

23rd Navajo Nation Council Office of the Speaker

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Navajo Nation Council set to convene for the start of the Winter Session

WINDOW ROCK – The 23rd Navajo Nation Council is scheduled to convene for the opening day of the 2018 Winter Council Session on Monday, Jan. 22, in the Council Chamber in Window Rock.

Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) invites all Diné citizens to attend the weeklong session in person or to watch live proceedings through the Council's designated Ustream channel.

"On behalf of the Navajo Nation Council, we invite all of our Navajo people to next week's session as we deliberate issues that are of great importance to our entire Nation," stated Speaker Bates.

Prior to the start of the session, the Council invites the public to participate in the "Blue Campaign to End Human Trafficking" walk on Monday. Participants will meet at Wells Fargo Bank in Window Rock at 7:30 a.m. and walk to the Council Chamber to raise awareness for human trafficking issues that continue to impact many Navajo people. The walk is sponsored by the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services' Strengthening Families Program, in collaboration with the Council.

To mark the official start of the Winter Session, the Dilcon Veterans Organization will post the colors, 2017-2018 Miss Navajo Crystal Littleben will sing the National Anthem, 2017-2018 Miss Black Mesa Community School Princess Haiden Polly Begay will lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor Tom White with the Flame of Fire Ministries will provide the opening prayer.

The Council's first order of business on Monday will be to receive the State of the Nation Address from the President of the Navajo Nation, followed by receiving reports from Speaker LoRenzo Bates, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, Office of the Controller, Office of the Attorney General, and the Office of the Chief Justice.

On Tuesday, the Council will begin considering legislations. The proposed agenda, which may be subject to change at the discretion of the Council, lists a total of 17 legislations. You may view the proposed agenda on the Council's website at: <u>www.navajonationcouncil.org.</u>

Throughout the session, the Council will honor and recognize various individuals and groups for their recent achievements, including the UFC Women's Flyweight Champion Nicco Montano of Lukachukai, National Finals Rodeo Team Roping Champion Erich Rogers of Round Rock, the

Arizona 1A State Volleyball Champions from St. Michael High School, two-time American Youth Bull Riding Finals Champion Jacob David from Grand Falls, and several others.

In partnership with the Office of Broadcast Services, the Navajo Nation Council will live-stream the Winter Council Session on the Council's designated Ustream channel. To view live-proceedings, please visit ustream.tv and search for 'Navajo Nation Council' in the search box.

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