

Office of the Mayor

ROBERT G. ORTT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Ortt Selects New Community Development Director

NORTH TONAWANDA—City of North Tonawanda Mayor Robert G. Ortt has announced his selection for the position of Community Development Director. Michael Zimmerman has been selected to fill the position that was recently vacated by retiring Director Richard L. Tindell.

Mr. Zimmerman has recently been serving as Planning and Development Coordinator for Lumber City Development Corporation since July 2011. Michael was directly involved with successfully managing numerous microenterprise grant programs, submission of applications through the New York CFA and other grant processes resulting in \$2.8 million in grant awards for the City of North Tonawanda, assisting with the management of a \$1 million loan portfolio, and coordination of \$1.2 million in grant funds from multiple sources for the renovation of Gratwick Park Marina.

In addition to being the Community Development Director, Mr. Zimmerman will assume the role of Executive Director of the Lumber City Development Corporation. Michael received a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

"Michael's background in planning and development makes him the right person to lead North Tonawanda's economic and community development going forward. Mike has been running the office for the past three months and has demonstrated leadership and management potential," stated Mayor Ortt. "He has shown a commitment to North Tonawanda over the past three years, including purchasing a home in the city. I am confident that he will continue to build upon the success we have had over the past several years."

Michael Zimmerman stated, "I want to thank Mayor Ortt, the Common Council, and Lumber City Development for this opportunity and for all their support. North Tonawanda is a great community to live and work in and I'm looking forward to being a part of the City's bright future."

Mr. Zimmerman will begin working for the City as of Wednesday, September 3rd.

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