

2024 COUNCIL ELECTION PLATFORM

Victor Thielmann, P.Eng., FEC

Candidate nominated by Members

EDUCATION:	BSc Electrical Engineering, University of Manitoba, 1977
ENGINEERS GEOSCIENTISTS MANITOBA ACTIVITIES:	Professional Engineer of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, member 1980 – present CTTAM – EngGeoMB Joint Board, member, 2001 - 2010 Keystone Professional Committee
OTHER ENGINEERING/ GEOSCIENCE ACTIVITIES:	Fellow of Engineers Canada (FEC) CSA's Canadian Electrical Codes, committee member Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, SMIEEE (Life)
EMPLOYERS SINCE GRADUATION:	Nova 3 Engineering Ltd., President and Founding Director

PLATFORM PART 1 – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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

We live in a time where great professionals are under attack. Nobel prize nominee and multiple UN award winning Winnipeg human rights lawyer David Matas was recently disciplined by the Law Society of Manitoba. World famous Canadian psychologist Dr. Jordan Peterson was recently disciplined by the College of Psychologists of Ontario. Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba needs a regulatory structure where honest professionals can continue to fearlessly complete their excellent work. My corporate experience working with Managing Partners of the largest Legal and Accounting firms in Manitoba allows me to bring that experience to Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba.

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 Association should develop clear standards of practice. A standard is a document developed by an institution to identify the practices the institution should follow to ensure a sound operation. A standard is not an undefined or subjective cluster of diverse opinions. Council needs to review its current and past governance with the purpose of correcting any governance deficiencies to protect the public. Council needs to concentrate on demonstrable public safety hazards which have inadvertently manifested. These hazards could include engineering cost overruns which jeopardize economic systems.

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PLATFORM PART 3 – THE ASSOCIATION

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

Engineering is fundamentally about safety, reliability, and economics, and the Ends assist in accomplishing that. Therefore, the most important End is the Global End (expenditure of resource should end in result worthy to the public). In detail, inclusive to the Global End is End 1 (registration) which by default forces End 3 (unqualified persons do not practice). In summary, these Ends would logically prohibit a professional geoscientist or layperson from engaging in any engineering related matters for qualification reasons. Similarly, a professional engineer or layperson should not be engaging in any geoscience matters.

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?

A quick review of GP-6 in the Council Governance Policy Handbook will indicate GP-6 has been amended five times since its approval in 2001. It would appear core characteristics are difficult to define. Notwithstanding intent, we are all human beings, and if we do the best job possible, that is all that can reasonably be expected, hence core characteristic 1.4 (professional selflessness) is, by inclusion, the most important core characteristic in GP-6.