



100 VERMONT CITIES AND TOWNS ADOPT A DECLARATION OF INCLUSION

Municipalities Representing 60.5% of the Vermont Population

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Rutland, VT (March 7, 2023) –

As of Tuesday, March 7th, 100 Vermont municipalities have adopted a Declaration of Inclusion. The [Declaration of Inclusion](#) initiative has been underway since October 2020 and began with the adoption by the Town of Franklin. Adoption efforts are led by Bob Harnish, Al Wakefield, and Norman Cohen, all longtime residents of Rutland County.

“Our vision is for Vermont to become and to continue to be this nation’s leader in promoting and guarding diversity and inclusion, known and respected for its public efforts to welcome all people, with special emphasis on and attention to those groups who have been historically marginalized,” said Bob Harnish. “To accomplish this, we’ve set a goal of having all 247 Vermont municipalities adopt a Declaration of Inclusion.”

Following adoption, each municipality is encouraged to take action to communicate and reinforce the words of the Declaration. A number of implementation ideas are featured on the initiative’s [website](#). To also assist with implementation, the Vermont Office of Racial Equity and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns offer advice and services, many of which are cost-free.

Supporting this initiative are the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, Vermont Interfaith Action, NAACP, and the legislative Social Equity Caucus. In 2021, Governor Phil Scott issued a proclamation designating the second week of May as Inclusion Week in Vermont.

Additional Resources:

[List: Supporting Towns and Cities \(As Of 3.7.23\)](#)

[Read the Declaration of Inclusion](#)

The first 100 towns to adopt a Declaration of Inclusion:

Athens	Hyde Park	Shelburne
Bakersfield	Isle La Motte	Shrewsbury
Barre City	Jamaica	South Burlington
Bellows Falls	Johnson	South Hero
Bennington	Johnson Village	Springfield
Berlin	Londonderry	St. Albans City
Bethel	Ludlow	St. Johnsbury
Brandon	Manchester	Stowe
Brattleboro	Marshfield	Strafford
Bristol	Mendon	Sudbury
Brookline	Middlebury	Swanton
Burlington	Middletown Springs	Thetford
Cambridge	Milton	Tinmouth
Cavendish	Moretown	Underhill
Chester	Morristown	Vergennes
Chittenden	Mount Tabor	Vernon
Clarendon	Newfane	Waitsfield
Colchester	Northfield	Wallingford
Dorset	Pawlet	Warren
Dover	Pittsfield	Washington
Duxbury	Pittsford	Waterbury
East Montpelier	Plainfield	West Rutland
Essex Junction Village	Plymouth	West Windsor
Fair Haven	Poultney	Weston
Fairfax	Pownal	Weybridge
Fayston	Proctor	Williamstown
Franklin	Putney	Wilmington
Glover	Randolph	Windsor
Grand Isle	Richmond	Winooski
Guilford	Rockingham	Wolcott
Hardwick	Rutland City	Woodstock
Hartford	Rutland Town	Woodstock Village
Hartland	Saxtons River	
Hinesburg	Sharon	

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