



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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## **FCC PARTICIPATED IN INAUGURAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT OF THE NAVAJO NATION HELD JUNE 14-17, 2004, IN ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO**

### ***FCC Also Participated in Meeting of the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission***

Washington, D.C. - As part of the FCC's Indian Telecommunications Initiatives program (ITI), staff from the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) participated in the Navajo Nation Information Technology Summit (Summit), held June 14-17 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The inaugural Summit was designed to bring together all Navajo Nation stakeholders and decision makers to develop a comprehensive, coordinated approach to information technology management and services on the Nation.

CGB Deputy Bureau Chief Kris Monteith and Sue McNeil, Chief of CGB's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, presented on a variety of issues and activities that the Federal Communications Commission has undertaken that are of interest to the Navajo Nation as it seeks to stimulate deployment of basic and advanced telecommunications infrastructure and technology. Monteith and McNeil also participated in roundtable workshop sessions with representatives of the Navajo Nation government, as well as industry, to discuss infrastructure deployment challenges and identify possible solutions. In addition, Monteith and McNeil met briefly with Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley to discuss opportunities to continue to partner with the Nation to stimulate deployment of telecommunications services on the reservation.

Following the Summit, Monteith addressed the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NNTRC) on recent FCC policy initiatives and activities of interest to tribes. The report, delivered during the June meeting of the NNTRC, was made in follow-up to a meeting FCC staff had with the NNTRC last September. Among other things, it included discussion regarding interactive government-to-government consultation on federal telecom regulatory matters; discussions of the FCC's ITI and the Navajo Nation's telecommunications regulatory priorities; and how different technologies, federal and tribal policies and regulations, and

federal government programs affect and benefit communities and consumers in Indian Country.

The FCC's ITI is comprehensive program that seeks to promote understanding, cooperation and trust among Tribes and Tribal organizations; the FCC and other governmental agencies; and the telecommunications industry. The ITI program seeks to build partnerships, identify potential solutions, and bring affordable, quality telecommunications services to Indian Country. The ITI program's goals - to increase the telephone penetration rate; facilitate the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure on tribal lands; and inform Tribes about federal government programs, including Universal Service Fund programs - are undertaken in Indian Country by the FCC through targeted and effective Tribal outreach, coordination and consultation.

For information on this and other topics of interest to tribes, visit the FCC's Tribal Initiatives Web site at [www.fcc.gov/indians](http://www.fcc.gov/indians).

For information on this and other topics of interest to consumers, visit our Web site at [www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb)

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, click on [www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html).

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