



GOVERNOR PHIL SCOTT SIGNS INCLUSION WEEK PROCLAMATION

47 Towns Representing 35% of Vermont's Population Have Adopted the Declaration of Inclusion

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Montpelier, VT (May 10, 2022) –

On Friday, May 6th, Governor Phil Scott signed a proclamation declaring the second week of May “[Inclusion Week](#)” in Vermont. The proclamation reaffirms Vermont’s commitment to eliminating hatred and bigotry in all systems and institutions to improve outcomes for all Vermonters and build more multicultural and socially cohesive communities.

Inclusion Week is a byproduct of the [Declaration of Inclusion](#) initiative, an ongoing statewide diversity, equity, and inclusion effort to reinforce welcoming and belonging for all people in all Vermont communities. A number of virtual and in-person [events](#) are taking place this week to celebrate Inclusion Week and raise awareness of the Declaration of Inclusion.

“This initiative is intended to reinforce equity and to encourage inclusion and justice in Vermont communities, as well as position Vermont as a welcoming state eager and prepared to accept new people, of all identities and backgrounds, to live and work here,” stated Declaration of Inclusion leader Al Wakefield. “Driven by a vision for long-term growth and economic viability, these efforts are vital to facing Vermont’s compounding demographic crisis, as well as continuing the state’s legacy of addressing injustices.”

The goal of the Declaration of Inclusion is to have each Vermont municipality adopt and implement the declaration. To date, 47 towns and cities have adopted the Declaration of Inclusion.

About the Declaration of Inclusion:

The Declaration of Inclusion is a grassroots effort led by Robert Harnish, Al Wakefield, and Norman Cohen, who organize out of the Rutland area.

Additional Resources:

[Website: Declaration of Inclusion](#)

[List: Supporting Towns and Cities \(As Of 5.10.22\)](#)

[Webinar: Declaration of Inclusion, Background and Resources for Vermonters](#)

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