

**2021 APPROVED  
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
for the  
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Members**

Rep. Georgene Louis, Co-Chair  
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto, Co-Chair  
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon  
Rep. Anthony Allison  
Rep. Brittney Barreras  
Rep. Zachary J. Cook  
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo  
Sen. Leo Jaramillo  
Rep. D. Wonda Johnson

Rep. Derrick J. Lente  
Sen. Brenda G. McKenna  
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle  
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez  
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez  
Sen. William E. Sharer  
Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.  
Rep. Martin R. Zamora

**Advisory Members**

Rep. Gail Chasey  
Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos  
Rep. Harry Garcia  
Sen. Stuart Ingle  
Sen. Linda M. Lopez

Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom  
Sen. Michael Padilla  
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero  
Sen. William P. Soules  
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

**Approved Work Plan**

The New Mexico Legislative Council created the Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) on May 3, 2021. The IAC addresses issues and policies that affect Native Americans in New Mexico. IAC meetings are essential to the work of the legislature in addressing the issues affecting this segment of its constituency.

The IAC will address the following topics affecting Native Americans during the 2021 interim, including updates that include or address:

A. State-Tribal Relations:

1. presentations from Native American liaisons or similarly tasked individuals from state executive agencies regarding outreach efforts, challenges and successes;
2. economic opportunities and challenges of uranium mine cleanup;
3. funding for tribal capital projects;
4. an update from the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force;
5. impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and tribal gaming;

6. an update from the Taxation and Revenue Department on internet sales tax agreements with Indian nations, tribes and pueblos;
7. presentations from the Indian Affairs Department, the Department of Environment and the New Mexico Finance Authority on water infrastructure needs on tribal land;
8. cigarette tax revenues and effects on tribal communities;
9. a report from the New Mexico Film Office on the Senator John Pinto Memorial Fund;
10. legislation proposed to enact a State Indian Child Welfare Act;
11. wild horse management;
12. wild dog population control on tribal lands;
13. a report from the Department of Transportation on tribal roads and construction;
14. agricultural efforts and needs in tribal communities;
15. water access in To'hajiilee; and
16. legislation regarding tribal gross receipts or sales taxes;

B. Economic Development:

1. broadband access on tribal lands;
2. reports from the Department of Finance and Administration and the Indian Affairs Department regarding legislation passed during the 2021 legislative session dealing with Native American issues and the state budget;
3. effects of legalization of recreational cannabis on tribal communities; and
4. updates from the Economic Development Department, the Indian Affairs Department and the Workforce Solutions Department on the Energy Transition Act;

C. Education:

1. the *Zuni v. State of New Mexico* lawsuit and the state equalization guarantee distribution, impact aid and funding formula;
2. an update on *Yazzie/Martinez v. State of New Mexico*;
3. teacher housing on tribal lands;
4. Native American teacher retention and professional development in tribal communities; and
5. ethnic studies in public schools;

D. Health:

1. updates from the Department of Health and the Navajo Nation on COVID-19 responses and efforts on tribal lands;
2. an update from the Substitute Care Advisory Council on legislation pertaining to citizen substitute care review;
3. domestic violence shelters on the Navajo Nation; and
4. an update from the Institute for Indigenous Health Equality and Collaborative Wellness; and

E. Annual Reports from Executive Agencies:

1. reports from the Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission regarding:
  - a. *Aamodt* settlement obligations and effects 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 and the proposed timing of the distributions; and
  - d. recommendations on the level of funding for the Indian Water Rights Settlement Fund necessary to timely implement Indian water rights;

2. a report from the Indian Affairs Department regarding:
  - a. 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
  - b. the department's priorities and initiatives, as well as updates on current issues that tribal communities are facing; and
3. 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  
2021 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 24	Video Conference
July 6-8	Shiprock/Farmington
August 4-6	Gallup (Joint meeting with the Rural Economic Opportunities Task Force on August 4-5)
September 9-10	Fort Sill
September 30-October 1	Albuquerque/Pueblo of Isleta (Joint meeting with the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee on October 1)
October 18-20	Pueblo of Santa Ana/ Pueblo of Jemez/Santa Fe