



OFFICE OF NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Immediate Release:

February 18, 2020

Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission will be hosting public hearings to assess the mistreatment of Navajo and Native American students.

St. Michaels, Navajo Nation (ARIZ) – The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission ("Commission") in partnership with Department of Diné Education and Diné BiOlta will be conducting several public hearings to assess the mistreatment of Navajo and Native American students attending K through 12th grade in schools on and off the Navajo Nation. The mistreatment can be in different forms such as verbal and physical attacks, disparate treatment due to their culture, gender preference and bullying.

Every human being has the right to be happy, to be secure and live without the fear of reprisal. Indigenous peoples have the right to manifesting their cultures, religions, and traditions without the fear of being discriminated.

The Commission set the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("UNDRIP") as its threshold in examining Navajo human right issues. UNDRIP was adopted in 2007 and has been supported by the United States Government since 2010. UNDRIP is an international human rights instrument that enshrines the rights of indigenous peoples. These human rights must be respected, protected and, where necessary appropriate, remedied.

The Commission welcomes all parents, guardians and students to provide information on the treatment they received from school personnel at the schools they attend. The Commission will accept written testimony that are signed and dated by the complaining parties.

The public hearings will start on March 5, 2020 at the Student Activity Room in the Student Union Building at Diné College Tsaile Campus in Tsaile, AZ from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Locations and dates for April 2020 public hearings will be announced. For more information contact the Commission at 928-871-7436 or visit the Commission website at www.nnhrc.navajo-nsn.gov.

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See attached flyer for March 5, 2020 public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

to assess mistreatment toward Navajo and Native American Students

The Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission (“Commission”) in partnership with Department of Diné Education and Diné Bi’ Olta will be conducting several public hearings to assess the mistreatment of Navajo and Native American students attending K through 12th grade in schools on and off the Navajo Nation for school year 2019-2020. The mistreatment can be in different forms such as verbal and physical attacks, disparate treatment due to their culture, gender preference and bullying.

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March 5, 2020

10:00AM to 5:00PM

Student Activity Hall

Diné College Tsaile Campus | 1 Circle Dr. Route 12, Tsaile, AZ 86556

For more information contact: Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission | Tel: 928-871-7436