



# NACNA President's Report

## Month of November 2021

Hello, Happy Thanksgiving feelings and blessings to all you good relatives. Wishing good wishes, love, laughter and happiness be upon you all. Hope this NACNA President's Update finds you all well and in good spirits. Expressing condolences to the families that have lost loved ones. May the good peyote spirit be with you all with comfort and happiness. I mentioned some updates earlier in the month but for those who didn't get a chance to read them I am going to mention them once again.

In June, I made a commitment to keep you all updated by writing a monthly President's Update. I believe that good communication is #1 to success. Here we are with the sixth month of the President's updates!

The month of November has been very productive! I am so thankful we decided to create a **Legislative Committee**. The Legislative team is awesome in its efforts as they collaborate all their thoughts and ideas with Hobbs, Straus, and Walker, LLP, NACNA Legal Attorney Mr. Justin Jones, NACNA Legislative Committee Chairman Mr. Ryan Wilson, Davis family, NCAI and all the good relatives' prayers and support. The holy medicine is connecting and uniting us for the future of our church. Through the research team's efforts, we have been made aware of deadlines and concerns from other entities out there that would affect our way of life. NACNA provided legislative testimony and provided legal advice for the NAC way of life, the holy medicine, peyote/mescaline, however you see fit for yourself to express it and to have peace of mind. We all know the Creator has blessed our native people with this holy herb for healing and help on a holistic approach when we apply it with prayer, sincerity, humbleness, love, faith, and belief system that we all have.

NACNA was represented in a historic tribal leader's summit to ensure NACNA can engage the Biden Administration. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced interagency effort to protect sacred sites. We all know the peyote gardens should be and could be a sacred site. I assure you good relatives, NACNA will make every effort to make sure we have secured harvest rights, ceremonial offerings, and access to a habitat protection and so on. The focus is the PEYOTE. Through all the updates and efforts that NACNA has been putting out there, your prayers relatives are strong because you know the quiet crisis and challenges we are facing. We are kindly asking to keep the prayers going and thank you to all who are expressing the awareness and encouragement. Just like the old timers said, *"The medicine has big ears and eyes. It hears and sees what is asked, knows all, and sees all"*.

We wrote testimony submitted to the House of Natural Resource Committee, the subcommittee for Indigenous peoples of the United States House of Representatives (Strengthening Indigenous Communities Through Cultural and Environmental Preservation). We have requested an in person visit with Secretary Deb Haaland and hopefully we will receive a positive response soon. NACNA's plans, ideas and efforts have been posted on the NACNA website. I encourage you all to print and share with members.

NACNA wrote a comment letter to DEA Regulatory Drafting and Policy Support Section. There was a deadline, and we met that deadline. It deals with the reclassification of PEYOTE/ MESCALINE so that peyote can be freely grown. This will allow non-Indians to grow, synthesize, extract and manufacture it. They are using the word MESCALINE, however, it refers directly to the PEYOTE cacti tribes and NACNA needed to be consulted before this is made public. So, do we NAC relatives want reclassification? do we want clinical studies for them to be dissecting and playing around with the holy sacrament anymore? My gosh! NO!

DEA is considering reclassification schedule 1 & 11 for control substances. This could potentially violate the AIRFA Amendments. NACNA asked for an extension so we can share our thoughts and feelings. DEA didn't really follow Executive Order 13175. There is so much unforeseen energy out there that if it wasn't for the prayers and team effort, and research team we wouldn't even know about all this. Recently the National Caucus of the Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) passed the resolution endorsing the NCAI Preemption Resolution the (NCNASL) have 81 members from 21 states who work to provide better understanding of state tribal issues among policy makers.

NACNA is committed to work with Congress, National, State, Tribal Administrations and all other entities for the support and guidance where NAC relatives need to be today, in 2021 into the future. As for my duties and responsibilities, I'm trying to make an in-person visit throughout NAC land to chapters that are affiliated or not. We want awareness shared of what's happening. Weekends are pretty busy for me so it would have to be weekday. Arizona has the most chapters affiliated so looking forward to visiting and praying with the relatives and basically to share the goals, plans, ideas, and awareness to the challenges our holy medicine is facing today and to make it convenient for our older relatives that don't have social media. NACNA encourages chapters to affiliate. We been receiving calls on how to affiliate with NACNA. Contact the NACNA Secretary Jess Powless (address below) and she can provide you with the information.

In closing wishing all the birthday celebrities for November happy healthy blessings with many more to come. Feel free to share upcoming meetings prayer and business within your state and chapters, stories, pictures send to [Jess\\_powless@yahoo.com](mailto:Jess_powless@yahoo.com) . Check out the NACNA Facebook page for all NACNA updates. Gentle reminder for all to send your Chapter logos, as we are preparing for the 2022 Convention materials.

Happy Holidays and see you all around the fireplace soon. Gods blessings be upon you all!

*Jon Brady*  
Jon Brady, President

Native American Church of North America

