

Clerk Sara Almas  
Town of Collingwood  
97 Hurontario Street,  
Collingwood, ON  
L9Y 3Z5

Dear Clerk Almas,

It is with great pleasure that I am applying for appointment to the position of Councillor for the Town of Collingwood for the balance of the current Term of Council. As a Collingwood resident since August, 2020, I continue to thoroughly enjoy the experience and be impressed beyond expectations by the town and its many redeeming qualities, including vibrancy and resilience displayed in the face of the formidable threats and challenges posed initially by the COVID-19 pandemic and now, among others, the Trump tariffs. I view this appointment as an opportunity to make a positive and tangible contribution to the town I proudly call home.

I believe I can bring a relevant combination of experience, skills, perspective, energy, passion, commitment and integrity that will allow me to reliably and seamlessly step into the role. In terms of specific experience, I am currently a member of the Town of Collingwood's Committee of Adjustment and Property Standards Appeal Committee. I also served as Executive Assistant to two members of the City of Toronto and Metro Councils over seven years/two terms. These roles have provided me with direct exposure to the inner workings of municipal government, key issues and policy priorities, accountability to related processes and protocols, and the importance of listening, collaborating and otherwise working in an informed, respectful and responsible manner with staff and colleagues in the best interests of residents, local businesses and other key stakeholders.

Among other capabilities, applicable skills developed and honed during my career include business/membership/partnership development and retention, strategic planning, budgeting and forecasting, mentorship, and various communication modes of critical importance in the context of leadership, teamwork and empathetic values.

Other career highlights include the following:

- Canadian Chamber of Commerce – Senior Director, Corporate Member and Association Relations
- Lumber and Building Materials Association of Ontario – President
- Canadian Retail Building Supply Council – President
- Senior positions in SME's - including a boutique business specializing in leadership development, organizational effectiveness and performance management, and a start-up creator of an online feedback tool designed to mine customer insights supporting actionable outreach programs.

I have also served on a number of Boards, Standing Committees and Task Forces. In addition, volunteer roles include the following, among others:

- Collingwood Blues Executive – (2022 – present)
- Duntroon Highlands Golf Club – Marshal/Starter (2021 – present)
- Weston Golf & Country Club, Toronto – Club Captain
- Long time minor hockey and baseball coach

My hobbies and interests are many and varied with hockey, golf ... sports in general, politics, world affairs and travel among those on the list.

On a personal note, I am married and a proud parent of two and grandparent of three (soon to be four) awesome kids.

If further information is required or I can otherwise assist, please let me know. Beyond that, I look forward to appearing before Council and making my case.

Best regards,

Stephen Johns