

Pelin Kohn, PhD



After moving to Montpelier five years ago from Turkey, Pelin Kohn was determined to create a home for herself and her family within our city. With no extended family, friends, or professional connections, Kohn decided she needed to get to know her neighbors and the other parents at the Montpelier Public Schools, where her children are students. Soon Kohn began to serve our community as a leader and volunteer. She volunteered by reading books to children at our local library, served on the City of Montpelier Social and Economic Justice Advisory Committee (SEJAC), and worked as an elections volunteer. As part of these volunteer experiences, Kohn worked to create a more inclusive and just Montpelier community. She explains, “I really enjoy being a part of our community and working with passionate people who want to contribute to Montpelier.”

Kohn has also sought opportunities to improve her understanding of Montpelier and Vermont. She was a fellow of the New Leaders Council (Cohort 2022) and a participant in the Vermont Council on World Affairs Global Leadership Program (Cohort 2023). Kohn feels that these leadership programs have allowed her to realize her potential to serve our local community. As she shared, “The Montpelier City Council can benefit from my professional experience with the DEI [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion] efforts listed in their

strategic plan and my motivation to give back to our community.”

As an academic professional, Kohn has contributed her knowledge, education, and talents to the Norwich University community. At NU, she started as a part-time instructor and has worked her way up to serving as the Leadership program chair and the Leadership Center founding director. Working through collaborative efforts, Kohn designed a leadership degree curriculum and developed the Leadership Center. As the NU Leadership Center Advisory Board Chair, she aims to bring together a diverse group of leaders to create leadership programs for the NU and Montpelier communities. Kohn underscores that these professional activities, coupled with years of experience as an educator, have broadened her understanding of the local, national, and international issues our city faces. Her candidacy brings with it a significant understanding of leadership, community building, and a diverse background.

Please contact her at pelinkohn@yahoo.com if you want to share your vision for Montpelier.

Please visit <https://pelinkohn.wixsite.com/pelinkohn> if you want to learn more about her.