

James Gordon

Personal statement of qualifications for Ward 6 council vacancy

- Resident of Guelph for 57 years
- Graduated from the University of Guelph
- Served two terms on Guelph City Council beginning in 2014
- Has a long history of community engagement and advocacy around many issues- including,
 - *first artistic director, Hillside Festival
 - *founding president, Guelph Civic League
 - *co-founder, Wellington Water Watchers
 - * founding board member, Guelph Climate Action Network
 - * founding board member “Get Involved Guelph”
 - * founding chair, Guelph Family Mental Health Network
 - * Co-founder and current Artistic Director, Praise The Ward Festival
 - * former board member of the Elliot Community, the Guelph Public Library, The Friends of the Guelph Public Library, the Guelph Non-Profit Housing Corporation, FASAT, (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Assistance and Training), the Guelph Arts Platform,
- Current member of The Ward West Heritage District Advisory Committee
- Member of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario ‘president’s circle’
- As a council member he sat on the federal and provincial Climate Caucus for elected officials, and since his retirement, he’s stayed on as an advisory member.
- Founding board member, “The Tumaini Letu Project”- bringing aid to an at-risk village in The Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Two-time provincial MPP candidate for Guelph
- currently involved, with Guelph Museums, in developing projects around celebrating Guelph’s Bicentennial in 2027
- Former Downtown Businessman- (founder of the Carden Street Café)
- Proprietor, Pipe Street Publishing
- co-founder, Breezy Breakfast weekly community conversation
- self-employed in the arts sector (which would give him the flexibility to devote time to the council position)
- recipient of the Mayor’s Award for community service.