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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2021

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### **Tug Hill Commission Community Connectedness Survey Launched**

**Watertown, NY** – Are residents moving out of your community? Do boards and community groups have difficulty finding volunteers? Do you feel connected to other people in your community and Tug Hill?

Research shows that communities are at their best when residents feel connected to each other and feel invested in each other's welfare. The Tug Hill Commission, a regional task force, and the University of Albany invite Tug Hill residents, homeowners and visitors to complete a short survey at [tinyurl.com/tughill-community](http://tinyurl.com/tughill-community). The findings from this survey can benefit our community members by identifying any gaps that prevent a strong sense of belonging. The findings will be shared publicly and will inform efforts to improve how residents, homeowners and visitors feel about the community.

It is important that we hear from people who feel well-connected and from those who do not; even if some might have a strong support system within the Tug Hill region, others may not and may contemplate leaving Tug Hill. This survey aims to answer the questions "what makes some people stay in the region" and "what makes others leave." Respondents will have the chance to win a \$50 gift card to one of two Tug Hill restaurants. Responses are anonymous and everyone's identity is protected. To take the survey, visit [tinyurl.com/tughillcommunity](http://tinyurl.com/tughillcommunity). Please reach out to Katie Malinowski, [katie@tughill.org](mailto:katie@tughill.org) or 315-785-2380, with any questions.

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*The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.*