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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **COSCA's Scottish Clan & Family Caucus Moves To Historic Rural Hill**

In light of positive collaborative discussions with Historic Rural Hill, Inc., COSCA is delighted to bring the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottish Clans & Families Caucus to Rural Hill on Friday, April 17, 2015 just prior to the Loch Norman Highland Games. A variety of Caucus workshops and seminars will also be held onsite throughout the Games weekend. The educational theme of the 2015 Scottish Clan & Family Caucus traces the impact upon Scotland of the dramatic interactions between Gaels and key 'outlander' cultures: Norse, English and American. A fantastic lineup of speakers and workshops will be announced soon.

"The conferencing facilities and logistics of the Rural Hill site are outstanding and demonstrate excellent development foresight and planning on the part of the HRH Staff and Board of Directors," said COSCA's President Susan McIntosh. "COSCA's educational and other workshops will be easily accessible to people attending the Games as the workshops will be held on the field and in the awesome indoor conferencing facilities only a short stroll away from the main games action."

Historic Rural Hill fulfills every criterion that is optimal to host COSCA's annual Scottish Clan & Family Caucus. The nearby town of Huntersville, North Carolina is deeply steeped and keenly proud of its Scottish history and heritage. Mecklenburg County is a vibrant, growing community with a sense of the value of its history. It is home to centers of higher education both large and small. Historic Rural Hill is itself conveniently located just outside of Charlotte, North Carolina within an easy drive to the Charlotte Airport and nearby state of the art accommodations and hotels. The site has been excellently planned and developed. Finally and most importantly, Historic Rural Hill is the site of the increasingly popular Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games, which, given all of its advantages, are primed to be among the premier Scottish festivals and games in the world.

The Rural Hill property itself was originally the beautiful and productive home of Scottish American patriot Maj. John Davidson in the eighteenth century and remained in the Davidson family until the family sold the 250+ acre property to Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. The property is operated today under the governance and vision of Historic Rural Hill, Inc., a 501c3

non profit organization, which was formerly known as The Catawba Valley Scottish Society and Loch Norman Highland Games, Inc.

### **Positive Discussions Regarding Future Scottish Heritage Center at Historic Rural Hill**

The Council of Scottish Clans & Associations (COSCA) and Historic Rural Hill, Inc. (HRH) are excited also to announce today that our organizations are engaged in positive and exciting discussions aimed at reaching an agreement to allow COSCA and HRH to collaboratively establish a world class Scottish heritage center in accordance with the HRH Master Plan on the phenomenal site at Rural Hill outside of Huntersville, North Carolina.

COSCA and HRH are now working to address details of the arrangement, targeting final agreement by early 2015. If agreement is reached, official launch of the projects would coincide with the Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games hosted annually at Historic Rural Hill.

“Almost exactly one year ago the COSCA Board of Trustees voted to undertake a project to find the perfect home for our expanding operations and the perfect partner with whom to build a world class Scottish diaspora heritage center. We believe we have found both at Historic Rural Hill and the COSCA Board of Trustees has enthusiastically approved the collaboration,” said COSCA President Susan McIntosh.

“Historic Rural Hill, Inc. is extremely excited that this remarkable property with such a great Scottish American history has the opportunity, in collaboration with COSCA, to expand its service to become a key national and international hub of Scottish heritage,” said Robert McIntosh, Chairman of the HRH Board of Directors. He continued “We are delighted with the possibilities of continuing to work with COSCA and we look forward to completely and richly fulfilling May Davidson’s vision of Rural Hill as a favorite community resource for the people of Huntersville and north Mecklenburg County and as a Scottish heritage resource for all the world.”



***The Council of Scottish Clans & Associations is a non profit tax exempt corporation founded in 1976 that serves and represents the interests of the Scottish American ancestral diaspora and in particular our more than 120 Scottish clan, family and heritage society members across the United States. Learn more about COSCA and the work that we do at [www.COSCA.Scot](http://www.COSCA.Scot) and [www.Facebook.com/AncestralScots](https://www.facebook.com/AncestralScots).***

***Historic Rural Hill, Inc. is a non-profit tax exempt corporation operating the Historic Rural Hill site located in Mecklenburg County near Huntersville, North Carolina. You can learn more about all aspects of Historic Rural Hill at [www.ruralhill.net](http://www.ruralhill.net).***

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