

Revised: October 16, 2025

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
for the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**October 22, 2025
Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center
129 Medicine Horse Drive
To'hajiilee**

**October 23-24, 2025
Central New Mexico Community College-Westside
Westside II Building
10549 Universe Boulevard NW
Albuquerque**

Wednesday, October 22 — Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center

- 9:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Introductions**
 —Senator Shannon D. Pinto, Chair, Indian Affairs Committee
- 9:05 a.m. (1) **Welcome from and Tour of the Canoncito Band of Navajos Health Center (CBNHC) and To'hajiilee Community**
 —Ronnie Hurley, President, To'hajiilee Chapter, Navajo Nation
 —Willinda Castillo, Chief School Administrator, To'hajiilee Community School
 —John Billison, Interim Chief Executive Officer, CBNHC
 —Carolyn Morris, Ph.D., Behavioral Health Director, CBNHC
- 10:15 a.m. (2) **Update from the Veterans' Services Department (VSD)**
 —Eric James, Deputy Secretary, VSD
 —Beverly Charley, Tribal Liaison, VSD
- 11:00 a.m. (3) **Strengthening County and Tribal Health Councils for a Healthy New Mexico**
 —Valeria Alarcón, Executive Director, New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils (NMAHC)
 —Gerilyn Antonio, Tribal Liaison, NMAHC
 —Sarah Bitsui, Ats'íís Naabik'íyáti Health Council Coordinator
 —Carolyn Morris, Ph.D., Behavioral Health Program Director, CBNHC
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**

- 1:00 p.m. (4) [**Indian Affairs Department: Update on the State-Tribal Collaboration Act and Capital Outlay**](#)
—Josett Monette, Secretary, Indian Affairs Department
- 2:00 p.m. (5) [**Advancing Native Housing Justice: From Crisis to Stability, Safety and Sovereignty in Tribal, Rural and Urban Communities I**](#)
—Dawn Begay, Vice President, Cicuye Consulting
—Gwen Packard, Tentative Director, STTARS Indigenous Safe Housing Center, and Program Specialist, National Indigenous Women's Resource Center
- 3:00 p.m. (6) [**Update from the NACA Inspired Schools Network \(NISN\) Diné Language Mentor and Apprentice Program**](#)
—Geneva Becenti, Ph.D., Director, NISN Diné Language Initiatives and Policy Program
- 4:00 p.m. **Public Comment***
- 4:15 p.m. **Recess**

Thursday, October 23 — Central New Mexico Community College (CNM)-Westside

- 9:30 a.m. **Reconvene**
- 9:35 a.m. (7) [**Welcome and Status Update from CNM**](#)
—TBD
- 10:00 a.m. (8) [**Santa Fe Indian School \(SFIS\) Presentation and Project Endorsement**](#)
—Christie Abeyta, Superintendent, SFIS
—Gary Lujan, Director of Land Grant Management, SFIS
- 11:00 a.m. (9) [**New Mexico's Food Banks: Partners in Addressing Hunger and Poverty Across the State**](#)
—Jill Dixon, Executive Director, The Food Depot
—Katy Anderson, Vice President of Strategy, Partnerships and Advocacy, Roadrunner Food Bank
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. (10) [**Approval of Committee Letter and Minutes**](#)
—Senator Shannon D. Pinto, Chair
—Representative D. Wonda Johnson, Vice Chair

2:00 p.m. (11) [Advancing Native Housing Justice: From Crisis to Stability, Safety and Sovereignty in Tribal, Rural and Urban Communities II](#)
—Dawn Begay, Vice President, Cicuye Consulting
—Chenoa Bah Stilwell-Jensen, Ph.D., Southwest Indigenous Housing
Justice and Diné Regional Health Officer, Health Sciences Center,
University of New Mexico

3:00 p.m. **Public Comment***

3:15 p.m. **Tour of CNM-Westside Facilities****

4:30 p.m. **Recess**

Friday, October 24 — CNM-Westside

9:30 a.m. **Reconvene**

9:35 a.m. (12) [Overview of the Native American Professional Parent Resources \(NAPPR\) Organization](#)
—Elaine Sanchez, Executive Director, NAPPR

10:35 a.m. (13) [Update and Request from the Tribal Homeownership Coalition of the Southwest \(THOCSW\)](#)
—Christopher Billey, Executive Director, THOCSW
—Crystal Carr Cook, Ph.D., Policy and Data Specialist, THOCSW

11:35 a.m. **Public Comment***

12:00 noon **Adjourn**

*Members of the public may make virtual public comments during the public comment period of the meeting by following the instructions under the "Additional Information" section of the Indian Affairs Committee [web page](#).

**This is an invitation-only tour for committee members and committee staff.