Get Out the Vote Article Daily Post- Niagara University

**Title: Voting is a Human Right**

We have an obligation on November 6th, 2018. All registered voters must vote.

Where must you cast your vote? To find your polling location, visit: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/votersearch.aspx>

Voting is a human right. Voting is a fundamental right that United States citizens are entitled to exercise.

Historically, not all citizens had the human right of being able to vote. White women advocated to advance this social injustice and gained the right to vote in 1920. African Americans successfully rallied and changed the federal voting law in 1965. These efforts demonstrate that our voices matter and that voting matters.

Despite having this right and continually reflecting on the advocacy it took to get there, data on Fair Vote’s website from prior elections indicates that approximately 60% of eligible voters do not vote in midterm elections. Even though this election is not a federal or large scale election, it is still a very important election. The outcomes of the election will guide social policy and funding for social programs.

The Rose Bente Lee Ostapenko Center for Race, Equality & Mission at Niagara University successfully engaged and registered community members through a week long voter registration campaign in September. On November 1st, 2018 the Ostapenko Center will continue its promotion of voting as a civic responsibility and will host Ezra P. Scott Jr., Niagara Falls City Councilor on campus to speak about the importance of casting your vote. Councilor Scott will be discussing his decision to become a public servant and the role voting played in his success. He plans to discuss how voting and race are connected, including what is needed from people of color and from non-people of color with respect to voting and political advocacy. This event is co-sponsored by The Ostapenko Center, The Office of Multicultural Affairs, The College Democrats & The College Republicans. We encourage all students, faculty, staff and the public to attend this event at 1:00 pm in the Lower Level Gallagher Center Multipurpose Room. Light refreshments will be served.

Getting individuals registered to vote is only the first step in advancing everyone’s human rights. We need to get individuals to the polls on Election Day. Ultimately, YOU have a say in what happens to our country and in communities. YOU have an obligation to produce social change with your vote.

Remember, let your voice be heard at the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm. Get out and VOTE!

For more information, please contact the Niagara University Social Work Department: (716) 286-8520.

**Attachment:** Flyer