

2024 COUNCIL ELECTION PLATFORM

David Benson, P.Ge.

Candidate nominated by Council

EDUCATION:	BSc Hons Geology, University of Manitoba, 2001
ENGINEERS GEOSCIENTISTS MANITOBA:	Professional member, 2007 - present Mentorship Group, 2022, 2023 Nominating Committee, member, 2021 Appeal Committee, member, 2024 - present
OTHER ENGINEERING/ GEOSCIENCE ACTIVITIES:	Professional Geoscientists of Ontario, member, 2013 - present Professional Geoscientists of Ontario Mentorship program, 2016 - present Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, member, 2008 - 2023 Northwest Ontario Prospector's Association, member, 2017-2021; 2024 Thunder Bay Mining Days, volunteer, 2018, 2019
EMPLOYERS SINCE GRADUATION:	Rock Tech Lithium Inc, Exploration Manager, 2023 - present Minto Metals Corp, Vice-President Exploration, 2021 - 2023 Impala Canada Ltd., Exploration Manager, 2012 - 2021 Bison Gold Resources Inc., Vice-President Exploration and Director, 2010 - 2017 Rockcliff Resources Inc., Senior Project Geologist, 2007 - 2009 Mustang Minerals Corp., Project Geologist, 2004 - 2006

PLATFORM PART 1 – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please tell us why you are interested in serving on Council and what you bring to the role

In my professional career, I have been a staunch advocate for Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba; for professional registration, and self-regulatory bodies for geoscientists. The standards and values set by Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba and sister organizations across the country lay the foundation for strong professional practice and safety to the public.

To the Council, I would bring 20+ years of experience in the mining and exploration industry: from greenfields exploration to active mining operations; from field geologist, through management to the board room. I offer a unique perspective of the geoscience practice in exploration and mining that includes historical issues and how they were solved (or have not been), current issues and potential future issues including the remote workplace, gender equity, and artificial intelligence.

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PLATFORM PART 2 – 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?

"The only thing that never changes is that everything changes."
– *Louis L'Amour*.

It is of paramount importance for Council to be knowledgeable of change in the landscape of engineering and geoscience and to carefully consider how or if these are reflected in the Act, By-laws, and Code of Ethics. It is important for Council to utilize their collective experience and knowledge of past and current changes to adjust accordingly, where necessary, to best serve and protect the public interest.

PLATFORM PART 3 – THE ASSOCIATION

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

While all the Association's Ends all have importance, E-1, E-2, and E-3 are vital as they have direct connotation to the Mission statement of the Association; to serve and protect the public interest by governing and advancing the practices of professional engineering and professional geoscience in accordance with the Act. E-1 and E-3 are important as they ensure the public of qualified practitioners, but E-2 ensures the public that engineers and geoscientists demonstrate a high level of knowledge and experience, which is paramount to the public interest and safety, and hence, my choice for the most important End.

PLATFORM PART 4 – THE COUNCIL

Council sets out the core characteristics of what it considers to be a good councillor in GP-6 Councillor Roles and Job Description. What is the most important characteristic of a good councillor and why?

The most important characteristic of a good councillor is summarized in section 1.1 of GP-6: A commitment to linking with legal and moral ownership. All councillors should understand that they are stewards to Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba and should understand their fiduciary duty to Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba. As well, a councillor needs to understand the differences between governance, management, and operations of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba. A councillor needs to be courageous and respectful in their own and others' values and convictions. A councillor needs to be committed to ensuring that Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba remains responsive and resilient in achieving its goals.