## Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) Board of Trustees Declaration on Civility, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal ..."

The framers of our nation's Declaration of Independence put quill to parchment and penned that belief while envisioning a country in which certain unalienable rights translated to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all.

As members of society and the Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees, we recognize the urgent need to apply that ideal more equitably to people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds, religions, sexual orientations and gender identities.

We see daily progress in efforts to break down the challenges and injustices that have stained the history of our country. We also see setbacks, as illustrated by events that have unfolded over the past year.

The continued and growing need to demand basic human rights and equality for all people is everyone's duty. In our role as the College's governing body, we share in this responsibility by enacting educational policies that ensure all members of our diverse community are recognized and treated with dignity and respect.

This we do in concert with the College's current president, Alex Johnson, who asserts that "difficult conversations must take place within a framework of civility to bring about necessary reforms." With our support, Tri-C will lead those discussions within the broader community as well as among students, faculty and staff.

We, the Tri-C Board of Trustees, hereby confirm our commitment to identify and take actions that will advance civility, diversity, equity and inclusion. Together, we will find solutions.

This is our moral, civic, and official obligation.

VOTE: Unanimous DATE: March 25, 2021

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Andrew Randall Board Chair

Alex Johnson

Board Secretary

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