

# Statement of Qualification

Wess Bechard



## Tecumseh Town Council – Ward 1 Vacancy

Dear Council,

I've lived in the town of Tecumseh for almost ten years alongside my wife and two children, and have jumped right in to the community at large. I have always felt a great deal of value in helping others, being a voice on behalf of people without a voice, and have a strong sense of pride and duty to my community and the people of Tecumseh.

Through my professional career (Director of Research and Development, Corum Digital Corporation) I've developed a strong ability to think outside the box, and to find solutions to problems that have been deemed impossible or too difficult for others. I feel that my ability to work with others, listen well, and find rational solutions to challenging situations allows me to not only empathize with residents, but effectively help resolve problems. I feel the best path to personal growth is to raise up everyone I meet, as we're all in this community together.

I feel I am uniquely qualified for the Ward 1 vacancy through my tireless efforts over the last year and a half with the Extend the Trail campaign. I ran this community campaign through in-person discussion, online organization, fund raising, yard signs, and organized a team of a dozen members of our community. I personally spoke with hundreds of people through Ward 1 (and collected as many signatures), and took the time and energy to properly use the municipal channels to clearly convey the desire for the Ganatchio Trail Extension to move forward on behalf of hundreds of residents.

I am a very active volunteer in the community, having spend hundreds of hours volunteering with the 35<sup>th</sup> Tecumseh Cub Scouts. In my role with the Cubs, I work with other Cub Scouter volunteers to create, plan, build, and delivery creative, education, and adventurous programs for our youth to enjoy, and grow as people. We expect to challenge our youth in new and exciting ways, just as I am applying for this vacant council seat.

As I mentioned initially, I put a great deal of importance in supporting our community, and earlier this Spring I was asked to help with Tecumseh Triathlon. I was happy to offer my time and abilities to create a brand new, focused, and informative website and online presence to ensure this amazing community event is ready to continue long into the future. I feel it is critical to support our local events and festivals and continue to build a vibrant and rich tapestry of local events where our community members can come together and enjoy everything Tecumseh has to offer.

I whole-heartedly support programs to foster community growth through programs, municipal incentives, public outreach, and of course any opportunity to increase housing availability for our community. Tecumseh is a highly desirable community to live in, and it is my belief that expanding access to housing through new construction, more residential density, and programs to help displaced families is critical to enriching our community through a healthy and growing tax base, and the diversity of our community.

With my greatest respect, I would like to be considered for the Ward 1 vacancy, where I will hold a strong sense of community, and a willingness to work towards solutions, and carefully listen to my fellow residents.

Best regards,

**Wess Bechard**