

Lori Folkerson
212 – 2 Colonial Drive
Guelph Ontario N1L 0K8

July 15, 2025

His Worship Cam Guthrie, Mayor of Guelph & Members of Guelph City Council

I am writing to express my keen support for the appointment of Michelle Bowman to fill the current City Council vacancy for Ward 6.

I first met Michelle Bowman six years ago at a campaign event during the 2018 provincial elections. From the outset, Michelle impressed me with her warmth, approachability, and genuine support for those around her. Her passion for her work was evident, as was her impressive knowledge of the issues and processes that shape our community. Over the years, I have witnessed Michelle dedicate countless volunteer hours to initiatives that aim to make a positive impact on both our city and the environment.

Michelle's extensive formal education includes a Ph.D. in Environmental Biology and Ecology, as well as an M.Sc. and B.Sc. in Biology and Environmental Science. Her expertise in the health of rivers and lakes, combined with her scientific acumen, underscores her deep commitment to environmental stewardship—a value that resonates strongly with Guelph's vision for protecting natural heritage, conserving water, and promoting energy efficiency in municipal planning and services.

Although our professional paths have diverged over time, I have consistently appreciated Michelle's active presence on social media, where she shares clear, well-informed updates on legislative developments. Her approach to discussion is always informative and non-judgmental; she regularly demonstrates strong mediation skills by fostering respectful dialogue, even when conversations become contentious.

Michelle's unwavering dedication to politics and community improvement, alongside her ability to engage thoughtfully and constructively on complex topics, makes her an outstanding representative for Ward 6. I have great confidence in her capacity to serve our community with integrity, passion, and insight. It would be a privilege to have Michelle Bowman represent me—and all of Ward 6—on Guelph City Council.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Folkerson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lori Folkerson