

Garion Allen



Dear Council Members,

I am writing this letter to express my interest in the Councillor position for the Town of Collingwood to complete the remainder of the 2022-2026 term. I have lived in Collingwood for the past 12 years and have been an active member in the small business community and the arts community.

I believe my background and experience would benefit the town. While I admit that I am a young candidate, I feel my perspective would serve the community. Moving to Canada 20 years ago, I have spent much of my adult life navigating challenges and striving for personal growth. I believe my drive, resilience and entrepreneurial spirit make me a strong candidate for this role, and I am eager to contribute to the success and development of our community.

Originally, I was born in Australia before moving to England from the ages of 14 to 16. At the age of 16, after living in Canada for 3 months, I faced significant hardships, including homelessness. At the age of 20, I became a parent, which changed my outlook and pushed me to take control of my future. Over the years, I have owned and operated four small businesses. While I closed the first two due to changing circumstances with my children, my third and fourth businesses are still in operation today.

The opportunities that Collingwood and the community provided allowed us to purchase our first home in 2020 in a perfect location to raise our children.

These personal experiences reflect the challenges many in our community experience today, and I hope my voice at the table can help these members of the community.

Through my work, I am an active member of several local organizations, including Theatre Collingwood, the Collingwood Foundry, and BNI. During my involvement in these organizations and other community engagements, I have gained a broad understanding of the challenges and opportunities our town faces. This reinforces my commitment to our community development and growth.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve the Town of Collingwood and all of its residents, bringing my skills in business and leadership to continue making Collingwood a place people love to live.

Sincerely,  
Garion