Welcoming Resolution

A RESOLUTION of the Kingston Citizens Advisory Council (KCAC) of the town of Kingston, County of Kitsap, Washington affirming KCAC's commitment to help Kingston become a more welcoming community that respects the innate dignity of all people.

WHEREAS, our community has faced and historically tolerated structures, systems, and policies that discriminate against residents who are Black, Brown, Indigenous, were born in another country, are people with disabilities, LGBTQA+ and other identities; and

WHEREAS, the community recognizes diversity is an asset and we must strive to promote a culture and policies that ensure everyone belongs and thrives, by addressing disparities, countering hate, understanding history, and helping neighbors come together; and

WHEREAS, all people are respected and valued and are vital to our shared prosperity; and

WHEREAS, fostering a welcoming environment for all people enhances Kingston's cultural fabric, economic growth, and overall wellbeing and prosperity for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Kingston must become a hospitable and welcoming community where diverse people, families, and institutions thrive and the contributions of all are celebrated and valued; and

WHEREAS, KCAC is committed to building a welcoming and neighborly atmosphere in Kingston, where all are welcomed, accepted, and fully integrated; and

WHEREAS, community efforts that promote understanding and collaboration among all races, ethnicities, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identities, disabilities, and religion are crucial in encouraging and preserving Kingston's welcoming environment; and

WHEREAS, KCAC must encourage Kingston's businesses, civic groups, schools, government agencies, and other community institutions to undertake their own initiatives, beyond this resolution, to make Kingston a welcoming place for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that KCAC will actively encourage and work to make Kingston a welcoming community that respects all residents and visitors regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disabilities, and religion; strives for unity and harmony in our community; and respects the essential human dignity of all people.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by KCAC at a regular meeting this 8th day of September 2021.

Beth Berglund KCAC Co-Chair

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