

## City to hire diversity, equity, and inclusion staff member

**March 10, 2021** — The City is moving forward on increasing support for ongoing and future efforts to celebrate and build diversity, equity, and inclusion in its operations, and in the community.

On Monday, City Council unanimously approved the establishment of a full-time permanent diversity, equity and inclusion staff position for the City of St. Catharines. The position, which was approved on International Women’s Day, will enhance the ongoing work to increase diversity and inclusion in City operations, and the community at large.

“It’s fitting that this decision was made on International Women’s Day, a time when we stop and reflect on the roles of women as leaders and role models in our community and the work that needs to be done to not only recognize and improve gender diversity, but diversity and inclusion as a whole - be it sexual orientation, race, or ability,” said Mayor Walter Sendzik, adding, “this decision builds on the foundation the City of St. Catharines has created to establish ourselves as an inclusive and compassionate community. It is an investment that ensures our efforts continue with a whole new, and strengthened, lens of equity and inclusion.”

The new position builds on numerous diversity initiatives, including the signing of the Leadership Accord on Gender Diversity and the work of the City’s LGBTQ2+, Anti-Racism, and Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committees. Acting as a liaison for these committees the new position will allow these committees to better utilize the diverse skill sets and abilities of City staff in their efforts, while providing specialized expertise in the area to advance corporate equity and inclusion initiatives.

The City remains committed to building a community that respects and celebrates diversity, inclusiveness, and equity in all its efforts.

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