

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.