



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VICE PRESIDENT NEZ CONGRATULATES EASTERN AGENCY OFFICIALS AT INAUGURATION



In his address, Vice President Jonathan Nez promoted intergenerational teaching among youth and elders. The vice president asked the elders and fluent Navajo speakers in the audience to help the youth learn the Navajo language.

CROWNPOINT, N.M.-During his Special Address at the 2017 Eastern Agency Inauguration, Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez told the gathered Chapter officials to empower their constituency while fostering leadership in the next generation.

In his address, Vice President Nez said that he started out as a chapter official, which he felt was beneficial in providing him the ability to understand issues at the chapter level.

His address reinforced traditional views of self-sufficiency that are based in being responsible, taking initiative and supporting your community.

"It's not just leadership. It's service. It's giving back to your community by empowering your people and giving them the tools they need to make the best decisions," he said.

Many speakers at the inauguration addressed the need to strengthen intergenerational teachings where elders foster traditional

knowledge and students provide technical insight in addressing chapter issues.

"As Chapter officials you ensure the vision of your communities and agencies. NTU is where our young people come to build partnerships with you," said Dr. Elmer Guy, President of NTU.

Diné bí Oltá School Board Association member, Angelia Barney-Nez stressed the importance of instilling culture in the younger generation as a sense of traditional responsibility.

"Our children are sacred and as babies they are placed in the cradleboard, protected by the lightning rods," she said. "They must get what they deserve from us, which is their language, their culture and their relations."

Vice President Nez encouraged the Chapter officials to mark their terms by creating strategic plans for their chapters to prosper in the future.



Eastern Agency Chapter Presidents take their Oath of Office at the Eastern Agency Inauguration held at Navajo Technical University on Mon, Jan. 9.

“President Begaye and I congratulate all of you elected officials and school board members who are being inaugurated today,” he said. “Let’s work together and help each other out.”

The inauguration was held at Navajo Technical University (NTU) in Crownpoint, N.M., on Monday, Jan. 9, and all Chapter officials were given the Oath of Office by the Honorable Irene M. Toledo, Crownpoint District Court Judge.

Also in attendance were 23rd Navajo Nation Council Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh

Sikaad, Tse’Daa’Kaan, Upper Fruitland), Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake), Delegate Seth Damon (Bááháálí, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Tsé Lichíí’, Rock Springs, Tseyatoh), Delegate Jonathan Perry (Becenti, Crownpoint, Huerfano, Lake Valley, Nageezi, Nahodishgish, Tse’ii’ahi, Whiterock), Delegate Norman Begaye (Alamo, Ramah, Tohajilee), Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Church Rock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau) and Delegate Tom Chee (Shiprock).

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