Five Navajo Nation communities receive $1.2 million to implement local governance programs, incentives

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Five Navajo Nation communities today became the first to receive more than $1.2 million in funding from the Local Governance Trust Fund, which is an incentive for communities to achieve local community empowerment through governance certification.

The chapters of Shonto, Nahata Dziil, Steamboat, and Newcomb were each presented with checks for $256,082, and Toh Nanees Dizi received $236,204, before the Navajo Nation Council, which is meeting in special session today. Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., and Arbin Mitchell, executive director of the Navajo Division of Community Development Division Director, presented the checks to chapter representatives.

The funds are to develop programs and services for each chapter to invest in their communities. The Local Governance Trust Fund, which was created in 1998, states that four percent of the average annual market value of the fund shall be distributed annually to governance-certified Navajo chapters based on a formula recommend by the Navajo Nation Transportation and Community Development.

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