Council Delegate Walter Phelps Selected as Human Development Subcommittee Chairperson

Delegate Dwight Witherspoon selected as Vice Chairperson

Window Rock, AZ — On Monday, March 14, 2011, the Navajo Nation Council Human Development subcommittee selected Council Delegate Walter Phelps (Cameron, Coalmine Canyon, Birdsprings, Leupp, Tolani Lake) as its Chairperson. Council Delegate Dwight Witherspoon (Hard Rock, Forest Lake, Piñon, Black Mesa, Whippoorwill) was selected to serve as Vice Chairperson.

My colleague Mr. Witherspoon and I are honored and ready to lead the crucial business of this subcommittee,” said Phelps. “Our group is tasked to help build a foundation for our people through proper education and health standards, while making sure those needing additional assistance are not left behind.”

It is expected that both selections will be confirmed at the next Nabik’iyati’ Committee meeting.

Serving on the subcommittee with Phelps and Witherspoon are Council Delegates Jonathan Hale (Oaksprings, St. Michaels), Kenneth Maryboy (Mexican Water, To’iIkan, Teesnospos, Aneth, Red Mesa), Joshua Lavar Butler (To’ Nanees Dizi), and Danny Simpson (Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahodishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, Crownpoint).

The Human Development subcommittee is one of four subcommittees that are being established by the newly seated 24 member Navajo Nation Council. Once amendments are made to Title II of the Navajo Nation Code regarding the new Council committee structure, these subcommittees will be elevated to standing committees.

This subcommittee serves as oversight for the Navajo Nation Division of Health, Division of Social Services, Division of Human Resources as well as the Division of Diné Education, Navajo Nation Board of Education, and colleges within the Nation.

The subcommittee also enacts regulations of the labor laws and policies of the Navajo Nation including laws relating for veterans services.

The Human Development subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, March 22, 2011.

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