



## Land Acknowledgement Statement

**Adopted by the DLC Board of Directors, October 17, 2023**

Long before the Town of Davidson was founded and English settlers arrived, the land in our region was stewarded and maintained by several Indigenous peoples including the Sugaree, Cheraw, Keyauwee, and Catawba. With the guiding principles of balance and reciprocity, Indigenous communities maintained a beneficial relationship with the land for over 6,000 years.

The public now entrusts organizations, such as Davidson Lands Conservancy (DLC) with conserving land that was unjustly taken from Indigenous people. These lands were ceded through illegal treaties or unlawfully seized.

The Catawba Nation remains the only federally recognized tribe in our area. As a first step towards rectifying the harm inflicted upon Indigenous peoples, DLC recognizes and honors the role the Catawba and others have played as the past, present, and future stewards of the land.

DLC is committed to supporting and listening to Indigenous voices to enhance our mission of conserving and stewarding the land. We embrace the responsibility to strengthen our relationship with the Catawba Nation and to move forward together through action and partnership with Indigenous peoples to conserve and care for the land that cares for us.

### Recommended Next Steps:

- Acknowledge publicly our location as having been in the historic care of the Catawba Nation and other Indigenous Peoples at meetings and events, as appropriate.
- Visit the Catawba Cultural Center. Monday – Saturday from 9am-5pm at 1536 Tom Steven Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730. Admission is free.
- Follow the Catawba Cultural Center on social media. @catawbaculture
- Donate to the Catawba Cultural Center. Mail check to 1536 Tom Steven Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730.
- Learn more from resources [www.catawbaculture.org](http://www.catawbaculture.org), [www.catawba.com](http://www.catawba.com), [www.native-land.ca](http://www.native-land.ca), [www.landback.org](http://www.landback.org)