



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director
(928) 274-4275

Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer
(928) 274-2758

nnopvp.communications@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2019

Nez-Lizer Administration welcomes Congressman Tom O'Halleran to the Navajo Nation

WINDOW ROCK – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer had the honor of welcoming U.S. Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ) to the Office of the President and Vice President in Window Rock on Friday, where they presented a review of the priorities of the Nez-Lizer Administration based on the voices and input of the Navajo people.

The meeting discussion focused on working together with the congress to promote economic development and job creation on the Navajo Nation by advocating for the designation of more opportunity

zones in Navajo communities and framing federal policy to support those efforts, federal funds for road development and improvements, water rights allocations, Radiation Exposure Compensation Act amendments, the need to continue the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, scholarship funding through the Bureau of Indian Education, health care and diabetes prevention, and the need to construct new justice centers in Window Rock and Shiprock.

“The Nez-Lizer Administration is committed to working with congress to designate more opportunity zones to help areas that are in need of a hand up to create more opportunities for their communities and families,” said President Nez. “Our administration is working to create a tourism corridor that our visitors can enjoy while also helping our economy through revenue generation, jobs, and tax revenue.”



PHOTO: President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, and Nez-Lizer Administration Division Directors meeting with U.S. Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ) at the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President in Window Rock, Ariz. on Aug. 16, 2019.

Among other topics, Vice President Lizer noted that the Nez-Lizer Administration is working to create more scholarship opportunities for Navajo students, and requested the Congressman's assistance to preserve the Higher Education Grant through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Several Division Directors were also in attendance including Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office Executive Director Robert K. Black, Division of Community Development Executive Director Dr. Pearl Yellowman, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Executive Director Oliver B. Whaley, Navajo Veterans Administration Acting Director James D. Zwierlein, Division of Natural Resources Executive Director Dr. Rudy Shebala, and Division of Economic Development Program Manager Anthony Perry, Office of Telecommunication Regulatory Commission Executive Director Christopher Becenti, and Attorney General Doreen N. McPaul.



PHOTO: The Nez-Lizer Administration with U.S. Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ) at the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President in Window Rock, Ariz. on Aug. 16, 2019.

Each of the Division Directors also had the opportunity to speak about their specific priorities for their divisions and programs including earthen dam repairs, health and wellness, chapter infrastructure projects, veteran issues, and more.

Congressman O'Halleran highlighted several of his bills that support the priorities of the Navajo Nation related to the Navajo Generating Station, broadband development in rural areas, diabetes prevention, and offered his support for the priorities of the Nez-Lizer Administration.

"Our team greatly appreciates the visit with Congressman O'Halleran and his staff. Thank you for visiting the Navajo Nation and for your continued support for our people," added President Nez.

###

For the latest news from the Office of the President and Vice President, please visit <http://www.opvp.navajo-nsn.gov/> or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.