



NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

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03/11/2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Town North Dakota, Ft. Berthold Agency.

Jon "Poncho" Brady President of Native American Church of North America will make a formal statement to Congress and Indian country **Sunday March 13th, 2022 @ 11:00 am CT** via NACNA's Facebook live. President Brady is calling for NAC members to unite in prayer and focus as NACNA presses Congress to engage in Peyote habitat protection.

President Brady will provide an overview of the State of Peyote supply and provide an outline of actions NACNA is engaged in to stem the tide of Peyote habitat loss. President Brady is expected to call on Congress and The Biden Administration for swift action in preventing further habitat destruction and misuse of Peyote.

Brady stated: *"I am proud to announce that NACNA has just submitted for the first time in our organization's history Congressional testimony to the House Interior Appropriations subcommittee, a substantial request that if funded would place thousands of Peyote producing acreage under protection from root plowing and development"*

This testimony will be available on the NACNA Facebook page, it is a part of a broader strategy to reinvigorate the federal government's commitment to full enforcement of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.

The primary focus of the testimony is centered on government, private and tribal partnerships that redirect federal programs that invest in conservation easements targeting those key investments into the sacred place we know as the Peyote Gardens.

Brady continued: *"We will not rest until every possible avenue is explored and efforts made to ensure that future generations will have a sustainable supply of our holy medicine, that starts with preserving Peyote habitat which all grows on private land."*

NACNA shares the viewpoint that future Peyote use and ceremonial participation is contingent on our advocacy and meeting the challenges of our time as Peyote habitat faces a growing crisis.

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