



REQUEST FOR PARTNERSHIP

This letter serves to introduce the Hamilton Civic League and to request the partnership of your organization in the fulfillment of our vision and mission.

The Hamilton Civic League is an all-inclusive, non-partisan group working to increase participation in local democracy, to inspire individuals in our community to become informed about local issues, and to support accessibility, transparency and accountability in our municipal government.

We are motivated by our belief that local government affects residents' lives in a multitude of ways and that the contributions of a politically engaged populace are necessary for a strong community and a vibrant and prosperous city. We are concerned by the lack of citizen participation in local politics, as evident by the all-time low voter turnout of 37% in the 2006 municipal election. We are also concerned that access to the political process may not be evenly shared among all members of Hamilton's richly diverse population. **It is our goal that all eligible Hamiltonians will vote in the next election as informed, empowered and engaged citizens in order to bring about positive change in our city.**

Our working group has proposed a strategy for approaching this challenge. Our preliminary plans include a series of public programs and development of a portfolio of information resources and educational materials. With these tools we will endeavour to educate members of the community about the inner workings of local government, voting, the election process and access points for civic engagement, and encourage all eligible citizens to cast meaningful ballots in future elections.

As we move forward we require the assistance of knowledgeable parties with the development and/or implementation of our education and outreach programs. Organizations with deep expertise on a particular issue or segment of the Hamilton community are requested to help identify topics that should be used to inform our program development. **We would also like to hear from a representative of your group to learn about the work that your organization is doing and to hear about its vision or concerns for the City of Hamilton.** With your help, we hope to produce educational materials and an outreach strategy that is comprehensive and representative of the important issues facing members of the Hamilton community.

Individuals are welcome to join as members of the Hamilton Civic League to volunteer or to simply stay connected. As a minimum, Partner Organizations including non-profits, businesses and government agencies will support our vision and mission as noted above and will communicate our goals to their staff and potentially the wider community. Should your organization be interested in partnering with the Hamilton Civic League, please select the Partner link on our website to complete the Partnership Agreement registration process. If you would simply like to talk with us or receive more information, please contact us at HamiltonCivicLeague@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration. Together we can nurture a culture of active civic engagement to strengthen our city and sustain our communities.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Hamilton Civic League

PS. We greatly appreciate the efforts of our committed volunteers to distribute this request and apologize for any duplication of delivery that may occur.

www.HamiltonCivicLeague.org