



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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CONTACT: GEORGE HARDEEN
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
OFFICE – 928-871-7917
CELL – 928-309-8532
pressoffice@opvp.org

Navajo Nation Economic Development Committee confirms Robert Winters as gaming enterprise CEO

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation Council Economic Development Committee today confirmed Robert T. Winter of Atlantic Highlands, N.J., as the interim CEO for Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise by a unanimous vote of 7 to 0.

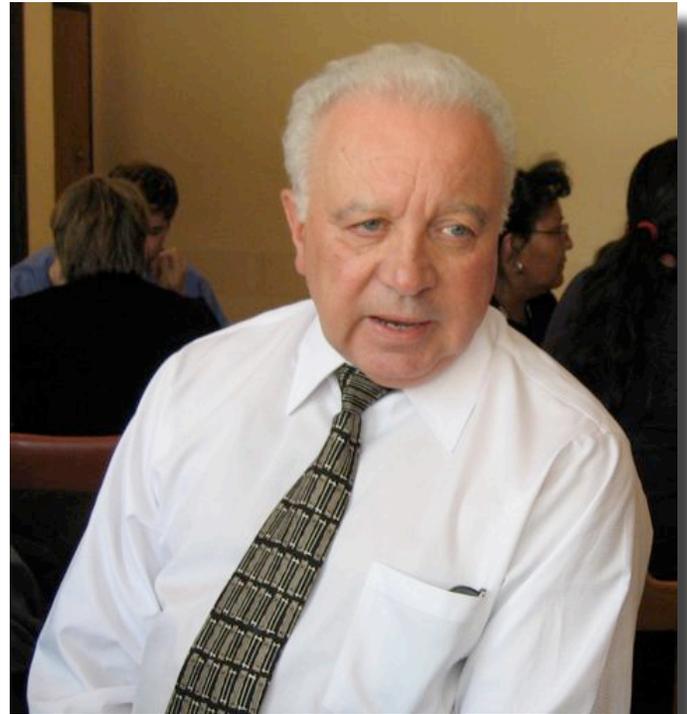
Mr. Winter brings more than 30 years experience in the gaming industry to the Navajo Nation. He has extensive experience in Indian gaming development.

He is the former partner and counsel to the law firm of Brown, Previti and Carroll of Atlantic City, N.J., and is the former Vice President and General Counsel for the Foxwoods Resort Casino, one of the most successful casinos in the country which is owned by the Masshantucket Pequot Tribe of Conn.

He will be responsible for the overall day-to-day direction, construction, and management of the Navajo Nation's first gaming facility, including pre-opening planning, and necessary operating and capital budgets, developing and implementing the operating policies and procedures to recruit, hire, and train all gaming facility employees.

"I spent 20 years in law enforcement," he told the committee on Wednesday. "During that period of years, I was one of the members of the committee that drafted the rules and regulations that basically govern the operation of the casinos in Atlantic City. Subsequent to that, I became in charge of the organized crime task force. I was in charge of prosecuting crimes related to organized crime and gambling in the state of New Jersey."

Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., attended the committee's meeting to speak in support of Mr. Winter's confirmation.



*Interim Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
CEO Robert T. Winter*

"What we need is expert help, and I believe that Mr. Winter has that expertise," the President said. "Of course, we all know we're doing it for jobs and for revenues, and to try to get ourselves towards getting back our independence. I think that's a very important thing. But what we need is expert help, and I believe Mr. Winter is that expert."

The President thanked the committee for its work and perseverance in bringing gaming to the Navajo Nation.

"We're doing everything we can, pushing ahead, to get a casino in place," he said. "I wish we were there 30 years ago when it all started."



Interim Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise CEO Robert T. Winter is interviewed by Navajo Times reporter Bill Donovan shortly after his confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council's Economic Development Committee on Wednesday.

Mr. Winter said he was pleased with the confirmation, and hopes to develop a Navajo casino industry the Navajo Nation is proud of. He said his strength is in the development of that kind of business.

“After leaving law enforcement, I became vice president and general counsel to Foxwoods Resort Casino and counsel to the resort development company,” he said. “As vice president and general counsel to Foxwoods Resort Casino, I oversaw the human resources department for over 12,000 employees. I wrote the compliance regulations for the operation of that facility and did the various corporate responsibilities of a general counsel for a corporation controlled by an Indian tribe.”

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