



## **TOWN OF MINTO**

**DATE:** February 20, 2025  
**REPORT TO:** DEI Committee  
**FROM:** Belinda Wick-Graham  
**SUBJECT:** **Membership in the Canadian Coalition for Inclusive Municipalities (CCIM)**

---

### **MOTION:**

THAT the DEI Committee receives the February 20, 2025, report regarding membership in the Canadian Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities from the Director of Economic and Community Development

AND FURTHER THAT

The DEI Committee recommends that the Town of Minto join the Canadian Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities

AND FURTHER THAT

the Mayor be authorized to sign the declaration to join the Canadian Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities.

### **BACKGROUND**

In 2004, the Canadian Commission for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) called upon municipalities to join a Coalition of Inclusive Communities. Recognizing the key role that local governments play as policy makers and guarantors of human rights, UNESCO has partnered with coalition members to promote inclusion, diversity, and equity within their communities and improve policies pertaining to racism, discrimination, exclusion, and intolerance.

Joining the Canadian Coalition of Inclusive Communities has been discussed since 2023 by the DEI Committee and is a key action in the strategic plan.

### **COMMENTS:**

Membership in the CCIM would provide several benefits to the Town of Minto:

1. Access to a network of municipalities (121) sharing best practices in promoting diversity and inclusion
2. Resources and tools to develop and implement inclusive policies and programs
3. Enhanced ability to attract and retain businesses and residents by demonstrating commitment to inclusion
4. Support in developing strategies to make municipal services more accessible to all residents
5. Recognition as a progressive municipality committed to social inclusion and economic growth

To join UNESCO's Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities, the municipality must garner support from the Council. This support must be documented in the form of a declaration signed by the Mayor, as outlined in Appendix A. The municipality must then inform the Canadian Commission for UNESCO of its decision to join and commence work on a Plan of Action that improves social inclusion; eradicates racism and discrimination; and promotes human rights and diversity.

Upon joining, the Town would commit to:

- Developing an inclusion plan with specific actions and timelines
- Establishing mechanisms to monitor progress
- Reporting regularly to the Coalition on achievements and challenges

- Participating in information sharing with other member municipalities

This work would be led by the Minto DEI Committee and supported by the Town of Minto Staff.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:**

There is no membership fee to join the Canadian Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities. The primary costs associated with membership would be staff time for:

- Developing and implementing inclusion initiatives
- Preparing progress reports
- Participating in Coalition networking and knowledge-sharing activities

These activities can be incorporated into existing economic and community development plans.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

**GOAL 4: INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY**

Foster a welcoming, accessible, and understanding community where your family belongs.

4.2 *Celebrating our community's diversity, equity, and inclusion.*

- ii. Explore the National Rainbow Registered Accreditation Program and become a member of the Canadian Coalition for Inclusive Communities.

Belinda Wick-Graham  
Director of Economic & Community Development