



## 23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 15, 2016

**MEDIA CONTACTS**  
Jared Touchin (928) 221-9253  
Jolene Holgate (928) 380-4174  
Crystalyne Curley (928) 286-7918  
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

### **Summer Council Session set to begin with annual horse and bike ride**

**WINDOW ROCK** – On behalf of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council, Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) welcomes the public as the Council convenes on Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the opening day of the 2016 Summer Council Session in the Council Chamber in Window Rock.

“On behalf of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council, I invite our Diné Citizens to join us for the summer session as we welcome the horse and bike ride groups, state and federal leadership, and as we honor and recognize several groups for their accomplishments,” stated Speaker Bates.

Prior to the official start of the session, horse and bike riders will gather outside the Council Chamber to recognize and bring awareness to several issues including domestic violence, healthy living, and others. The horse and bike ride is held each year prior to the Summer Session with youth, elders, and many others who travel over the course of several days from each of the Nation's five agencies to bring awareness to various issues and to honor past leaders.

This year, Council members participating in the horse and bike rides include Council Delegates Walter Phelps, Lee Jack, Sr., Alton Shepherd, and Edmund Yazzie.

On the opening day, the Birdsprings Veterans Organization will post the colors, the invocation will be provided by Miss Indian New Mexico Megan Badonie, and Roxyanne Harvey and daughters will sing the National Anthem.

During the week, the Council is also scheduled to receive informal reports from Arizona Sen. Carlyle Begay (Dist. 7 – R) on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and from U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (N.M. – D) on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber.

Council will also set aside time during the week to recognize several individuals and groups including the Navajo Nation's Hotshot Fire Crew for their assistance in fighting the recent Cedar Creek wildfire, two recent graduates of the police academy, the Navajo Nation Foster Grandparent Program, and others.

According to the proposed agenda, which is subject to change, the Council is scheduled to consider a total of 16 legislations. The Office of the Speaker will once again partner with the Office of Broadcast Services to live-stream the Summer Session via the Council's designated Ustream

channel. Please visit [ustream.tv](https://ustream.tv) and search for “Navajo Nation Council” in the search box to view live proceedings beginning Monday morning.

To view the proposed agenda, please visit [www.navajonationcouncil.org](http://www.navajonationcouncil.org) and search under “meetings.”

# # #

For news on the latest legislative branch activities, please visit [www.navajonationcouncil.org](http://www.navajonationcouncil.org) or find us on Facebook and Twitter, keywords: Navajo Nation Council