

RESOLUTION No. 2020-

***RELATIVE TO PROCLAIMING JUNE 2020
AS GRADUATES' MONTH IN THE CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS***

BY:

Council Chairman Christopher Voccio
Council Member William Kennedy II
Council Member John Spanbauer
Council Member Kenny Tompkins
Council Member Andrew Touma

WHEREAS, the months of May and June are normally a time when our City's graduating high school and college students and their families would be celebrating their achievements and accomplishments at various commencement ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, graduation is not just a ceremony, but a rite of passage where graduates partake in exhibits of final class projects, parties, goodbyes with friends and teachers, photo sessions at school and campus landmarks, and triumphant and tearful embraces; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, the COVID-19 health pandemic has put lives throughout the nation and, specifically, the City of Niagara Falls, on pause; and

WHEREAS, during this uncertain time, educational institutions throughout the community have decided to either postpone commencement ceremonies or conduct them in untraditional ways in order to safeguard the public health; and

Kennedy _____ **Spanbauer** _____ **Tompkins** _____ **Touma** _____ **Voccio** _____

WHEREAS, while the response to the public health crisis may deprive our students of the “pomp and circumstance” associated with graduation ceremonies, Niagara Falls has proven itself to be a resilient community, and our students are an integral part of that resiliency as they continue to demonstrate both the strength and the will to persevere during this extraordinary time; and

WHEREAS, the most effective way to recognize our student graduates is through everyone’s active participation and acknowledgement of their commitment and achievements; and

WHEREAS, as communities are stronger when everyone participates, the City Council encourages all citizens to take the time to celebrate and recognize our City’s graduating students, on all schooling levels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York hereby designates and proclaims the month of June, 2020, as Graduates’ Month in the City of Niagara Falls.