

2023 COUNCIL ELECTION PLATFORM

Kyle Ward, EIT

Candidate nominated by Council.

EDUCATION:	BSc Electrical Engineering, University of Manitoba, 2021
ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES:	Intern, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba
OTHER ENGINEERING/ GEOSCIENCE ACTIVITIES:	Manitoba Hydro Professional Engineers Association, member
EMPLOYERS SINCE GRADUATION:	Manitoba Hydro, Integrated Network Performance Engineer-In-Training, 2022-present

PLATFORM PART 1 – THE PUBLIC OF MANITOBA

The Association governs and regulates the professions in the public interest. What is, or what should, Council be doing to ensure that its governance is in the public interest and why?

We as individuals are members of the public. When we commute to work on roadways, or turn on the power, heat, and water in our homes, or utilize one of the endless systems that have been designed, implemented, and maintained by engineers and geoscientists, we expect and trust that the world we interact with has been developed in a competent and safe manner with the interests of the public in mind.

Engineers and geoscientists shape society with every decision they make and need to consider their impact on people, businesses, and the environment when performing their daily work. The public has entrusted Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba with the responsibility to carry out the public vision. Council should emphasize integrity, professionalism, and a commitment to the public interest through upholding Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba Code of Ethics and by-laws to support the Professions Act and the privilege of maintaining Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba's status as a self-regulating association in Manitoba.

It is important for Council to prioritize transparency in their decision making framework so that the public understands the efforts put into making informed and relevant decisions, encouraging continuous professional development in registered members so that they maintain an expected level of competency in an ever-changing society, and enforcement of the ethics and by-laws to ensure practitioners of the profession are carrying out their work in a competent, safe, and effective manner.

PLATFORM PART 2 – THE ASSOCIATION

Council sets the expectation for the Association by defining the Ends. What is, or should be, the most important End and why?

Each End defined by the Council is important and highlights the key strategic objectives of the Association in maintaining its regulation of the engineering and geoscience professions. Above all, the

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Global End; “The interests of the Public of Manitoba are protected, as they relate to the practice of engineering and geoscience and that the results should be worth the resources expended.”, is the End that should reflect Council’s expectations for the Association. This End is the amalgamation of all other Ends which supports the Association’s goal of regulating in the interests of the public.

I believe the most important sub-End is E-2; “Practitioners practice with competence and conduct themselves professionally”, as the competence and level of knowledge of registered members is paramount in maintaining the trust and respect of the public. The Association may allocate more resources to achieving a specific End during different periods of time, such as promoting diversity to better reflect the public interest or licensing internationally educated professional engineers and geoscientists, but all these Ends relate back to the Global End, which defines Council’s expectation of the Association.

PLATFORM PART 3 – THE COUNCIL

Council sets out the core characteristics of what it considers to be a good councillor in Clause 1 of GP-6. What is, or should be, the most important characteristic of a good councillor and why?

All core characteristics listed in Clause 1 of GP-6 are important qualities for a councillor to possess. The characteristic that I resonate with the most is characteristic 1.2, the "Ability to think in terms of systems and context - to see the big picture." This characteristic emphasizes the idea that an individual will contribute to Council’s ability to “govern, not manage, the organization”.

When a Council member possesses a systematic perspective, they understand the interdependencies of the organization and the broader context in which it operates. This holistic view allows them to understand the implications of their decisions and actions on the organization in relation to the public interest it is entrusted to represent. By selecting candidates who can think in terms of systems and context, Council ensures that its members can grasp the organization’s overarching goals, values, and strategic direction. This capability is vital for effective governance as it enables Council to align its decisions with the organization’s mission, vision, and long-term objectives.

PLATFORM PART 4 – THE CANDIDATE

Please provide any additional information you would like as to why you would make a good councillor.

As a member of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba and the Manitoba Hydro Professional Engineers Association, I respect my duty to act in the interest of the public and to provide competent service in the work that I produce. I strive to uphold the values of the ethics and by-laws, and I believe that I possess many of the characteristics defined in clause 1 (GP-6).

I have experienced being a part of different communities such as those in the northern regions of Manitoba when I lived in Thompson and can understand and respect the different views and challenges present in our society. From a young age I have possessed the desire to contribute to the development of communities; in high school, I was part of an initiative to build rainwater harvesting tanks for elementary schools in Tanzania, Africa, and our group successfully raised money to build two of these systems. As an engineering Intern, I would be honoured to be given the opportunity to serve on Council and continue to develop my ability to contribute to the engineering profession in Manitoba.