Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Navajo Nation Government

Objective: Read the following article which is found in its entirety at <http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council#17th_Council_.281991-1994.29> . After reading the article, answer the questions which is located after the article.

The **Navajo Nation Council** or The Navajo Nation Legislature is the [legislative branch](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Legislative_branch) of the [Navajo Nation](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation) Government. The Council meets at The Navajo Nation Council Chamber in Window Rock, Arizona. Councilors are chosen through [direct election](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Direct_election). The Council is composed of 24 district councilors who represent 110 municipal [chapters](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Chapter_house_(Navajo_Nation)) within Three States of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, that make up the Navajo Nation Tribal Government.

The council meets four times a year along with special sessions in the Navajo Nation Council Chamber , and member offices at the Navajo Nation Governmental Campus at [Window Rock, AZ](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Window_Rock,_AZ). The council delegates represent the districts composed of clustered chapters. Delegates to the Council must be twenty five years of age and members of the Navajo Nation. The Council selects a [Speaker](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Speaker_(politics)) to preside over the day-to-day functions of The Council, who is chosen from among the councilors for a term of two years.

**Power and Jurisdiction**[[edit](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Power and Jurisdiction)]

As codified in the Navajo Nation Code at § 101(B),*"The Legislative Branch shall consist of the Navajo Nation Council and any entity established under the Navajo Nation Council.*[[1]](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council#cite_note-1)*The Legislative Branch shall not be amended unless approved by majority of all registered Navajo voters through a referendum."* [[2]](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council#cite_note-2)

[](http://www.questpedia.org/en/File:Navajo_Nation_Council_Chambers_6809.jpg)

[Navajo Nation Council Chamber](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council_Chamber), a[National Historic Landmark](http://www.questpedia.org/en/National_Historic_Landmark)

**Navajo Legislative Overview**[[edit](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Navajo Legislative Overview)]

The Navajo Nation Council reserves all powers delegated and all powers not delegated. The Navajo Nation Council shall have all powers to discipline and/or regulate the conduct of its members, including removal. The Navajo Nation Council shall have the authority to promulgate rules, regulations and procedures for the conduct of its meetings and that of its committees. The Navajo Nation Council shall confirm the appointments of all division directors upon recommendation from the appropriate oversight committee. The Navajo Nation Council shall establish standing committees of the Council and delegate such authority to such committees as it deems necessary and proper for such committees to execute the purposes delegated.[[3]](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council#cite_note-3)

**Line of Succession**[[edit](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Line of Succession)]

§1006 of the Navajo Code instructs, that should vacancy "occur in the Office of President and Vice President, the Speaker shall serve as President of the Navajo Nation until a special election is held." The Code further outlined, that the Speaker shall act concurrently as Speaker and President, and the Speakership shall not be considered vacated.

[](http://www.questpedia.org/en/File:Council_Chamber.jpg)

Inside Navajo Nation Council Chamber

**Current Legislative Delegates**[[edit](http://www.questpedia.org/en/Navajo_Nation_Council&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Current Legislative Delegates)]

Inaugurated in Ft. Defiance, AZ on January 13, 2015 The 23rd Navajo Nation Council currently represents the 110 Navajo Chapters and Legislative Branch of The Navajo Nation Government. Lorenzo Bates (T'iistoh Sikaad, Nenahnezad, Upper Fruitland, Tse' Daa' Kaan, Newcomb, San Juan) is the Current Speaker of the Council and Leader of The Legislative Branch whom was elected on January 26, 2015 to serve the Two Year Speaker Term.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Delegate** | **Chapters** |  |
| **LoRenzo Bates** | T'iistoh Sikaad, Nenahnezad, Upper Fruitland, Tse' Daa' Kaan, Newcomb, San Juan |  |
| **Raymond Smith JR.** | Houck, Nahata Dziil, Wide Ruins, Lupton, Klagetoh |  |
| **Norman M. Begay** | Alamo, Ramah, Tohajiilee |  |
| **Lee Jack SR.** | Dilcon, Indian Wells, Teesto, Whitecone, Greasewood Springs |  |
| **Mel R. Begay** | Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohatchi, Bahastl'a'a' |  |
| **Nelson S. BeGaye** | Lukachukai, Round Rock, Tsaile/Wheatfields, Tse Ch'izhi, Rock Point |  |
| **Tom Chee** | Shiprock |  |
| **Nathaniel Brown** | Dennehotso, Chinchilbeto, and Kayenta |  |
| **Otto Tso** | To'Naneees'Dizi |  |
| **Seth Damon** | Baahaali, Chilchiltah, Manuelito, Red Rock, Rock Springs, Tsayatoh |  |
| **Jonathan Hale** | Oaksprings, St. Michaels |  |
| **Davis Filfred** | Mexican Water, To'likan, Teesnospos, Aneth, Red Mesa |  |
| **Kee Allen Begay JR.** | Blue Gap-Tachee, Cottonwood-Tselani, Low Mountain, Many Farms and Nazlini |  |
| **Jonathan Nez** | Tsah Bii Kin, Navajo Mountain, Shonto, Oljato |  |
| **Leonard H. Pete** | Chinle |  |
| **Walter Phelps** | Cameron, Coalmine Canyon, Birdsprings, Leupp, Tolani Lake |  |
| **Alton Joe Shepherd** | Jeddito, Cornfields, Ganado, Kinlichee, Steamboat |  |
| **Jonathan Perry** | Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahodishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, Crownpoint |  |
| **Benjamin Bennett** | Crystal, Fort Defiance, Red Lake, Sawmill |  |
| **Amber Kanazbah Krotty** | Toadlena/Two Grey Hills, Red Valley Tse'alnaozt'i'i', Sheepsprings, Beclabito, Gadiiahi/To'Koi |  |
| **Tachoney Slim JR.** | Coppermine, K'aii'to, LeChee, Tonalea/Red Lake, Bodaway/Gap |  |
| **Leonard Tsosie** | Littlewater, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake, Baca/Brewitt, Casamero Lake, Ojo Encino, Counselor |  |
| **Dwight Witherspoon** | Hard Rock, Forest Lake, Pinon, Black Mesa, Whippoorwill |  |
| **Edmund Yazzie** | Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau |  |

Questions

1. What is the purpose of the Navajo Nation (NN) Council?

2. How many members represent the NN Council?

3. Name 5 NN Council delegates and the chapters they represent?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

4. Who is the Speaker of the NN Council?

5. Write a small essay about the history of the NN Council?