land Board to obtain approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with BIA, BLM and Navajo Nation regarding grazing. Due to federal office and budget uncertainties, not much has happened. BIA is now at a stage of renewing grazing permits for ENA for grazing permittees.
- The FY2027 budgets for the Eastern Navajo Land Commission (Commission) and its Eastern Navajo Land Commission Office (Office) is starting up. Recently, the Speaker's office held a virtual informational meeting on the budget for FY2027. For the office and Commission FY2027 budgets, requests are expected to be made for regular budgets, fixed cost budget and unmet needs budget. The Commission and Office have received an increased budget from FY2026.

Section Two: Goals in FY2026:

- Prepare comments supporting the rescission of Public Land Order 7923 as a priority.
- Work with Joint Land Board to finish the MOU with NN, BLM and BIA; and seek approvals by NNC and RDC
- Engage in meaningful dialogue with NM and OPVP (NNEPA office) regarding the use of Ambrosia Lake for repository and the use of technology to minimize uranium mining waste and continue to be supportive of NN EPA. Encourage the testing or study of the new technology.
- Work with NNC's Resources & Development Committee (RDC) to incorporate the use of technology in minimizing uranium mining waste as part of the plan for cleanup. Work with RDC and NNC to develop a position statement for NN.
- Finalize land withdrawal for NN Dep't Agriculture office in ENA
- Work with BLM regarding programmatic agreement and try to finalize.
- Make preparations for further meetings of ENLC with the federal government in Washington, DC, for Navajo Nation leadership meetings.
- Continue to encourage and provide support for Navajo Nation leadership meetings with members of U.S. Congress.
- Assist ENLC Chairman in planning the development of better roads for CR7900 Road and N46 Road.

Section Three: Issues/Recommendations:

- Provide comments on Public Land Order and begin to work with Congressional members for a permanent solution.
- Increased budgeting of unmet needs will go a long way to accomplishing the goals of ENLC
- Convince NN Executive branch offices to support deference to and respect ENLC to apply for fee-to-trust land conversions and the federal disposal lands
- Coordinate with NNEPA to procure Congressional assistance re uranium remediation issues
- Encourage the Navajo Nation, federal and state offices to adopt the new and different approach on uranium cleanup. Continue to support Disa-NNEPA grant application.
- Continue to work on land acquisitions in ENA.
- Assist in the streamlining of contracts for consultants and recommend extended contracts.

NAVAJO NATION OFFICE OF AUDITOR GENERAL FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Jeanine Jones, Auditor General
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Phone: (928) 871-6303

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

Internal Audits – 2 report

- Low Mountain Chapter Internal Audit
- Alternative Payment Options by Chapters Review

Corrective Action Plan Follow-up Reviews – 4 reports

- Tohatchi Chapter
- Black Mesa Chapter
- Indian Wells
- Torreon Chapter - implemented CAP

Investigation – 1 referral

- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

Goals for FY2026 Third Quarter

- Tohajiilee Chapter Follow-up Audit
- Manuelito Chapter Follow-up Audit
- Shiprock Chapter Special Audit
- Office of the Speaker Special Review
- Cameron Chapter Internal Audit
- IDSA/Zenihome Special Review
- Counselor Chapter Follow-up (9 findings)
- Klagetoh Chapter Follow-up (7 findings)
- Littlewater Chapter Follow-up (10 finding)
- Inscription House Chapter Follow-up (9 findings)
- Tuba City Chapter Internal Audit
- Hazard/Special Duty Pay Report
- Native Community Capital Special Review
- Tsidii To'ii (Birdsprings) - newly hired staff requested 6 months (Jan27)
- Pueblo Pintado Follow-up Audit- BFC 6-mos extension (Dec26)
- Directives (programs/entities): (1) OPVP was outsourced, (2) Audits for IDSA/Zenihome and Native Community Capital are currently underway, being conducted by our internal audit team, (3) Social Services and the Department of Health are still under evaluation to determine whether their audits will be outsourced or in-house. Both departments receive federal funding and are audited by KPMG; however, we are assessing the use of the general funds within each to determine the appropriate audit approach, and (4) Fleet Management is currently underway, being conducted by our internal audit team. Other program/entity audit requests, (1) Naataani Devol. Corp. will be working with ERO since it's related to potential fraud, (2) Native Broadcast Enterprise, (3) Judicial hiring practices, and (4) San Juan River Dine Water Users- waiting for audit request letter from the requestors. Currently, there are not enough outsource funds to cover these audits, unmet need of \$314,091 for outsourcing.
- All overdue CAPs have been submitted, reviewed and approved by the Auditor General. However, the Office of the Controller has still not submitted its CAP for Report No. 23-16, which was completed in 2016. Our office will continue working with chapters and programs in revising their CAPs and is currently awaiting the submission of three (3) remaining CAPs. Once received, we will work with the delegates through the legislative process to obtain formal approval of the CAPs and have secured sponsorship for six (6) legislations to approve these CAPs. Majority of the CAPs are now current, and we anticipate a reduction in legislation sponsorship requests moving forward.
- Plan of Operation: Completed the amendments to the Plan of Operation and currently at LOC for review since July 2025. Presented to BFC for an update. In a recent meeting with Chair Parrish and Controller McCabe, we decided to move the fraud hotline to OAG. I will be planning on working a PCQ for an investigator, moving the fraud email to our office and setting up a line specifically for fraud reporting. The fraud hotline will be added to the Plan of Operation after we receive feedback from the LOC.
- Financial Audit (Certified Chapter only) -Two were submitted, (1) Houck-Qualified Opinion, and (2) Teesto-Unqualified Opinion.
- Continue to work with Administrative Service Centers on chapter audits, CAPs, sanctions and LGA certification reviews.
- Continue to work with ERO and WCCU on fraud, waste and abuse for chapters and programs.
- Website: Complete tasks to update the OAG website; continue to work with Realtime Solutions.
- Complete CMCA quarterly reports - Work with the consultant to analyze chapter financial data based on their MIP accounting systems to generate reports on expenditures and available fund balances. This is put on hold due to unavailable consulting funds.
- **ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS**
- Continue to recruit applicants to fill one (1) vacant position, Associate Auditors. We have one applicant who declined the Associate Auditor position and will be advertised again. Currently, we are interviewing for the Senior Auditor position and will be filled at the beginning of the fourth quarter.
- The primary challenge in auditing the Navajo Nation continues to be the retention of supporting documentation. A significant portion of our budgeted hours are spent tracking down missing records.

Chapters, programs, and entities are ultimately responsible for maintaining and providing their documentation, and delays in this area directly impact audit efficiency.

- Social Services and Department of Health are big departments and need more assessment to conduct to focus on the high-risk areas.
- Continue to work with the Wells Fargo Bank to address chapter banking issues such as the need for credit cards but there are no existing policies and procedures.
- Our office needs more outsourcing funds (consulting).

MISSING AND MURDERED DINÉ RELATIVES TASK FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Tatyana Billy, Co-Chair
Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Task Force
Email: Tatyana.billy@navajo-nsn.gov
Phone: (928)380-8180

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- The Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR) Task Force has continued its efforts to finalize the Tribal Community Response Plan (TCRP). After more than two years of requesting the Navajo Police Department's collaboration to complete the law enforcement section of the TCRP, the Task Force has decided to move forward without its participation.
- The MMDR Task Force is also working to finalize the MMDR Database prototype in partnership with Navajo Technical University (NTU). Members of the Task Force recently reviewed the prototype and provided recommendations, edits, and technical feedback to improve its functionality. The next step is for the Navajo Division of Public Safety to coordinate a meeting with NTU to finalize a data-sharing agreement. The Task Force's goal is to complete the prototype by the end of October and present it to the Navajo community.
- During this reporting period, the Task Force provided direct assistance to four families by connecting them with available resources, victim advocates, and support services. Assistance has included coordinating efforts to recover the remains of missing loved ones and helping families submit DNA samples to national databases to determine whether their missing relatives may have been identified as unidentified Jane or John Does in other jurisdictions.
- In addition, the Task Force supported search efforts in Wheatfields, Arizona, in collaboration with advocates from Victim Witness Services for Northern Arizona and 4 Corners K-9 Search and Rescue. Families are reminded that deployment of search-and-rescue teams typically requires a request from the Navajo Police Department, the family of the missing individual, or a Navajo Nation Council Delegate.

The MMDR Task Force remains focused on completing three major initiatives:

- Finalizing the MMDR Database in partnership with Navajo Technical University.
- Completing the Tribal Community Response Plan.
- Establishing a coordinated family assistance system to provide timely resources, guidance, and case support to families seeking help with their missing or murdered loved ones.

COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Marcarlo Roanhorse, Chair
Commission on Emergency Management
Email: marcarloroanhorse@navajo-nsn.gov
Phone: (928)871-7160

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- Oversaw implementation of CMA-20-26, which provides \$6 million in emergency preparedness funding for all 110 Navajo Nation Chapters, while clarifying that Chapters may utilize these funds through local resolutions and approved spending plans without requiring a Commission emergency declaration.
- Adopted Resolution CEM 26-003, declaring a 2026 Navajo Nation Drought Emergency, which was subsequently concurred by President Buu Nygren. The declaration updates current drought conditions and recommends \$6.55 million in Agricultural Infrastructure Fund investments for windmill repairs, livestock watering systems, and drought mitigation projects.
- Continued modernization of the Commission's Plan of Operations to align with FEMA, NIMS, and ICS standards while developing operational appendices, emergency management definitions, and cost recovery procedures.
- Expanded collaboration with the Department of Emergency Management, Administrative Service Centers, Chapters, and state and federal partners to improve emergency planning, hazard mitigation, and response coordination.
- Increased transparency through publicly noticed meetings with in-person attendance and Zoom participation, ensuring continued engagement with Navajo Nation leadership, partner agencies, and the public.

The Commission remains focused on building a more resilient emergency management system by strengthening Chapter preparedness, improving intergovernmental coordination, and enhancing the Nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

NAVAJO ELECTION ADMINISTRATION FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Veronica Curley, Interim Executive Director
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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

• 2026 NAVAJO NATION ELECTION

Positions: Navajo Nation President, Navajo Nation Council Delegates, Kayenta Township Commissioners (2), Naschitti Chapter Governance Commissioner (2), Navajo Nation Board of Election (5), and the Navajo Board of Election Supervisors (5)

A total of 123 candidates filed by the closing date of April 22, as follows:

Position	AGENCY					Total
	Chinle	Eastern Navajo	Fort Defiance	Northern	Western	
Navajo Nation President	2	4	4	5	1	16
Navajo Nation Council Delegate	13	18	20	14	20	85
Navajo Board of Election Supervisors	1	1	2	1	2	7
Navajo Nation Board of Education	3	3	0	2	2	10
Kayenta Township Commissioners	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	2
Naschitti Chapter Governance Commissioners	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	3
No. of candidates by agency	19	26	29	22	27	123

Certified Candidates: On April 24, 2026, the Navajo Election Administration certified 122 candidates as eligible/qualified and disqualified individuals. Two (2) candidates withdrew after certification.

State of Grievances: Three (3) Statement of Grievances were filed with Office of Hearings and Appeals; two (2) hearings were held and one (1) was withdrawn by the petitioner.

Absentee Voting Stats: 2187 as of June 30, 2026

AGENCY	# of In-Person Voting	# of Ballots Mailed	Total by Agency
Chinle (CHA)	113	167	280
Eastern Navajo (ENA)	84	259	343
Fort Defiance (FDA)	199	376	575
Northern Navajo(NNA)	228	195	423
Western Navajo (WNA)	299	267	566
(By category) TOTAL	923	1264	2187

• **SPECIAL ELECTIONS/ABSENTEE VOTING: 2**

Fort Defiance Agency-2

CAMPAIGN EXPENSE REPORT NON-FILERS/DISQUALIFICATIONS - 0

• **OATH OF OFFICES - 13**

Chinle Agency - 1; Eastern Navajo Agency - 6; Fort Defiance Agency - 4; Northern Navajo Agency - 1; Western Navajo Agency - 1

All Oath of Offices were administered by Honorable Chief Justice Eleanor Shirley of Navajo Nation Supreme Court

• **APPOINTMENTS BY NBOES OF UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES: 5**

Chinle Agency -1; Eastern Navajo Agency-2; Western Navajo Agency -2

• **STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCES FILED/OHA HEARINGS HELD/SUPREME COURT APPEALS: 14**

Agency	Grievance filed 3 rd Quarter	Hearings Held?	Order by OHA	Appealed to NN Supreme Court	Grievances filed prior to 3 rd quarter; Awaiting hearing dates or OHA decision/Order
CHA	3	Hearing date (07/16/26)			1
ENA	1	1	Candidate Reinstatement	0	0
FDA	1	0	Grievance Withdrawn		2
NNA	1	1	Candidate placed on PE ballot	0	1
WNA	0	0			2
	6	2	2	0	6

• **VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS/VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES**

-Total Registered Voter: 145,389 (2,468 - New)

-Chinle Agency: 20,231

-Eastern Navajo Agency: 34,059

-Fort Defiance Agency: 36,110

-Northern Navajo Agency: 28,546

-Western Navajo Agency: 26,443

- Voter registration drives conducted by NEA: 19
- Voter registration drives were held on the Navajo Nation and in metropolitan locations such as Flagstaff (AZ), Phoenix (AZ), Tucson (AZ), Albuquerque (NM), Salt Lake City (UT), and Denver (CO).
- **NAVAJO NATION VOTER REGISTRARS**
The NEA is continuously recruiting individuals to serve as Navajo Nation Voter Registrars at the chapter level and in metropolitan areas where there is a large population of Dine People.
- **RECALL: 4**
Chinle Agency: 4
Information on process: 3 (2-Eastern and 1-WNA)
- **OTHERS:**
 - Preparation of FY27 Budget
 - Attended required Day Force Trainings sponsored by Department of Personnel
 - Election Code Amendments
 - Administrative support to Navajo Board of Election Supervisors.
 - Attend election related hearing held by Office of Hearings and Appeals.

SECTION TWO: GOALS FOR 4th QUARTER IN FY2026

- Election Code Amendment
- Conduct 2026 Navajo Primary Election
- Attend Election Hearings conducted by Office of Hearings and Appeals.
- FY27 Budget Hearings
- NEA and NBOES Plan of Operation
- NBOES Rules and Regulations Updates

OFFICE OF NAVAJO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Harrison Tsosie, Executive Director
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Email: harrison.tsosie@navajo-nsn.gov

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

The Commission and Office of Navajo Government Development have made public presentations to Navajo communities, chapters, universities and state elected officials. The Plan of Operation for the Commission and Office of Navajo Government Development provides that the Commission and Office have the power to encourage the public, private and public organizations. Chapters, traditional Navajo leaders, including Native ceremonial practitioners (medicine men), to actively participate in carrying out the purpose of the Commission and to conduct public hearings. The Commission shall give due consideration to traditional values and philosophical views of the Navajo People and to assist with producing educational materials designed to educate all Navajo Nation stakeholders and the public on the history, structure, and development of the Navajo Nation government.

In addition to ongoing research and administrative operations of ONGD, the following highlights key accomplishments achieved by the ONGD during the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026:

Program Performance Criteria Goal Statements**Work on the Navajo Government Reform Project**

Goal: 2 Actual: 12

During the Second Quarter, the Office of Navajo Government Development exceeded its targeted performance metric by advancing twelve (12) initiatives directly supporting the Navajo Government Reform Project pursuant to DC-68-89. These efforts included the systematic collections, compilation, and legal analysis of public input obtained from Navajo voters regarding proposed structural reforms.

ONGD continued implementation of its government-to-citizens consultation framework, conducting a total of twenty-four (24) outreach presentations cumulatively in this quarter. These engagements serve as a mechanism to satisfy principles of procedural due process, participatory governance, and informed consent of the Navajo electorate.

Additionally, ONGD finalized and previously submitted the “Diné Bi Nahat’a Survey Report” to the Navajo Nation Council, which constitutes an evidentiary foundation for ongoing policy deliberations. The Office further developed educational materials, outreach tools, and intergovernmental coordination efforts with federal, state, and tribal entities, ensuring the dissemination of legally relevant and culturally grounded information in advance of any prospective referendum.

- Compiled data from the responses from the Navajo voters on possible changes to the government reform proposal. In the outreach efforts, twenty-four outreach/presentations have been made since the unveiling of the document, Diyin Nohookáá’ Dine’é, on July 16, 2025 at Chinle High School, Arizona.
- The Office of Navajo Government Development completed a survey and Survey Report titled Diné Bi Nahatá which was provided to the Navajo Nation Council during the 2025 Summer Session.
- Developed the educational materials and public outreach tools to accompany the release of the Diyin Nohookáá’ Dine’é Bi Beehaz’áanii Bitsé Siléí, ensuring the Navajo People are informed ahead of the reform referendum.
- ONGD held meetings with certain organizations and departments that will outline key benefits and risks with AI, Health Department, and Rural/ Regional planning.

Draft the government reform proposal (measure by articles, sections)

Goal: 3 Actual: 4

- Drafted and completed a comprehensive summary of the Diyin Nohookáá’ Diné’é Bi Beehaz’áanii Bitsé Siléí, Sq’ah Naghái Bik’eh Hózhóón - Collective Will that shortens the working document into smaller summaries to help with comprehension.
- Drafted and reviewed a few sections on the Navajo Government Reform Project, “Article XIX Chief Executive Officers” created two additional sections called “Government Services” and “People Services”. Made additional changes to the public input from community meetings.
- Reviewed Title II of the Navajo Nation Code concerning the Legislative Branch and Executive Branch section to compare with the proposed document. Another session which is being reviewed is the separation of powers and checks and balances in government.
- Began to make revisions to the draft proposal based on recommendations and comments received at the public meetings.

Empower the Diné by proposing amendments to the initiative procedure in Title II.

Goal: 1 Actual: 1

ONGD successfully achieved its performance target by developing and advancing proposed amendments to the initiative procedures under Title II of the Navajo Nation Code. These amendments are designed to expand and clarify the mechanisms through which the Navajo electorate may exercise referendum authority, thereby strengthening the Nation’s democratic processes.

The proposed amendments were formally reviewed and partially approved through resolution by the Commission on Navajo Government Development, with additional provisions remaining under active

consideration. ONGD has undertaken continued outreach to Navajo Nation Council Delegates to secure legislative sponsorship, a necessary procedural step for formal introduction and enactment.

Concurrent with these efforts, the Office maintained a comprehensive administrative record of public comments and recommendations, ensuring that all proposed legal modifications are grounded in documented community input and consistent with principles of transparency and accountability.

Public Engagements regarding Navajo Government Reform Project proposal.

Goal: 3 Actual: 15

- Submission and presentation of resolutions to Agency Councils seeking support and supplement funding;
- Direct communication with Council Delegates regarding sponsorship of commission appointments legislation;
- Ongoing intergovernmental coordination has been conducted with the Office of the President and Vice President regarding executive branch appointments, with Diné College concerning the student representative appointment, and with the Office of the Speaker for legislative branch appointments. Concurrently, the Office continues outreach and engagement with qualified individuals to identify and secure candidates to fill existing Commission member vacancies.

Develop proposals for alternative forms of central and chapter government

Goal: 3 Actual: 4

ONGD exceeded its performance goal by introducing five (5) substantive outputs related to the development of alternative governmental structures. These efforts included the continued drafting, revision, and refinement of the Navajo Government Reform Proposal, which remains in draft form pending completion of outreach and public input processes.

The office conducted extensive legal and policy research, including analysis of Federal Indian Law, constitutional frameworks, and democratic governance principles, to inform the structural design of the proposed government system. These findings were incorporated into updated presentations delivered to both the Commission and the public.

ONGD enhanced its educational framework by integrating philosophical and legal foundations of governance, including the relationship between constitutional structures and the collective will of the Navajo People (Są'ah Naghái Bik'eh Hózhóón).

The proposal remains protected under the Navajo Nation Privacy and Access to Information Act, ensuring that draft materials are safeguarded while still allowing for structured public input. ONGD will continue iterative revisions based on community recommendations, ensuring the final proposal reflects the informed will of the Navajo electorate.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Rodney Tahe, Executive Director

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

- OLS processed 99 Legislation this quarter, as well as closing out 44 resolutions.
- OLS finalized 77 journals/transcripts of official meetings.
- OLS personnel participated in 122 council/standing meetings and work sessions during this quarter.
- OLS received FY 2026 operating funds, the office is in the process of paying delinquent accounts for the

past few months.

- There were 2 staff members that have left OLS. One (1) Legislative Advisor retired on May 30, 2026. One (1) Legislative Assistant transferred to NN Executive Branch in May.
- DPM completed the comprehensive pay study and implemented the salary changes for positions. Staff have received backpay amounts in three paychecks.
- OLS is in the process of advertising the two (2) vacant positions to strengthen our support staff and improve operational efficiency.
- OLS hired one (1) staff member for Council Delegate's Office to improve operational efficiency.
- OLS reclassified two (2) positions: Legislative Manager and Policy Analyst. Both positions were successfully reclassified, and this action is part of the internal OLS reorganization.
- OLS has continued to utilize Dayforce for timekeeping. Staff have been attending scheduled training courses. The "Go Live" date has been postponed several times. Also, OLS continues to utilize and submit manual timesheets until otherwise notified.
- OLS is preparing for FY 2027 budget session, timelines have been established and the BIM was approved on April 30, 2026. Committee support staff have been instructed to work with programs to schedule meetings and receive budgets.
- With the recent retirement of a staff member, we have assigned a new legislative Advisor for the Resources & Development Committee. This reassignment may be temporary dependent on the hiring of a new individual that will meet the specific needs of this committee.
- Standing committees (LOC and BFC) have scheduled Public Hearings in May (1) and June (20), OLS ensures committee meetings are adequately covered with support staff.

GOALS FOR THE 4TH QUARTER

- Expand and enhance training opportunities for staff to further develop their skills and competencies.
- Expand OLS educational initiatives to the general public and other Navajo Nation Divisions/ Departments, focusing on the Navajo Nation Legislative Process and Budget Process.
- Update current Strategic Plan (last updated in 2017).
- Continue the OLS Tracking and Archive Project to ensure comprehensive documentation and accessibility of legislative records.
- Implement Legislative Tracking and Archive backup storage for personnel to ensure secure and efficient record-keeping.
- Introduce proposed electronic signature procedure into the NN Legislative Process, and OLS policies & procedures.
- Fill Vacant Positions: Legislative Assistant (1); Legislative Advisor (1);
- Enhance internal policies

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- OLS continues to work with DPM to identify qualified individuals for vacant positions. OLS continues working with internal staff on assessments for other positions to determine qualifications.
- Issue guidelines and instructions to assure a coordinated approach is being taken on legislative action.
- Training presentations on the Navajo Nation Legislative Process in collaboration with the Office of Legislative Counsel. Outreach.

NAVAJO NATION YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THIRD QUARTER REPORT SUMMARY

Contact: Aryiah C. R. James, Chair
Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council
Phone: (928)871-7160

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 3RD QUARTER

Announcement of Interim Executive Director

During this reporting period, the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council welcomed Desiree Fowler as the new Interim Executive Director. Her appointment stands for a positive step toward continued organizational growth and leadership. Under Interim Executive Director Fowler's leadership, the Council has continued to strengthen its commitment to youth engagement, collaboration, and community service. Her guidance has supported the Council in refining its goals, encouraging strategic planning, and fostering stronger partnerships that help Native youth throughout the Navajo Nation. The Council looks forward to continuing its work alongside Interim Executive Director Fowler as new initiatives and opportunities for youth leadership continue to develop.

Our Pillars of Priorities

Establishment of the Council's Four Pillars of Priority. One of the Council's most significant accomplishments during this reporting period was the establishment of four official Pillars of Priority. These pillars serve as the foundation for the Council's future work and provide clear direction for advocacy, programming, and community engagement.

- **Pillar One: Creating a Reliable Safe Space for Native Youth to Express Themselves**

The Council recognizes the importance of creating welcoming and supportive environments where Native youth feel comfortable sharing their experiences, concerns, ideas, and aspirations. This pillar focuses on encouraging open dialogue, promoting emotional well-being, and ensuring that every young person feels heard, respected, and valued. Through this priority, the Council aims to strengthen youth voices and increase participation in leadership opportunities across the Navajo Nation.

- **Pillar Two: Protecting Shimá Nahasdzáán**

Protecting Shimá Nahasdzáán (Mother Earth) reflects the Council's commitment to environmental stewardship and the preservation of Navajo traditional teachings. Members recognize that caring for the land is essential to protecting the health, culture, and future of the Navajo people. This pillar encourages environmental education, conservation efforts, community clean-up initiatives, and sustainable practices that honor the relationship between the Diné people and the natural world.

- **Pillar Three: Increasing Sexual Awareness**

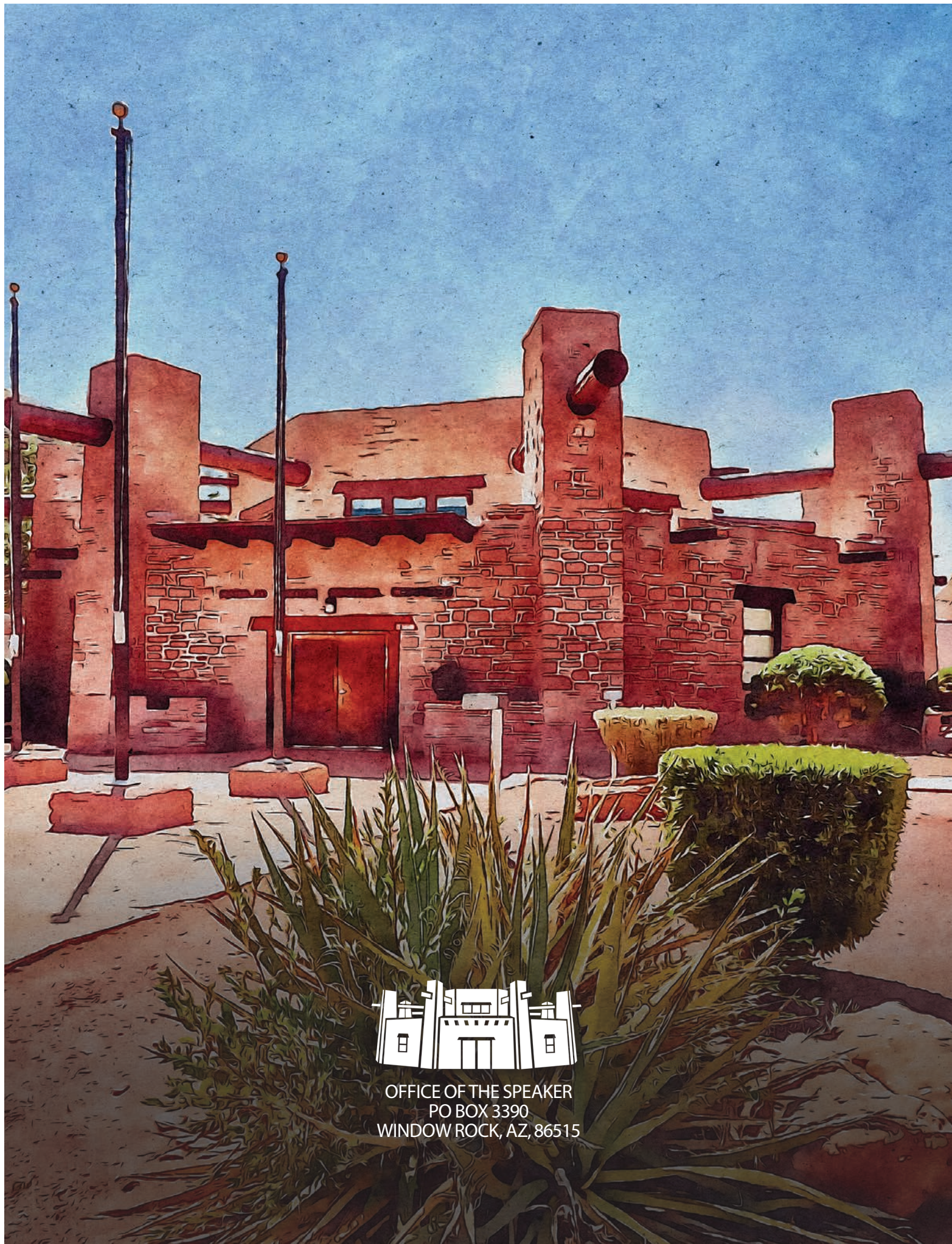
The Council identified the need to promote accurate, age-appropriate education regarding sexual health and personal well-being. This pillar focuses on increasing awareness of healthy relationships, consent, reproductive health, sexually transmitted infection prevention, and available health resources. By encouraging education and open conversations, the Council seeks to empower Native youth to make informed decisions while reducing stigma surrounding these important topics.

- **Pillar Four: Supporting Unsheltered Relatives**

Recognizing the growing need to support vulnerable community members, the Council established a priority focused on assisting unsheltered relatives throughout the Navajo Nation. This pillar promotes compassion, service, and community involvement through outreach efforts, donation drives, resource awareness, and partnerships with organizations that provide assistance to individuals experiencing housing insecurity. The Council remains committed to advocating for dignity, respect, and support for all relatives in need.

Conclusion

The Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council has continued to demonstrate leadership, dedication, and service through regular and special meetings, the appointment of Interim Executive Director Desiree Fowler, the establishment of four strategic Pillars of Priority, and meaningful community engagement efforts such as the Mental Health Panel Discussion at the Ganado Field House. As the Council continues to grow, it remains committed to empowering Native youth, preserving Diné values, protecting the environment, promoting health and education, supporting vulnerable relatives, and creating opportunities for future generations to thrive. Through collaboration, advocacy, and service, the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council will continue working toward positive and lasting change for youth throughout the Navajo Nation.



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