## Racine – Brantford Sister City Resolution CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN

Whereas: the City of Brantford, Ontario, and the City of Racine, Wisconsin, share a deep commitment to community development, cultural exchange, and mutual cooperation; and

*Whereas:* both cities are historically rooted in industrial innovation and economic resilience, with proud legacies of manufacturing and global enterprise; and

*Whereas:* the SC Johnson company — a global leader in consumer products and sustainability — maintains a strong historical and corporate presence in both cities, having shaped the industrial and civic character of Brantford and Racine alike; and

*Whereas:* Brantford and Racine both value inclusivity, public service, education, and environmental stewardship, and are committed to the wellbeing of their diverse residents; and

*Whereas:* the establishment of a Sister City relationship will promote cultural understanding, educational partnerships, economic collaboration, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges between the two cities; and

*Whereas:* the Sister Cities International program, founded in 1956 and endorsed by municipalities worldwide, provides a recognized framework for fostering international cooperation at the local level;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Corporation of the City of Racine, Wisconsin formally establishes a Sister City relationship with the City of Brantford, Ontario, Canada, for the purpose of promoting international goodwill, cultural understanding, and collaborative exchange in areas including, but not limited to, economic development, education, environment, arts, and governance;
- 2. That the City of Racine be authorized to work with officials from the City of Brantford to develop a mutual Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to guide future cooperation and determine the scope of joint programs and exchanges;
- 3. That the Mayor of Racine, be authorized to extend a formal invitation to the Mayor and representatives of the City of Brantford to participate in an official ceremony commemorating the Sister City partnership;
- 4. That City staff investigate opportunities for community engagement, including schools, universities, businesses, and cultural organizations in Racine to participate in the Sister City program;
- 5. That the City of Racine calls on other cities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative to participate in the Sister City program by partnering with a cross-border community;
- 6. That this resolution be shared with the City of Brantford, SC Johnson leadership in both communities, Sister Cities International, Member of Parliament Larry Brock, Member of Provincial Parliament Will Bouma, Governor Tony Evers and The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.