Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan

Cassie Ogunniyi

Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Relations





Outline

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan Updates
- Accessibility Week 2025
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Handbook



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan 2024 Updates

- Plan has 38 per cent completion rate
- 31 employees recognized through CERT Award
- 3 Niagara DEI Community of Practice meetings
- 80 per cent of staff completed DEI Fundamentals Training
- 96 per cent of People Leaders completed Inclusive Leadership
- Calendar of Significant Dates
 - 247 dates in monthly summaries
 - 45 spotlight dates





Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan 2025

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Handbook
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion learning for all staff
- Implement best practices to eliminate barriers in recruitment and hiring processes.
- Work with Region staff to recognize and showcase significant dates.
- Review DEI Action Plan





Spotlight – Accessibility Week

- Two Awareness Events each year
- Accessibility Week May 25 to 30
- Niagara host Ontario ParaSport Games May 30 to June 1
- Alzheimer's Society interactive education
- Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
- AAC member presentation





Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Handbook

- Development of DEI Handbook
 - One of the action items in DEI Action Plan (2023-2027)
 - Aim to complete handbook by end of 2025
- Purpose
 - Practical resource to support Regional Staff
 - Two parts with eleven chapters
- Main audience is internal staff





Chapter Structure

- Overview
- Niagara Region Context
- Incorporating DEI in the topic area
- Chapter Summary
 - Check lists
 - Scenarios





Table of Contents – Part One Creating an Inclusive Workplace

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Fundamentals
- 3. Inclusive Workplace Culture
- 4. Being a People Leader
- 5. Recruitment and Hiring





Table of Contents – Part Two Inclusive Programs, Plans, and Policies

- 1. Gender Based Analysis Plus
- 2. Inclusive Communication
- 3. Community Engagement
- 4. Data Collection and Management
- 5. Policy Development and Review
- 6. Creating Plans, Programs, or Projects





Gender Based Analysis Plus

Five Steps

- 1. Identify the issue and understand the context
- 2. Gather the facts
- 3. Develop options and make recommendations
- 4. Communicate
- 5. Monitor and evaluate





Next Steps

- DEI team finalize the draft of the handbook
- Internal staff review and finalize
- Ensure AODA compliant
- Handbook is made available to staff



