

**2018 APPROVED  
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
for the  
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Members**

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Sen. John Pinto, Co-Chair  
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**Advisory Members**

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Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

**Work Plan**

The New Mexico Legislative Council created the Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) on April 26, 2018. The IAC addresses issues and policies that affect Native Americans in New Mexico. Since the IAC aims to address issues and policies relating principally to New Mexico's Native American population, the IAC strives to conduct its meetings in locations that are accessible to the state's tribal members and their leaders. Moreover, meeting at the various Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico facilitates government-to-government cooperation. The IAC meetings are essential to the work of the legislature in addressing the issues affecting this segment of its constituency.

The IAC proposes to explore and discuss topics in each major issue area affecting Native Americans during the 2018 interim as follows.

A. State-Tribal Relations:

1. receive updates from Native American liaisons or similarly tasked individuals from state executive agencies to assess outreach efforts, challenges and successes;
2. receive a report on priorities and updates from the Indian Affairs Department;

3. receive a report pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 75 on tribal community needs related to education, health, social welfare, behavioral health and other essential services; and
4. review funding for tribal capital projects.

B. Health:

1. receive a report from the Indian Health Care Task Force regarding access to medical cannabis on tribal lands pursuant to 2018 Senate Memorial 105.

C. Economic Development in Indian Country:

1. receive a report from the state and tribes on gaming issues, including sports betting and alcohol on racetrack casino floors and their impacts on tribal-state gaming compacts;
2. receive a report on the small loan marketplace, including proposed rules for small loans, the effect of the new annual percentage rate cap, an analysis of data collected from borrowers and lenders and the impact on Native Americans;
3. receive presentations regarding tribal easements;
4. receive a report on broadband access on tribal lands; and
5. receive a report regarding hydraulic fracturing in Sandoval County.

D. Education:

1. receive an update on charter school education and initiatives;
2. receive information on a new University of New Mexico masters of Native American studies program and an update on creating a Ph.D. program in Native American studies;
3. receive a report and recommendations pursuant to 2018 House Memorial 83 regarding compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978;
4. receive a report from the Tribal Colleges and Universities Presidents' Council; and

5. receive a status update on the establishment of a Native American social workers institute at the School of Social Work at New Mexico Highlands University.

E. Annual Reports from Executive Agencies:

1. receive a report from the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission regarding:
  - a. the impact of not funding Aamodt settlement obligations and the impact on federal funding;
  - b. the status of proposed Indian water rights settlements requiring state financing;
  - c. the distribution of funds from the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund to implement approved settlements;
  - d. recommendations on the level of funding for the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund necessary to timely implement Indian water rights; and
  - e. the implications of a Supreme Court decision in the Navajo Nation water rights settlement case on other Indian water rights settlements;
2. receive a report from the Indian Affairs Department regarding the compiled reports from all state agencies on activities pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act, including information on policies, plans, contact individuals, training, programs and services from each agency; and
3. receive a report from the Tribal Infrastructure Board regarding the total expenditures from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund for the previous fiscal year, the purposes for which expenditures were made, an analysis of the progress of the projects funded and proposals for legislative action in the subsequent legislative session.

**Indian Affairs Committee  
2018 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 31	Santa Fe
July 2-3	Chama; Taos
August 20-21	Pueblo of Isleta; Native American Community Academy, Albuquerque
September 17-19	Gadii'ahi/To'koi (formerly Cudeii) Chapter; Lake Valley Chapter; Yah-ta-hey
October 3-5	Pueblo of Santa Clara (October 3 joint meeting with the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee); Pueblo of Picuris; Pueblo of Tesuque
November 26-28	Kewa Pueblo (formerly Pueblo of Santo Domingo); Pueblo of Pojoaque; Santa Fe