



NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Navajo human rights officials build race relations team

ST. MICHAELS, Ariz.—The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission has engaged several Navajo Nation program officials to address race discrimination for the August 29-31, 2011 border town race relations conference in Farmington, New Mexico.

Navajo officials include Andrew Tah, director for the Navajo Nation Division of Diné Education, Kimmeth Yazzie for the Navajo Nation Election Office, and Ray Daw for the Navajo Nation Behavioral Health.

Non-governmental participants include Terry Gurley for DNA People's Legal Services of Window Rock, Navajo Nation, (Ariz.) who will team with Cecelia Burke for the DNA People's Legal Services of Farmington, New Mexico.

Each participant will discuss nuances of racial discrimination experienced in their respective department by Navajo people they serve, providing the issue, its status, and recommendations. The topics that these individuals discuss will only be a portion of what the conference will address. More conference information will be release at a later time.

The race relations conference is scheduled for August 29-31, 2011 at the San Juan College Campus in Farmington, New Mexico.

Officials from the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission have met with a new committee formed by the Farmington Community Relations Commission specifically for the conference.

The Farmington race relations conference was proposed by Farmington Mayor Tommy Roberts directly after signing on November 17, 2010, a non-binding Memorandum of Agreement to improve race relations. Then, Mayor Roberts directed the Farmington CRC to the work with the Commission. To date, NNHRC has only met once with Farmington's CRC.

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