



We, along with our U.S. neighbours, mourn the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many other Black victims of racism. As an agency that supports people who also experience systemic discrimination, we denounce discrimination in all forms and stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement. Systemic racism is not something that happens strictly south of our border. Discrimination, in all its facets, is present in every country—including Canada. It persists because it has been tolerated by those who ought to know better, by those who have the authority to make positive change, and by existing systems that maintain the status quo.

Community Living Windsor has a diverse workforce, and we are stronger for it. Despite our values of inclusion and equality for all, we would be wrong to assume that racism or discrimination simply “doesn’t happen here.” Instead, we must fight to ensure the recognition and correction of systemic racism—wherever it may exist within our organizational culture—as hard as we fight for our city, our country, and our world to value the gifts of people with disabilities and their important place in our society. Only then will we truly realize our mission of an inclusive society for all.

Our team is seeking resources that will help us come together to learn about and develop ways of working that address unconscious bias and discrimination at all levels. We recognize this will take the support and effort of our entire team, and we look forward to working together to create an organizational culture where all people feel respected, valued, and safe.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” ~ Martin Luther King Jr.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Melodie Cook'.

~ Melodie Cook, Executive Director of Community Living Windsor