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October 31, 2014

The City of Pekin "Come Together" sign project began in June 2012 at a Human Rights Committee (HRC) meeting when Police Chief Nelson began the discussion of designing a mural to deter graffiti. The HRC desired a project to promote awareness of its work and partnered with the Pekin Community High School Art Department, which reviewed the City of Pekin Position Statement on Diversity, Equality and Human Rights (attached) and created several artwork ideas. The HRC selected the "Come Together" artwork as best representing the Position Statement and vital identifiers of the City of Pekin in a beautiful way.

The Pekin Community High School Art Department staff and students painted the "Come Together" artwork and framed and presented it to the City Council in April 2014. The HRC purchased banners with the artwork, which will be proudly displayed throughout Pekin during future events. Finally, the HRC coordinated the installation on October 31, 2014 of a large "Come Together" sign at the West entrance of Pekin.

Special thanks is extended to the Pekin Community High School Art Department staff and students for their work on this project, the City of Pekin Human Rights Committee for their support in seeing this project to completion, the Sign Shop for donating the installation of the sign, the Pekin Times and WEEK for their press coverage of the project, and the thoughtful input and partnering work by other Community members! This project is truly an example of how the City of Pekin Community has Come Together.

What a wonderful day!

Pamela Anderson
Community Development Director
City of Pekin



Community Development Department

City of Pekin's Position on Diversity, Equality, and Human Rights

The City of Pekin is a progressive community that recognizes the fundamental equality of all individuals and thus strives to ensure equality of opportunity for all.

The City of Pekin DOES NOT tolerate prejudicial or discriminatory treatment of any person, whether a resident or visitor, within the Pekin community.

The City of Pekin DOES apply a standard of equitable practices and fair treatment toward every individual, regardless of one's demographic characteristics or background.

The City of Pekin WILL continue to proactively uphold an environment of respect, dignity, and mutual understanding among diverse groups and individuals, via education, dialogue, and community activities.

Pekin welcomes people of varied backgrounds and their contributions to the City – *a community made stronger by the presence of diversity.*

Condensed version:

The City of Pekin is a progressive community that recognizes the fundamental equality of all individuals and thus strives to ensure equality of opportunity for all. Pekin welcomes people of varied backgrounds and their contributions to the City – *a community made stronger by the presence of diversity.*