

Cherokee Council House
Cherokee, North Carolina

Date _____

Resolution No. _____ (2019)

WHEREAS, UNC Asheville honors our current and future students, alumni, and honorary degree recipients from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians,

WHEREAS, the University recognizes and respects the unique place and land on which the University resides.

WHEREAS, in March 2015, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the University of North Carolina at Asheville strengthened its deep and lasting relationship with the signing of an Institutional Credit Agreement, and

WHEREAS, that Agreement served to ease the path to higher education for Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians members,

WHEREAS, since 2015 UNC Asheville established Cherokee Language courses and an American Indian and Indigenous Studies academic minor to celebrate, preserve, and educate all students on the time-honored culture and tradition of the Cherokee Indians.

WHEREAS, the UNC Asheville community desires to honor its relationship with this area's indigenous people in a more visible and inclusive way

WHEREAS, the University has completed renovations to the Highsmith Student Union, a central gathering place on campus and the heart of UNC Asheville,

WHEREAS, After research by Dr. Trey Adcock (Cherokee Nation) at UNC Asheville, and with the upmost respect to The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians the name **VYᏊᏊᏊ** “To Ki Ya Sdi” has been requested by the University to be bestowed on a meeting space, Room 238, in the recently renovated Highsmith Student Union

WHEREAS, the UNC Asheville Board of Trustees respectfully adopted the following resolution:
Highsmith Student Union, Room 238 be permanently named the W. C. Coker Room in honor of
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and its lasting partnership with UNC Asheville,

WHEREAS, three fluent speakers Myrtle Driver, Gilliam Jackson and Charlie Bigwitch from the Cherokee Language Consortium representing the Big Cove, Wolfstown and Snowbird dialects

respectfully, have agreed to confirm the nomination of the VYᎠᎠᎠ student center project, on behalf of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians and by resolution of the EBCI,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled at which a quorum is present that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians approves the use of VYᎠᎠᎠ as the permanent name of High Student Union Room 238 at UNC Asheville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band be authorized to carry out the intent of this resolution and that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification of the Principal Chief

Submitted By: Trey Adcock, PHD Assistant Professor at UNC Asheville