

Resolution of the Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc.

Resolution No. 09-28-13A

Advocating for an Immediate Halt to the Round-up and Sale of the Navajo Nation's Horse Population and to Allow Time to Discuss, Seek and Agree on More Humane Treatment of the Horse Utilizing Traditional Methods of Maintaining and Caring for the Horse.

Whereas:

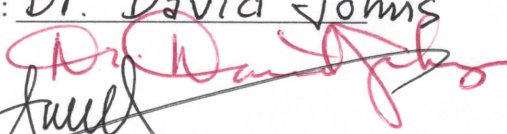
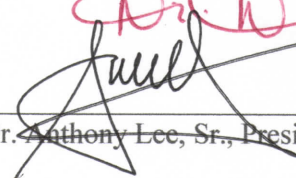
1. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc., is a distinguished non-profit organization comprised of Dine' (Navajo) medicine men and women who work to maintain balance and harmony with the natural world, both within and beyond the four cardinal sacred mountains; AND
2. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc., is regarded by the Dine' people as qualified to speak with authority on matters of cultural protocol, philosophy, language, ceremonies, history, customs and concerns; AND
3. The Dine Hataalii Association, Inc. is a unique, authentic, and distinguished "grassroots" Dine-based organization comprised of twenty-four medicine men and women who serve as board of directors from the six (6) Navajo regions: 1) Crownpoint, 2) Fort Defiance, 3) Chinle, 4) Tuba City, 5) Shiprock, and 6) Aneth, Utah Extension: AND
4. The Dine Hataalii Association, Inc. is responsible for protecting, promoting, perpetuating, maintaining and sustaining the integrity of the Dine' way of life, ceremonies and sacred holdings and stipulated in its mission, philosophy, and vision statements; AND
5. The Dine Hataalii Association, Inc., is alarmed by reports of inhumane treatment of horses that are being caused by the horse roundup and sale; AND
6. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc., does not support or in any way condone the slaughtering of horses and the sale of horses to those that are identified as "kill buyers"; AND
7. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc., recognizes our obligation to maintain a healthy relationship with, our relative, the horse. The horse is a living being, not simply a possession. A horse has wants and needs, just as we do, and desires comfort and safety. It is our responsibility to understand and communicate to the horse that we are striving for a healthy relationship with them and we are not their predator.

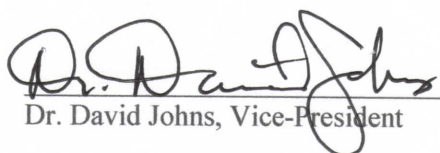
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Dine' Hataali Association, Inc. recognizes, respects and honors the horse in our common day and ceremonial life. As medicine people our *jish* (sacred holdings) contain *hadahoniye'* (miniature stone horses) that permeate and symbolize prosperity and ensures Dine' people remain stable and travel safely on *tadidiin bik'eh atiin* (corn pollen path) without outside interference.
2. With the *Lii' biyin* (horse songs) we, Dine', can achieve *Sa ah Naaghai Bik'eh Hozhoon* (become a protected, balanced and happy person). Furthermore the physical make-up of the horse represents many natural elements. For example, the mane represents *niltsah* (dark rain clouds) and ensures moisture and well-being to all life forms on Mother Earth and in Father Sky. The hooves (underneath) represent arrowheads and ensures the protection of the Dine' people and other life forms. The hooves can also be expressed as our inherent sovereign status as Dine' people. The following recommendations are made with these and additional understandings of the horse's place within our way of life:
3. The Dine' Hataali Association, Inc., requests an immediate halt to the roundup and sale of the Navajo Nation horses, and requests that an adequate review be conducted to ensure that all applicable laws, regulations and policies relating to this matter, including Dine' Fundamental Law, Cultural Laws and International Laws are being adhered to; and
4. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc. formally requests the Navajo Nation Government form a diverse committee including a Navajo Nation Council Delegate, Navajo Nation Ranger, Chapter Official, Equine Veterinarian, Dine' Citizens impacted by the roundup, and the traditional leadership in the form of the Elders and Medicine People to conduct a thorough review of the actions, policies and procedures that may have led to the inhumane treatment of the horses that have been roundup and sold; and
5. The Dine' Hataalii Association, Inc. strongly urges that this diverse committee's mission and purpose is to work together to achieve consensus – through a free, prior, and informed consent when developing a plan that is humane and utilizes the Dine' way of life to maintain and promote a harmonious relationship with the horse.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Dine' Hataalii Association at a duly called meeting in Dilcon, Navajo Nation at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 16 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained on September 28, 2013.

Motion: Dr. David Johns


Dr. Anthony Lee, Sr., President

Second: Sam Begay

Dr. David Johns, Vice-President