

Doug Watt



March 8, 2025

Collingwood Town Council
97 Hurontario St.
Collingwood, ON, L9Y 2A9

Re: Council Vacancy

Dear Members of Collingwood Town Council:

I am writing to respectfully request your support for my appointment to the vacant Town of Collingwood Council position.

I have been a regular visitor to Collingwood since the mid-1980's, a homeowner and part time resident since 2000, and have been proud and blessed to call Collingwood my full-time home since 2020. Last year, my wife Eden and I launched a new business called Art U Wear that celebrates and promotes the beauty that surrounds us here in Collingwood and the South Georgian Bay Region. As with many small business owners here in Collingwood, this town is not just an address for our business, it is a fundamental part of who we are and what we represent.

Because of this, when we established our business, one of our core principles and objectives was to give back to the community that we have received so much from. That is why we created the Art U Wear Gives Back program – focused on enabling us to support local charities that are providing much needed services to residents of the community. I view taking on this role in the same manner, as it is an opportunity for me to contribute in a meaningful way to the progress and future growth and vitality of our great Town.

Throughout my business career, spent largely in the Health Care Information Technology arena, I have been fortunate to hold positions that allowed me to influence and set strategic directions and lead teams and projects that made meaningful and profound impacts on the sector. I am a consensus builder and skilled negotiator – I believe that in any negotiation, the best outcome is always one where all parties feel they have benefited and come out ahead. This is a position and approach that is sadly not always shared by everyone. In our current political climate that extends far beyond the boundaries of Collingwood, we are facing challenges that threaten our very existence and identify, as residents of Collingwood, as Ontarians and as Canadians. We need tough but fair voices that are willing to take a stand for what is right and best for this town, and I would like to take that responsibility on.

Collingwood is a fabulous place, and we have many challenges and wonderful opportunities ahead of us, ones that will continue to make Collingwood one of the most sought-after destinations in the province for tourists, retirees and young families alike. I would be honoured to join the team that is going to help us chart the best path forward.

Sincerely,

Doug Watt