

Conor Russell

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July 17, 2025

City Clerk's Office
City of Guelph
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Guelph, ON N1H 3A1
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Letter of Recommendation for Michelle Bowman – Ward 6 Council Vacancy

To the City Clerk and Members of Council,

I am glad to recommend Michelle Bowman for appointment to the vacant City Council seat in Ward 6. I have had the opportunity to observe Michelle's dedication to the Guelph community over several years; she brings the right mix of experience, intellect, collaboration, and care needed to serve the city with integrity and effectiveness.

Michelle's unique background as an environmental scientist, professor, and community advocate makes her particularly well-suited to address the interwoven social, economic, and environmental challenges facing Guelph. Her work with municipal, provincial, and federal issues demonstrates a keen understanding of governance from multiple levels, and she brings with her a record of data-informed decision-making, collaborative leadership, and public service rooted in listening and mutual respect.

She is someone who studies issues thoroughly, weighs diverse perspectives with care, and seeks outcomes that benefit the broader public good. Her track record of political organizing, teaching, and community volunteering shows that she is both capable of strategic thinking and grounded in the practical needs of everyday residents.

Michelle's municipal campaign, in which she came close to winning a council seat, speaks to the trust she's already earned from constituents and her potential to contribute meaningfully as a city councillor.

Perhaps most importantly, Michelle is committed to building bridges and reducing polarization. At a time when trust in public institutions is critical, Michelle offers a steady, principled, and community-focused voice that would serve Ward 6 and the city as a whole with distinction.

I encourage you to support Michelle Bowman's appointment to Guelph City Council. Her commitment to good governance and to the wellbeing of all Guelph residents will be a valuable asset to your deliberations and decisions.

Sincerely,
Conor Russell