

Candidate Connection Survey

*Your Election (required)	
Form Version Number	3.0
Source	polinfobox
Token	
Token Process Status	Token found and processed
OfficialEmailAddress	
OfficeIDNumber	24593
CoverageLevel	
Some fields (if highlighted in yellow) have been prefilled for you. Please review, confirm and correct any information if it is incorrect.	
Name	Todd First name (463) Gessele Last name (464)
Email	togess@gmail.com
Party affiliation	AO02 - Republican Party
What type of office are you running for?	munot Other Munic
Which state or territory are you running in?	OR - Oregon
What office are you seeking election to? Please begin typing to find your office in the drop down list of options. If you cannot find a match, please enter the office you're running for as precisely as possible.	Commissioner Klamath County Oregon
What year is the election being held?	2024 - 2024

<p>Are you the current officeholder and seeking re-election for the same office (the incumbent)?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>*Your Key Messages (required)</p>	
<p>Who are you? Tell us about yourself.</p>	<p>I am Todd Gessele. I am running for Klamath County Commissioner Position #3 against incumbent, who is finishing out his second term currently, and against another candidate, recently switched parties. I've been an Oregon resident for 44 years & have lived in Klamath County for 30 years. Occupation: President and Producer at Totally Inspired Media INC (Totally Inspired Media DBA Inspired Project Funding. Todd Gessele is a people connector, media producer and an international deal maker (INSPIRED Project Funding—10M to 5B+), an experienced executive producer/director (45 countries), a Certified Management Professional (PMP 2007) and a General Contractor (2022). Todd owns Totally Inspired Media INC and represents Bio-Wastewater Treatment System. His work has been pivotal in advancing recruiting goal launching major business developments. helped launch the "due diligence" process for a new doctor-owned medical center, & raised funds for a community health van. Todd is a collaborator, volunteer engagement, campaigner, campaigns, grant writing, & social media messaging. Educational Background: Project Management Professional (PMP) Certificate from City University of Seattle (2007); BA in Communications/Business.</p>
<p>Please list below 3 key messages of your campaign. What are the main points you want voters to remember about you and your candidacy?</p>	

<p>First key message</p>	<p>Todd represents “We the People of Klamath County, not special interests, not outsiders opposes annexation of county lands with resident's representation. I'd like to see th building permits cut along with red tape developers. To have affordable housing, v better jobs and to promote educational opportunities and trades being taught at Community College and Oregon Institute Technology.</p>
<p>Second key message</p>	<p>We must build back the budget for the o the Sheriff and find a way to achieve 24/7 with resident deputies stationed in rural a oppose taking county money and subsidi Klamath Falls City Police Department so t provide proxy services to the unincorpora It makes no legal sense. Plus City Police o cost the tax payers more than Sheriff's de our tax dollars will go farther if we build b office of the Sheriff. We also need to recru a county coroner and a larger refrigeratec to properly process homicide investigatio</p>
<p>Third key message</p>	<p>Citizens at Klamath County Commissione meetings should be given up to 5 minute speak, not 90 seconds. Commissioners sh to find more ways to communicate with t public, for example, news releases and hc conferences.</p>
<p>What areas of public policy are you personally passionate about?</p>	<p>I am all for freedom, law and order. And c myself to be a servant. I know each tax dc earned and should be deployed thoughtf responsibly to do the most good. I am op the deep state, and the UN's 2030 concep minute smart cities. I'm in favor of in-pers with voter ID. Mail in ballots without ID le much room for election fraud. One solutic clean up the voter rolls in Oregon would k everyone to re-register to vote. I also wou see our county Clerk leave the camera's li on 24/7 once ballot counting begins.</p>
<p>Political Philosophy</p>	

What characteristics or principles are most important for an elected official?

The characteristics and principles that are important for an elected official include:

- Upholding ethical standards and being honest. <https://www.theclassroom.com/good-qualities-a-public-official-12083325.html>.
- Transparency: Being open about actions and decisions. <https://www.governing.com/government/voices/col-5-principles-integrity-administration.html>.
- Competence: Having necessary skills and knowledge to perform effectively. <https://www.governing.com/government/voices/col-5-principles-integrity-administration.html>.
- Fairness: Treating constituents equally and justly. <https://www.governing.com/government/voices/col-5-principles-integrity-administration.html>.
- Responsiveness: Listening to the concerns of the public and acting upon them. <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2018/08/01/quality-and-responsiveness-of-elected-officials/>.

These qualities help ensure that officials are accountable to the people they represent and can maintain public trust. It's also essential for officials to communicate effectively, be committed to public service, and possess self-confidence. <https://www.theclassroom.com/good-qualities-a-public-official-12083325.html>. Moreover, adherence to the principles outlined in foundational documents like the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence and the Oregon Constitution is often emphasized. <https://principlebasedpolitics.org/leadership-principles/>.

<p>What do you believe are the core responsibilities for someone elected to this office?</p>	<p>Our first job is to oversee multiple county departments. We are to listen and bring c together who can discuss important issu make positive civic decisions for the coun</p> <p>Administrative Functions: Overseeing the implementation of county policies and m decisions on various administrative matte</p> <p>Legislative Duties: Enacting ordinances a resolutions for the county's governance. ·</p> <p>Budgetary Oversight: Adopting the coun budget and ensuring fiscal responsibility.</p> <p>Services: Managing public services such a mental health, juvenile services, and vete services and to evaluate department dire services and operations provided to the p</p> <p>Land Use and Planning: Regulating land maintaining infrastructure like roads. ·</p> <p>Representation: Advocating for the coun interests at the state legislature and addr residents' concerns. These responsibilities designed to ensure that the county opera efficiently and serves the needs of its resic</p> <p>County Commissioners play a crucial role government, balancing state mandates v specific needs of their community. To be e one must be able to get key stakeholders room, where decisions can be made ethic openly and fairly with due process which citizens. When possible, we need to enco and engage small and emerging busines not just let the most prominent contract families, or outside interests have monop undue influence. This means my job is ab getting to know what you can contribute balancing the responsibility of overseeing workings of multiple county department: services.</p>
<p>Is there a book, essay, film, or something else you would recommend to someone who wants to understand your political philosophy?</p>	<p>· "Two Treatises of Government" by John L Outlines the theory of natural rights and t government's role in protecting them. · "T Contract" by Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Arg the legitimacy of political authority basec general will of the people. · "On Liberty" b Stuart Mill: Advocates for individual freed liberty as fundamental to a prosperous sc These texts provide a broad overview of V political thought and are a good starting anyone looking to delve into political phil</p>

<p>What are your views on financial transparency and government accountability?</p>	<p>Financial transparency and government accountability are widely regarded as fundamental principles for good governance. They are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Trust: Transparency in financial matters and accountability helps build trust between the government and the public. • Preventing Corruption: They are key to preventing corruption and ensuring that public funds are used appropriately. • Promoting Efficiency: These principles promote efficiency and effective use of public resources. • Encouraging Participation: They encourage public participation by providing citizens with information to make informed decisions and to hold officials accountable. <p>Overall, these principles are essential for a healthy democracy and for ensuring that government acts in the best interest of its citizens.</p>
<p>What qualities does this office possess that makes it a unique and important part of the state government and legal system?</p>	<p>The office of County Commissioner holds a unique and important role within the state government and legal system due to several qualities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Authority: County Commissioners are policymakers, overseeing the management and administration of county affairs. • Legislative and Executive Powers: They may possess both legislative duties, such as enacting ordinances, and executive powers, like appointing department heads. • Financial Oversight: Commissioners have significant responsibility for the county budget, rates, and fiscal management. • Local Representation: They represent the county in both state and federal levels, ensuring that the local community's needs are addressed. • Diverse Backgrounds: Commissioners come from various professional backgrounds, bringing a wide range of experiences to the role. • Community Impact: Their decisions directly affect the daily lives of residents, from maintaining infrastructure to managing public services. <p>These roles and responsibilities make the position of County Commissioner integral to the functioning of the state government and the legal system, bridging the gap between state mandates and the specific needs of their communities.</p>

<p>Are there any little-known powers or responsibilities held by this office that you believe more people should be aware of?</p>	<p>Oregon County Commissioners have a range of powers and responsibilities that are crucial to local governance. Some of the lesser-known responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointing a Chairperson: Commissioners appoint a chairperson from among their number, who serves until the following Monday in January following the appointment. • Issuing Bonds: They have the authority to issue bonds for funding county projects. • Managing Pensions: Commissioners are responsible for managing pensions for county employees. • Quality Assurance: Ensuring that water quality standards are met within the county falls under their purview. • Administering Courts and Jails: They may have a role in the administration of courts and jails. • Collecting Taxes: They are involved in the collection of property taxes. These responsibilities, among others, are crucial for County Commissioners to directly influence the quality of life in their communities by addressing specific local needs and issues. It's important for residents to be aware of these roles to better understand how their local government functions and to hold it accountable.
<p>Do you believe that it's beneficial for holders of this office to have previous experience in government or politics?</p>	<p>It's generally considered beneficial for holders of the office of County Commissioners to have previous experience in government or politics. This experience and transferrable skills from the profit or non-profit sectors can provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of Governance: Knowledge of the legislative process and familiarity with government operations. • Policy Expertise: Ability to translate community needs into effective policy-making and implementation. • Networks and Relationships: Established relationships with other government officials and stakeholders. • Leadership Skills: Proven capabilities and experience in managing large-scale projects. • Problem-Solving Abilities: Expertise in addressing complex issues and finding solutions. <p>However, fresh perspectives from individuals with diverse backgrounds can also be valuable in bringing new ideas and approaches to local government. Ultimately, the effectiveness of a County Commissioner may depend on a combination of experience, skills, and the ability to serve the community's needs.</p>

<p>What kind of skills or expertise do you believe would be the most helpful for the holders of this office to possess?</p>	<p>For County Commissioners in Oregon, a blend of skills and expertise can be highly beneficial for effective governance. Some most helpful might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership: ability to guide and inspire others is crucial in managing county operations and leading. • Communication: Strong communication is essential for engaging with the community and other government entities. • Financial Acumen: Understanding budgeting, financial management, and economic development is important for fiscal oversight. • Legal Knowledge: Familiarity with laws and regulations that impact county governance is helpful in making informed decisions. • Strategic Planning: The ability to develop long-term plans that align with the county's goals and resources is key. • Problem-Solving: Being able to address complex issues and find practical solutions is key for day-to-day operations. • Public Service Orientation: A strong commitment to serving the community and understanding the needs of constituents are essential skills that help County Commissioners navigate the challenges of local government and work effectively for the benefit of their community.
<p>Personal History and Fun</p>	
<p>What was your very first job? How long did you have it?</p>	<p>I learned field Spanish picking strawberries at 14. I worked the fields for 4 weeks until the strawberry season was finished. Then I went back to working in the fields for 84 yards in my community for the rest of the summer.</p>
<p>What is the first historical event that happened in your lifetime that you remember? How old were you at the time?</p>	<p>I was born the night the men landed on the moon, so I was zero! Reagan being shot when I was 14.</p>
<p>Who do you look up to? Whose example would you like to follow, and why?</p>	<p>Abraham Lincoln has always been my hero because he opposed slavery.</p>
<p>What qualities do you possess that you believe would make you a successful officeholder?</p>	<p>A successful officeholder should serve the community by providing information, answering questions, and facilitating tasks and my responsibilities to the best of my abilities.</p>

What legacy would you like to leave?	I would like to leave a legacy that reflects commitment to public service and the best of Klamath County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Change: Implementing policies that result in tangible improvements in the lives of county residents • Fiscal Responsibility: Ensuring that the county is on a sound financial footing for future generations • Infrastructure Development: Contributing to the development and maintenance of critical infrastructure. • Community Engagement: Fostering a strong sense of community and encouraging civic engagement. • Environmental Stewardship: Protecting natural resources and promoting sustainable practices. I aim to have a lasting positive effect on Klamath County and like to serve.
What is something that has been a struggle in your life?	I've had opportunity to work with very diverse people and have been trained and mentored by experts in crisis communications. Learning to listen to the abused, financially challenged, unhoused, refugees, students, healthcare providers, dying patients, genocide survivors, prisoners, misguided missionaries, and all peoples, has served me well with broad skills and an appreciation for culture, history, and present progress.
What was the last song that got stuck in your head?	I am a fan of Chicago and Peter Cetera.
What is your favorite book? Why?	The Bible. It is all about God trying to reach stubborn citizens with his love and gift of life.
Tell us your favorite joke.	I enjoy jokes, but can't remember any.
If you could be any fictional character, who would you want to be?	Goofy
Your Campaign (optional)	
What is your campaign slogan?	So Klamath Rises
What organizations or individuals have endorsed your campaign?	I am not accepting endorsements. I am neutral, free of outside interests and political lobbyist.
If available, please provide a link (or links) to any published endorsements.	

<p>If available, please provide a link to a campaign video. Videos must be on Youtube and must be under two minutes. Please see our full list of video guidelines (https://ballotpedia.org/Candidate_videos)</p>	
<p>Prior Offices (optional)</p>	
<p>How many prior offices have you held?</p>	<p>0 - have held no prior elec 0</p>
<p>Education</p>	
<p>1a. Please enter the name of your first college or university.</p>	<p>Walla Walla University</p>
<p>1b. Did you graduate from there?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>1c. Degree type</p>	<p>AO02 - Bachelors</p>
<p>1d. Graduation year</p>	<p>1992 - 1992</p>
<p>Would you like to add another college or university?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>2a. Please enter the name of your second college or university.</p>	<p>City University of Seattle</p>
<p>2b. Did you graduate from there?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Would you like to add another college or university?</p>	
<p>What high school did you attend?</p>	<p>Milo Adventist Academy</p>
<p>Photo and Demographics (optional)</p>	
<p>Do you want to submit a photo?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Photo guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photos must be of the correct candidate and only the candidate • The face must be clearly visible and unobstructed • Must be fully clothed • Photo must not contain any words or symbols that distract from the candidate • Photo must be in color • Photo must be recent (ideally less than two years old) • File format must be a jpg, jpeg, gif, png, bmp, or tif • Photo dimensions must be at least 1024x1024 pixels • Photo must be 2MB or less • Ballotpedia retains editorial discretion over which photos are uploaded 	<p>No comment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">File t</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BALLOTPEDIA/LUCY BURNS INSTITUTE PHOTO LICENSE</p> <p>I certify that I have the authority to and therefore do irrevocably grant and authorize the Lucy Burns Institute, dba Ballotpedia, the non-exclusive right and license to publish broadcast, exhibit, digitize, display, sublicense, transfer, sell, reproduce, translate, modify, edit, or use the photographs submitted for use by me.</p> <p>Ballotpedia may use the photographs in all present and future works of their own, including but not limited to its websites, compilations, databases, online services, marketing, or public relations materials.</p> <p>I certify that: 1. I have the authority to grant the rights granted under this License Form 2. Neither the photographs nor their use as contemplated under this License Form will infringe upon or violate any rights of any third party, including but not limited to any existing copyrights or trademarks, and that I have full power to enter into this agreement.</p> <p>I agree to indemnify Ballotpedia and its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents, and representatives for any damages and legal fees incurred by Ballotpedia for infringement claims that arise due to Ballotpedia use, sale, and/or publication of the photographs.</p>	

By submitting a photograph and checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read and accept the terms of the photo license described above.	Accept (1566)
Date of birth	07-21-1969
City of birth	
State of birth	KS - Kansas
Gender	Male
Religion	SQ113 - Seventh Day Adventist
Would you like to answer questions about your race/ethnicity?	No
Profession and Career	
What would you say is your profession?	A0412 - Producer
Is there any other professional experience you would like voters to know about?	Todd Gessele is a people connector, media producer and an international deal maker (INSPIRED Project Funding—10M to 5B+), experienced executive producer/director (countries), a certified Project Management Professional (PMP 2007) and Oregon Gen Contractor (2022). Todd owns Totally INSP Media INC (Founded in 2013) and represents Pure Wastewater Treatment System. His marketer, institutional promoter/historian fundraiser for faith-based healthcare (Adv Health & Loma Linda University Medical Center Murrieta) and education systems (k-universities) have been pivotal in advancing recruiting goal launching major business developments.
What organizations are you affiliated with?	Impact Hope, Christian Digital Network, Change the World.
Have you ever served in the military?	No
Links and Contacts (optional)	
Campaign website	https://www.electttoddg.com
Campaign Twitter	
Campaign Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557141102433
Campaign YouTube	
Campaign Instagram	

Campaign LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/in/toddgessele
What is the best campaign phone number and mailing address to reach you? This information will not be posted on Ballotpedia.	503 348-8652
Phone	
Address line 1	1011 Vista Way
Address line 2	
City	Klamath Falls
State	OR - Oregon
Zip code	97601
*Verification (required)	
Have you already filed your official candidacy forms?	Yes
What official government election agency did you or will you be filing your official candidacy forms with?	Secretary of State
Contact information for the official governing agency that is administering your election	Secretary of State
Please choose one of the following methods for Ballotpedia to verify that you are authorized to fill out this survey on behalf of the candidate.	I do not have access to a mobile sm Please contact me for a Other
By submitting these survey statements, I attest and confirm that all the information I have given to Ballotpedia is complete, true and accurate.	AO01