



NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH - STATE OF NEW MEXICO INC.

364 Navajo Route, Tree Meadows

Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

The purpose of the corporation is to provide a church for religious purposes of those believing in the use of peyote as a sacrament and for religious and curing ceremonies.

June 22, 2023

Jon Brady
President
Native American Church of North America, Inc.
P.O. Box 1424
New Town, ND 58763

*Religious Freedom for Native people is never freely given.
It must be demanded, fought for, then vigilantly protected.
~Walter Echo-Hawk*

President Brady,

Greetings from Tree Meadows, Shiprock, Navajo Nation. With this letter the Native American Church of North America-State Of New Mexico (NAC-SNM) reaffirms that it stands with the Native American Church of North America, Inc. (NACNA) to protect and respect the Sacrament Peyote.

Find attached the NAC-SNM Resolution No. 2023-01 affirming our support and requesting action by our federal partners to address critical and time-sensitive concerns.

As background, on Navajo land, in 1967, the Navajo Bill of Rights declared the Freedom of Religion as a fundamental human right – to allow Azeé (Peyote) to be used for religious purposes within the Navajo Nation. To strengthen this law, Title 17 of the Navajo Nation Code was amended to exempt the use of Azee from the Criminal Code on July 22, 2005.

The NAC-SNM was established in 1981: then and now a foundational aspect of its mission was and is to support the protection of American Indian religious, ceremonial, spiritual and traditional practices held sacred since time immemorial. Since its inception, NAC-SNM has convened and led many crucial discussions affecting the NAC, locally, regionally, and nationally. In collaboration with our *Next Gen Team* and the concurrence of NAC-SNM *co-founder*, we will continue same ardent advocacy.

We understand that time is of the essence to advance these discussions forward at a national level with our federal partners.

Please do not hesitate to contact Leo Dayish at (505) 947-3550 or Terry Dayish at (505) 330-0483.

Respectfully,


Leo Dayish
President, NAC-SNM


Terry Dayish
NACNA State of New Mexico Delegate at Large

Attachment