

2025 COUNCIL ELECTION PLATFORM

Richard Marshall, P.Eng.

Candidate nominated by Council

EDUCATION:	BSc Civil Engineering, Ohio State University, USA, 1982 Master of Environment and Business, University of Waterloo, Canada, 2019
ENGINEERS GEOSCIENTISTS MANITOBA ACTIVITIES:	Professional Engineer of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, member 1995 - present CBA Assessor Group, member, 2021 - present Brace Infrastructure Project, member, 2019 - 2022 Provincial Building Standards Board, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba representative, 2012-2017 Engineers Geoscientists Architects Inter-relations Board (EGAIR), member, 2005-2007 Engineers and Architects dispute, committee member, 2005
OTHER ENGINEERING/ GEOSCIENCE ACTIVITIES:	Voting Member, National Model Code Committee on Climate Change Adaptation, Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC), Dec 2024-present; and Chair, Task Group on Wildfire-Urban Interface Voting Member, Standing Committee on Energy Efficiency, Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC), 2007 to 2024. Chair of Energy Target Task Group (2015 NECB); Chair of Code Consolidation Task Group (2011 NECB); Member, Task Group on Alterations to Existing Buildings; Member, Task Group on Energy Use Metrics Voting Member, Standing Committee on Environmental Separation, CBHCC, 2009 to 2024; Alternate Chair, 2015 code cycle; Chair, EIFS Requirements Joint Task Group (2015 NBC); Member, Performance-Based Requirements Task Group (2010-2015 NBC); Member, Protection from Precipitation Task Group (2015 / 2020 NBC); Member, Humidity Requirements Task Group (2010 NBC) Adjudicator under the Permit Dispute Resolution Act, Province of Manitoba, appointed by the Minister of Labour and Immigration to a 3-year term, commencing March 1, 2024. Member, policy advisory council for BETAC (Building Efficiency Technical Access Centre), 2015-present Member, Red River College Polytech Construction Strategic Council, Jan 2017-present Member, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Technology Access Centre (TAC) Grants Peer Review Committee, 2024

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	<p>Commissioner, Winnipeg Building Commission, 2015-2024</p> <p>Member, Mayor's Environmental Advisory Committee, City of Winnipeg, 2012-2015</p>
EMPLOYERS SINCE GRADUATION:	<p>Bird Construction Group, WPG, MB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Director, Design and Innovation, Feb 2022-present – Design Manager, May 2011-Feb 2022 – Senior Project Manager, May 2011-Feb 2022 <p>Pre-Con Builders Ltd., WPG, MB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Senior Project Manager, 2003-2011 – Project Manager, 1997-2003 <p>Dominion Construction Company, WPG, MB, Manager, Special Projects, 1993-1996</p> <p>Dublin Building Systems, Dublin, Ohio</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Chief Estimator, 1987-1993 – Estimator and Project Manager, 1980-1987

PLATFORM PART 1 – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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

I am interested in serving on Council because I believe that Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba should substantially augment its role in Public Advocacy. The recent Federal election underscored the urgent need for infrastructure and the policy reforms necessary to facilitate its development. It is imperative that engineers and geoscientists have representation at this level. We possess the technical expertise and professional knowledge required to provide valuable insights into the complex issues that impact our communities.

A few considerations: The procurement of engineering consulting services requires modernization. Consultants should be selected based on their qualifications rather than the lowest bid. Additionally, the procurement processes for construction and infrastructure projects must be upgraded. Manitoba is currently a laggard in collaborative contracting practices. It is essential to evaluate whether our universities offer appropriate programs and teach the skills necessary for the future economy and for economic growth. Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba should actively participate in preparing for these future developments.

I will bring considerable expertise to the role of councillor. I have 45 years of experience in the construction and development industry and have been a licensed engineer in Manitoba for over 29 years. I am on top of the issues that impact the consulting and development industry, and I will bring this perspective to the table. Additionally, I have 18 years of volunteer experience in Codes development, on both a national and provincial level, where I learned to discuss complex policy and technical issues respectfully and reach consensus. I have chaired numerous task groups and committees, familiarizing myself with the rules and procedures that govern boards and councils. Additionally, I studied environmental, social, and governance issues while obtaining my Master's degree.

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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?

Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba's Council plays a crucial role not only in overseeing the standards and ethics of its members but also in serving the broader public interest. Engaging in public advocacy is a natural extension of this mandate. By participating in public discourse, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba can ensure that our professions contribute meaningfully to policy decisions, societal development, and the protection of public welfare.

Public advocacy also reinforces accountability and transparency. When a self-regulating body such as Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba speaks publicly about its standards, priorities, and values, we demonstrate our commitment to ethical practice and social responsibility. This openness will strengthen public trust—not only in the profession but also in our ability to govern ourselves effectively. It shows that the organization is not operating in isolation but is responsive to public needs and expectations. Advocacy will help bridge the gap between our technical or professional knowledge and policymaking, offering expert insight into complex issues that affect our community.

Moreover, advocacy plays a role in maintaining the standards of the profession by influencing public policy and legislation that may impact practice. Without participation in these areas, professional standards could be affected by laws or regulations created without sufficient understanding of the fields of engineering and geoscience. Active engagement allows a self-regulating body to ensure its members can continue to operate effectively and ethically within a legal framework that acknowledges both professional requirements and societal needs.

PLATFORM PART 3 – THE ASSOCIATION

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

In my opinion, E-4, which states that stakeholders understand and value the contribution of the professions, is a critical end. If stakeholders do not recognize our value and contributions, our right to self-regulate could be revoked, making the other ends irrelevant. Ensuring that stakeholders comprehend and appreciate our roles is essential for maintaining a robust and respected profession. It requires continuous public advocacy and transparent communication about our standards, practices, and ethical commitments. By fostering open dialogue and demonstrating the tangible benefits our professions bring to society, we solidify our place as important contributors to public welfare and policy shaping. This engagement secures our ability to self-regulate, enhances public trust, and ensures that our professional standards are upheld meaningfully and effectively.

The subcategories in End E-4 highlight the need to advocate to government. On behalf of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, Council needs to ensure that our governments understand the issues impacting the public interest as they relate to our professions, that they seek us out as stakeholders, and that they dialogue with us in developing legislation, regulation, public policy, codes, and standards.

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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?

All of the characteristics listed in GP-6 are very important – but for most important, I choose characteristic 1.2, Ability to think in terms of systems and context – to see the big picture.

It is imperative for councillors to consider the broader implications of their decisions on the profession and society at large. They must recognize the interconnectedness of economic trends, technological advancements, and societal shifts. Their foresight will be essential in identifying and preparing for future challenges and opportunities, while ensuring that our regulatory framework remains both relevant and effective.

Thinking in terms of systems and context includes recognizing the diverse needs and perspectives of stakeholders, including professionals, consumers, and the public. Councillors should strive to create inclusive and equitable policies that promote the overall well-being and integrity of the profession. This characteristic ensures that councillors can navigate complex issues with a holistic perspective, leading to informed and balanced decision-making that benefits the entire profession.