



TOWN OF CRESTON

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An open letter to Our Community:

The Town of Creston is committed to inclusivity and diversity for our citizens. We value one another and seek to foster genuine wellbeing and happiness for all. This resonates from the Town of Creston's Official Community Plan that strives to establish our local identity as rural, relaxed, friendly, inclusive, and self-reliant. In 2017, the Official Community Plan was developed through thousands of individual inputs from a diverse array of residents that make up our community. We are confident that is what our community wants to be known for.

"Livability" is a key pillar in Council's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan with the objective to be an inclusive, connected place for residents to play, celebrate the arts and connect with nature. Our goal as Council is to foster a diverse, inclusive and safe environment by continuous and active engagement to remove barriers faced by our community members whose right to fair treatment, respect and inclusion is challenged.

To be able to achieve these goals and visions, we need to continuously lead by example by:

1. Ensuring that our employees always have a work environment that is free from discriminatory and intimidating behaviour.
2. Not allowing any of our public spaces to be a place where anyone would feel uncomfortable, unwelcomed, or unsafe.
3. Encouraging open and constructive conversations about diversity to promote mutual respect and actively listen to all voices, especially those marginalized and unheard.

These visionary statements from our Official Community Plan and Strategic Plan on inclusivity and diversity were not created in isolation, but rather, by the people of Creston through ongoing engagement. The continuous participation in all our planning exercises and citizen satisfaction surveys have formed a collective voice of thousands that created '**Our Goals and Visions**' for this community. More importantly, these are **Your Goals and Visions** that you gave to us, and we are steadfast in our resolve to uphold them.

Respectfully,

Your Town of Creston Council

Arnold DeBorja *Mona Aie* *Tom Clisar* *[Signature]*

[Signature] *Cardyn Harker* *Kurt Bolden*