



NEWS RELEASE

Niagara-on-the-Lake Announces New Director of Planning, Building and Development Services

For Immediate Release

January 16, 2026

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is pleased to announce Aimee Alderman as the Town's new Director of Planning, Building and Development Services, effective January 19, 2026.

Aimee brings 10 years of experience in municipal and regional planning. Aimee is a familiar face to the Town, having held previous positions as Senior Planner and, most recently, as Manager of Development Planning. Aimee holds an Honours Bachelor of Public Health from Brock University, a Master of Science in Rural Planning & Development with a Certificate in Land Use Planning from the University of Guelph and is both a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) with the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) and a Professional Member (MCIP) with the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP).

In addition to her technical expertise, Aimee has demonstrated herself as a strong, high-performing leader through her work with the Town. She brings a strategic focus and the ability to translate Council priorities into clear work plans, coordinated implementation across teams, and timely, well-supported updates to inform decision-making. Aimee has led complex projects and high-volume files, built strong relationships across departments and with external stakeholders, and supported teams through change with a practical, solutions-oriented approach. She is also known for a strong team mindset and a customer experience focus that helps move work forward while keeping the needs of applicants, residents, and the broader community in view.

As Niagara-on-the-Lake's Director of Planning, Building and Development Services, Aimee will help shape the future growth and sustainability of the community, overseeing the Planning and Building Divisions and leading growth management, land-use, and development initiatives that support Niagara-on-the-Lake's environmental, social, cultural, and economic goals.

The Town would also like to extend sincere thanks to John Henricks for his leadership while serving as Interim Director of Planning, Building and Development Services. During a period of transition and important planning work, John provided thoughtful support and expertise to both Staff and the community.

Please join the Town in congratulating Aimee on her new role!

Quotes:

“This is a significant and important role for Council, as planning decisions play a critical part in shaping the future of Niagara-on-the-Lake. We look forward to working closely with Aimee as we continue to make thoughtful, informed decisions that support a sustainable future for our community. Congratulations, Aimee, on this well-deserved appointment.” – **Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa**



“Aimee is an exceptional and well-balanced planner with a strong understanding of both policy and community needs. Her experience, leadership, and ability to balance growth, heritage, and sustainability will continue to be a tremendous asset to the organization and to the community we serve. I look forward to Aimee being part of the Senior Leadership Team and have full confidence in her for this important position.” – **CAO Nick Ruller**

“I’m honoured to step into the role of Director of Planning, Building and Development Services for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. I deeply appreciate what makes this community exceptional: its people, its heritage, and its strong sense of place. My focus will be working collaboratively with Council, Staff, residents, and our partners to deliver responsive service and ensure our work strengthens a healthy, resilient future for the Town. I look forward to moving the department forward with innovation and purpose, grounded in a deep commitment to meaningful citizen engagement and an appreciation for the unique qualities that define Niagara-on-the-Lake.” – **Director of Planning, Building and Development Services Aimee Alderman**

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