

Town of Cobourg Announces Launch of Women in Governance Program

This 12-week program is designed to break down barriers for women to enter the political sphere.

Cobourg, ON (April 16, 2021) – The Town of Cobourg is pleased to announce the inaugural launch of the *Women in Governance: Leadership and Mentoring Program* beginning May 31, 2021 as part of the municipalities' commitment to improve equity, diversity and inclusion.

The *Women in Governance: Leadership and Mentoring Program* is a 12-week program designed for women and gender non-conforming individuals to learn more about what it's like to work in the public sector. The program will allow each participant to be matched with a mentor who identifies as a woman or gender non-conforming and is an elected official.

"This program is a great way for women to connect with female political leaders and the Town of Cobourg's workforce," said Deputy Mayor Suzanne Séguin for the Town of Cobourg. "I am proud to announce the inaugural launch of the Women in Governance: Leadership and Mentoring Program that will go a long way towards providing opportunities for mentorship, networking as well as providing a safe place to ask questions about navigating professional life. I look forward to meeting our first round of participants this coming May!"

The overall goals and objectives of the program are to provide more insights on the integral elements of being a public servant while also providing practical experience with the daily workings of the Town of Cobourg. Successful applicants will have networking and personal development opportunities while the Town also gains valuable resident input on issues of particular interest to the participants.

Throughout the Women in Governance Program, there will also be additional opportunities to network, hear from speakers at different levels of government, and participate in integral parts of the makings of the Town of Cobourg's future of public policy. At the end of the program, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion.

The program will run from May 31, 2021 to August 27, 2021 and will accept between three to five participants. The deadline to apply is Thursday, May 20, 2021.

Program Eligibility Requirements

The Women in Governance Program is open to all applicants who, at the start of the program:

- Reside or own a business in the Town of Cobourg
- Identify as a woman, trans* woman, nonbinary, agender or gender non-conforming
- Are able to commit to approximately two (2) to four (4) hours per week over the 12-week period from May 31st to August 27th, 2021.

Exceptions to the time commitment will be made on a case by case basis, especially for those that are working in a different career, have additional obligations, and/or are in school.

Learn More and Apply Today!

To learn more about the program including how to apply interested participants are encouraged to visit the Town of Cobourg's [Diversity and Inclusion webpage](#) or contact Jamie Kramer, Accessibility Coordinator for the Town of Cobourg by emailing accessibility@cobourg.ca.

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About The Town of Cobourg

The Town of Cobourg is a lakeside community (population 19,500) located on the north shore of Lake Ontario halfway between Toronto and Kingston and has been recognized multiple times by MoneySense Magazine as "One of Canada's Best Places to Live" in populations under 25,000.

Founded in 1798, Cobourg is rich in heritage offering a vibrant downtown, sophisticated small town atmosphere and renowned waterfront that serves as a popular getaway destination. As the largest town in Northumberland County, Cobourg is personified by historic Victoria Hall, hosts a 27.4 million community centre, an educated and skilled labour force, flourishing commercial sector and supportive municipal government. Cobourg has received the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Communities Award, accolades from the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance, and multiple heritage, environmental, and event awards.