

# CT STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations reports that there are over 476 million Indigenous people living in 90 countries across the world, accounting for 6.2 percent of the global population. Of those, there are more than 5,000 distinct groups speaking over 7,000 languages; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States did not recognize most American Indians as citizens or allowed them to vote until 1924; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, including Connecticut, Indigenous and Native people have faced genocide, removal, cultural destruction, discrimination, and alienation; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut State Community College acknowledges and honors that the land on which we gather is the ancestral land of the Eastern Pequot, Golden Hill Paugussett, Lenape, Mashantucket Pequot, Mohegan, Nipmuc, Schaghticoke Tribal Nation and other less recognized local First Nations; and including Indigenous peoples from all over the world (e.g., Canada, Guatemala, Mexico, Puerto Rico); and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that Native and Indigenous history, wisdom, and knowledge are key to understanding who we are, where we live, and how we will create a better future together; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut State Community College reaffirms its commitment to Indigenous sovereignty, seeks to dissolve the systemic impact of colonialism, and commits to partner with Connecticut's Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities to address local educational needs and support their aspirations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, O. John Maduko, President of Connecticut State Community College, do hereby proclaim the

### **“Land and Indigenous Communities Acknowledgement Statement”**

*Connecticut State Community College acknowledges and honors that the land on which we gather is the ancestral land of the Eastern Pequot, Golden Hill Paugussett, Lenape, Mashantucket Pequot, Mohegan, Nipmuc, Schaghticoke Tribal Nation, and many others. They have stewarded this land since time immemorial. By offering this land acknowledgement, and in recognition that there are no Tribal colleges in Connecticut, CT State reaffirms its commitment to Indigenous sovereignty, seeks to dissolve the systemic impact of colonialism, and commits to partner with Connecticut's Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities to address local educational needs and support their aspirations. We believe that Native and Indigenous history, wisdom, and knowledge are key to understanding who we are, where we live, and how we will create a better future together.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the seal of Connecticut State Community College this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.



  
O. John Maduko, President  
Connecticut State Community College