

Motion re: Barriers for Women in Politics

WHEREAS the City of Cambridge values respect, integrity, equity, inclusivity and service in all areas of life, including politics;

WHEREAS women have historically been underrepresented in politics and continue to face barriers and discrimination in their pursuit of elected office;

WHEREAS misogyny and harassment have been identified as significant challenges for women in politics, both in Canada and around the world;

WHEREAS the City of Cambridge believes that all individuals have the right to participate in a political environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and misogyny;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Cambridge expresses its support for women in politics and their right to participate in a political environment that is free from misogyny and harassment and where everyone feels equitable;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Cambridge commits to taking steps to ensure that our political environment is inclusive and welcoming to all individuals, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or other identity factors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Cambridge joins the Town of Grimsby in encouraging other municipalities in Ontario and across Canada to join us in supporting women in politics and promoting gender equity in all areas of society;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario Municipalities for endorsement, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Cambridge's MP and MPP, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to express the City of Cambridge's commitment to this issue and encourage action at the provincial level to create legislation to ensure equity, safety, and security.