23rd Navajo Nation Council
Office of the Speaker

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Delegate Brown invites public to the 2017 Navajo Language and Culture Revitalization Summit

WINDOW ROCK – Council Delegate Nathaniel Brown (Chilchinbeto, Dennehotso, Kayenta) and the Summit Planning Committee invite the public to the 2017 Navajo Language and Culture Revitalization Summit at Diné College in Tsaile, Ariz., from May 22-24.

Delegate Brown said the purpose for the Navajo language summit is to build awareness and advocacy, create dialogue and understanding, and to foster unity and action to maintain Navajo language and cultural revitalization efforts in order to broaden the language initiative Navajo Nation-wide.

"We understand that the Navajo language is slowly diminishing, and according to the last U.S. Census, only 53-percent of Navajo households speak the Navajo language. This summit is one way to bring awareness to this issue and encourage Navajo communities throughout the Nation to begin implementing language and cultural revitalization programs in their areas," said Delegate Brown.

Delegate Brown added that the Navajo language summit concept is a response to the commonly observed need to better address the perpetuation of the Navajo language and culture, as well as the importance of bringing people together from various walks of life to share, learn, and organize around several topics and issues related to creating unified efforts to preserve indigenous languages.

The summit is open to anyone who would like to be involved in maintaining and revitalizing the Navajo language and culture, such as educators, community partners, elders, youth, cultural knowledge holders, language and culture advocates, parents, grandparents, policy makers, community leaders, and organizations, said Delegate Brown.

"Our Diné elders always told us to never forget or leave our Diné Bizaad (Navajo language) behind, or we would lose our identities and our way of life forever. However, there is hope as we continue the conversation through this language summit, because we communicate with our Holy People, Diyin Dine'é, through our Navajo language," said Delegate Brown.

Delegate Brown, a member of the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee, thanked his committee colleagues for supporting the initiative, as well as their participation at the summit.

For more information regarding the 2017 Navajo Language and Culture Revitalization Summit and to register, please visit: https://www.navajolanguagesummit.com, or contact James McKenzie at jmckenzie@dinecollege.edu or call (928) 724-6946.

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

2017
Navajo Language & Culture
Revitalization Summit

CONTACT | James McKenzie
jmckenzie@dinecollege.edu | 928.724.6946

Conference will be held at Diné College - Tsaile Campus

SAVE THE DATE

On-line Registration Coming Soon

| May 22, 23, 24, 2017 - *Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday*
| Host Site: **Diné College** - *Tsaile Campus*
| Presented By: **Navajo Nation** - *23rd Health, Education & Human Services Committee*

2017 Navajo Language & Culture Revitalization Summit

PDF

Summit presentations that fall into one of the focus areas above are highly encouraged from ***elders***, ***youth***, ***cultural knowledge holders***, ***educators***, ***researchers***, ***professionals***, ***community members*** and ***leaders***.

Download form and submit by **March 31, 2017**

Who should attend:

The summit is open to anyone who is or wants to be involved in maintaining and revitalizing our Navajo language and culture, including: educators, community partners, elders, youth, cultural knowledge holders, language and culture advocates, parents, grandparents, policy makers, community leaders and organizations.

About the NLCRS:

The idea for the Navajo Language and Culture Revitalization Summit concept emerged in response to the commonly observed need to better address the perpetuation of Navajo language and culture. Summit planners identified the importance of bringing people together from various walks of life to share, learn and organize around the many topics and issues related to creating more concerted, unified efforts to perpetuate the Navajo language and culture and their use in daily life for generations to come.

Initiative Leader:
Navajo Nation Council
Delegate Nathaniel Brown

Focus Areas:

The summit will host several types of sessions related to Navajo Language, Culture Revitalization and Maintenance:

Informational: Historical/Traditional Perspectives and Current Research, Challenges, Successes, and Best Practices
Dialogue: Participant Input and Feedback on Key Topics
Data Collection: Sharing to advance Navajo Language and Culture
Restoring Hózhǫ́: Historical Trauma & Healing
Power of Unity: Building & Strengthening Networks & Collective Support Systems across domains
Creating a Movement: Uniting around a Common Cause and Inspiring to create action and commitment
Identifying Priorities and Goals: (short and long-term) for Navajo Nation

Organized by: Navajo Language & Culture Revitalization Summit 2017 Planning Committee
https://www.navajolanguagesummit.com
www.facebook.com/NavajoLanguageSummit2017

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