



NEWS RELEASE

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TOWN OF CARLETON PLACE HIRES NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Corporation of the Town of Carleton Place is pleased to announce that Diana Knight has been hired as the Town's new Director of Community Services. Knight will begin her employment with the Town on Monday, April 27th, 2026.

The Director of Community Services is a new position, responsible for translating Council's strategic priorities, master plans, and service review recommendations for the Town's community service portfolios of Recreation & Culture, Childcare Services, Community Development/Tourism, Property and Projects into actionable programs and policies that enhance quality of life, promote community well-being, and foster economic vitality and provides integrated administrative support to the Library.

Diana Knight is a bilingual municipal leader with over 25 years of public-sector experience, known for delivering high-impact projects and leading diverse teams to achieve measurable results in complex, high-visibility environments.

Diana brings extensive senior experience from the City of Ottawa, including leadership in the Planning and Development, Infrastructure, Procurement and Community and Social Services departments. Her work has included leading major modernization and governance initiatives, including implementing an enterprise information technology system used to support complex business processes and permitting related to land management. Other recent experience includes being the City advisor to the youth engagement committee, renewing the City's Community Funding Framework, leading community level projects for priority neighbourhoods, and co-leading the City's micromobility (e-scooter) program development and implementation. She



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brings strong project management, policy and by-law development skills and the ability to translate municipal and Council priorities into measurable actions.

“This position oversees a number of the Town’s public-facing departments, so it was important we found the right fit,” says Diane Smithson, Chief Administrative Officer. “Following a comprehensive recruitment process, we are confident Diana’s knowledge and expertise are going to benefit both staff and the community as a whole.”

“I am incredibly excited to be joining the Town as Director of Community Services,” Diana Knight said. “I look forward to learning and sharing my experience to support residents and community partners. I welcome the opportunity to build strong collaborative relationships with staff and Council to continue the great work already underway, and to deliver on the priorities that matter most to the community.”

