



SUMMER SESSION REPORT

Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council
2022

JULY 18, 2022

Yá'át'ééh President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, Speaker Seth Damon, Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, and the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council presents the Winter Session Report.

I. Background Information

- a) President Russell Begaye signed an executive order establishing the Navajo Nation Ad-Hoc Youth Council in June 2016.
- b) The Three Branch Chiefs of the Navajo Nation signed an agreement recognizing the Ad-Hoc Youth Council on August 12, 2016.
- c) The 23rd Navajo Nation Council and President Begaye passed and signed into law CAP-26-17 for the creation of the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council.

II. Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council

- a) Mission: The Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council (NNYAC) seeks to advocate and improve essential life skill development by increasing youth involvement within communities to ensure the success of future generations.
- b) Vision: *Hózhóqjí K'ehgo – Ahít Na'anish*: Build – Connect – Reunite

III. Focus Areas

1. Government operations and community outreach
2. Mental Health
3. Diné Language – Culture
4. Scholarships

IV. Recruitment for 2022 – 2024

We are excited to announce that applications are open for the NNYAC 2022 – 2024 Cohort.

To be eligible to apply,

- you must be a current registered Navajo Nation member;
- be between the ages of 14-24, and
- served as a community volunteer for at least two (2) years (pursuant to CAP-26-17).

The position is a two (2) calendar year term, from February 7, 2022, to February 7, 2024, and Council members are expected to fulfill the following responsibilities: Members are required to put in a minimal of 5 hours or more, of Council-related work each month. Timely communication. The bulk of our communication is through email and telephone. Responding to emails within 24 hours is expected. Each member selected must have a reliable cell phone and an active email account. If a member is 18 years old or older, they must have registered with a Navajo Chapter. If a student is 17 years old and younger, they must provide a copy of their parent's Chapter registration card. NNYAC will host monthly meetings, which occurs during the evening hours, and as needed on weekends. All meetings are required for NNYAC members. Actively participate in NNYAC activities. Including, but not limited to designing, and implementing your own project ideas.

V. Youth Council Members' Reports

- a) **Triston Black, *Interim Chairperson***
 - No Report
- b) **Isaiah Tsosie, *Vice-Chairperson***
 - No Report
- c) **Adriano Tsinigine, *Secretary/Treasurer***
 - No Report

VI. NNYAC Advisor Report

- d) **Adam J. Begaye, *Advisor***
 - In preparations for the 24th Navajo Nation Council Summer Session, I've listed the accomplishments that the Youth Advisory Council has conducted this quarter.
 - The Plan of Operation proposal has been produced and reviewed by President Nez, Vice President Lizer, Council Speaker Damon, and Chief Justice Jayne.
 - Navajo Nation Department of Justice (DOJ) has reviewed the proposed Plan of Operation and provided their feedback with recommendations to amend the proposal.
 - The recommendations were added to the proposed plan of operation, and questions for clarifications were answered.
 - Currently, the Plan of Operation is under final revision and proceeding forth for Navajo Nation Council sponsorship as legislation.
 - This legislation will most likely reach the Navajo Nation Council's standing committees for their review and approval until approved through Council and signed by President Nez.
 - With the collaboration with the Office of Dine' Youth within the Department of Dine' Education (DODE), we have advertised the vacancies of the NNYAC through emails and social media
 - Agencies that did not submit any applications include:
 - Central Agency Male
 - Eastern Female
 - Fort Defiance Female
 - Northern Male
 - At-Large Male and Female
 - Our short-term plan is to host orientation and work sessions for the incoming members to learn more about the activities that the youth can provide to the Navajo Nation. These activities will include community outreach for the next 3 months that can offer children, youth, adults, and elders joy and life of way learning aspects through the young leadership of NNYAC.
 - Currently, internal discussions are including the opportunities that will allow our Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council members to be culturally knowledgeable.
 - Oral stories, language, history, and education.

We continue to proceed into 2022, I will strive to promote the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council's progress after facing many challenges from the pandemic. Our agreement with the Navajo Nation is "Naasoo' Neejini Ninaahai Dooleel" (Moving forward in the New Year). As an advisor to Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council, I look forward to working in collaboration with the new incoming Navajo Youth to prosper with great opportunities to grow our future leaders. Ahe'hee'.