

March 4, 2025

Town of Collingwood Council
97 Hurontario Street
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z5

Subject: Application for Consideration – Town of Collingwood Council

Dear Mayor Hamlin and Members of Council,

I am writing to formally express my interest in being considered for a seat on the Town of Collingwood Council. As a long-time member of this community, I am deeply committed to its prosperity and well-being.

My professional experience, lifelong connection to the hospitality, business, and logistics industries, and dedication to community engagement make me a strong candidate to serve and contribute meaningfully to the continued success of Collingwood.

I am a proud first-generation Canadian, born in Eugenia, ON, to British parents. Growing up, I was immersed in the hospitality industry, with my father beginning his career at Talisman before becoming the first Concierge in Canada at the Four Seasons. This foundation led me to begin my professional journey in the hotel industry, with roles at The Savoy Hotel (London, UK), the Harbour Castle Westin, and The King Edward Hotel.

I later transitioned into the fulfillment and logistics industry, where I built a successful career, ultimately founding **The Hunt Group** and **Trust Logistics Partners**, where I currently serve as President and Owner. The Hunt Group, established in 1988, has been a leader in logistics, marketing, and fulfillment services for over three decades.

In addition to my business leadership, I have been actively involved in the professional community, serving as **Chair for Payments eXchange (PX)**, an industry group that fostered collaboration and innovation across the payments, FinTech, and gift card industries in Canada. Under my leadership, PX brought together key stakeholders to build a community of knowledge and trust, including addressing proposed legislative changes that would impact industry professionals.

Beyond my business endeavors, I have recently completed my real estate training and joined **Bosley Real Estate in Collingwood**, with my full credentials to be finalized by March 2025. My wife, **Kelli Cartwright**, an Ontario teacher with extensive experience in both private and public schools, will be joining me in this new venture in the coming months. Kelli and I have long been a part of the Collingwood community—having met at the village in 2003, while I was renting in Cranberry Surf, and where we ultimately purchased our home together at “The Surf”. We were married at **Bear Estate in 2009**, and after spending 20 years as extended weekenders, we made Collingwood our full-time home in 2021.

Our family has deep roots in Collingwood. Our grown children spent their formative years here on weekends and now contribute to their own communities—one as a teacher in Orillia and the other as a Veterinary Technician at an emergency hospital in Toronto.

We actively participate in local life, hosting **live music block parties, charitable events, and community gatherings** that bring people together.

With decades of experience in **marketing, promotions, and sales**, I have developed a reputation as a **high-achieving strategist, an innovative leader, and a passionate collaborator**. I thrive on organization, persistence, and meticulous attention to detail, all of which have been essential in my professional success. Since my teens, I have been dedicated to serving customers, clients, constituents, family, and community—including business leaders, celebrities, and even royalty.

If given the opportunity to serve on Council, my priorities would include:

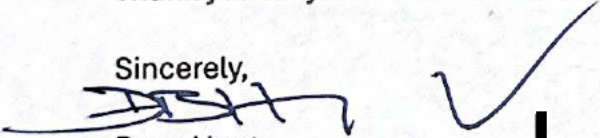
- Supporting **economic development and local businesses** to ensure Collingwood remains a thriving destination for residents and visitors.
- Advocating for **infrastructure and smart urban planning** to maintain the town's unique charm while fostering sustainable growth.
- Strengthening **community engagement and collaboration** between the public, businesses, and local government to ensure all voices are heard in shaping our future.

Collingwood is our "Happy Place". It has given so much to my family and me, and I am eager to give back by working collaboratively with the Mayor, fellow councillors, residents, businesses, organizations, agencies, and officials to **continue making Collingwood the best place to live, work, and visit**.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy further and look forward to contributing my experience and passion to our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Dave Hunt

