

Curriculum Vitae

James T (Jim) Jones

M.Sc.

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Enthusiastic and passionate individual seeking opportunities to support organisations and communities navigate problems and build and strengthen relationships through participatory sensemaking, visioning and action planning.

Summary of Qualifications

- 20 years' experience in building and working with community groups to create visions, build skills and deliver actions.
 - Highly experienced in project design, management and financing.
 - Facilitator supporting organisations and community groups to work with complex problems through sensemaking, visioning and action plan processes
 - 9 years in various Support Worker roles including in a residential home for differently abled people.
 - Personal experience of facing challenges to and finding solutions for my own mental health and overall wellness.
- **Coordination and Facilitation of Regular Engagement Activities**
 - Designed, managed and funded **Land Skills for Wellness and Sustainability** programme to provide access for students, staff and faculty at University of Waterloo to communal nature-based activities to promote wellbeing and sustainable practice.
 - As founder and Coordinator of **Ontario Land Skills Network (OLSN)**, I have delivered a range of workshops including hedgelaying, basketweaving and spoon carving. I also coordinate with other skills facilitators to arrange workshops and public events such as the annual "SpoonMoot" and Scything Gathering
 - Designed, managed, and funded **citizen science programs** 'Hedgerows for Dormice,' 'Hedgerow Heroes' and 'Riversearch' to engage volunteers in meaningful nature-based activities while meeting conservation objectives.
 - **Outreach to Groups and Individuals**
 - Gave talks on a range of topics to a wide variety of community groups while at **Surrey Wildlife Trust** to provide information and entertainment and enlist support for our work.

- While managing citizen science projects, I conducted landowner outreach and education to enlist support and inform on habitat management best practices for hedgerows and rivers
- **Interviews and Focus groups**
 - As a **freelance facilitator**, and with **ORIAS** and **Surrey Wildlife Trust**, provided facilitation of workshops for a range of community organisations including Food Systems Round Table Waterloo Region, Oak Ridges Institute for Applied Sustainability and Surrey Catchment partnerships for sensemaking, visioning and action planning.
 - For my PhD at the University of Waterloo, I have interviewed 30 participants and will be analysing the data to inform my thesis on narratives of land-based livelihoods
- **Understand and use a range of Engagement methods**
 - My principal method for facilitation when working with complex problems is **Participatory Narrative Inquiry (PNI)** which I have used successfully to support organisations and community groups in sensemaking, visioning and action planning towards strategic goals.
 - I have trained as a **complex facilitator** with Harvest Moon Consultants and with **The Cynefin Co.** I recently became a **Warm Data Host** by training with the International Bateson Institute and hosted an online “People Need People” session through the Waterloo Institute for Complexity and Innovation.
 - Through my work as skills teacher, I recognise the power of engaging around an activity (e.g.) basket weaving, spoon-carving) and the importance of place (e.g. familiar/unfamiliar) and how these effect outcomes.
 - I am adept at public/conference speaking. I was regularly booked as a speaker during my work at Surrey Wildlife Trust
 - As a founder and coordinator of OLSN, I built a website to act as focus for information and course-booking. I have become adept at using social media, particularly Facebook, Instagram, and You-tube for advertising events and to promote interest through videos and live broadcasts.
 - I have co-hosted one episode of the Doomer-Optimism podcast and recognise the power of this form of engagement [Doomer Optimism Episode D01 | 9 Stories, Places and Feeling at home in the world](#)
 - I write my own blog [James T Jones \(Blog\) Navigating The Adjacent Possible](#) Needs updating!
- **Project Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Admin.**
 - Through multiple roles, for instance as Living Landscapes Manager at Surrey Wildlife Trust and The Peoples Trust for Endangered Species I have become a highly experienced project manager, adept at project design, securing funding, implementation, line management of personnel, monitoring, and reporting.
- **Team Working and Meetings**
 - I have worked as a member of teams through most of my career.
 - As a Research Assistant I have regular meetings with my supervisor and other relevant team members (both online and offline) where I take notes and action points for delivery and reporting at subsequent sessions
 - At Surrey Wildlife Trust I worked within a series of teams at different scales. I co-managed a 5 member Living Landscape team which was based in and reported to the

Biodiversity, Evidence and Planning Department. I was one of 3 representatives from the Department reporting to the Senior Management team across all departments.

- **Champion co-production and the value of service user involvement across all activities and interactions**
 - I have a long history of working towards participatory governance and service-user involvement:
 - Through a 9-year career as a support worker, rising to a senior level in a residential home for differently abled people and gaining an NVQ Level 2 in Promoting Independence
 - Developing Catchment Based Partnerships for involving over 30 diverse organisations, community groups and individuals focussed on participatory governance of two Surrey rivers.
 - Working with local communities in “Building Resilience” using PNI and Asset-Based Community Development plans to focus on building local resilience to “external threats” including Climate Change and Covid.

Current Positions

2018-Ongoing	Independent Facilitator (ad hoc/contract). Facilitation for organisations and communities for sensemaking, visioning and action planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024 Food Systems Round Table Waterloo Region• 2020 Oak Ridges Institute for Applied Sustainability• 2019 Friends of the Dingle School House
2024-2025 (P/T)	PhD Candidate, Social and Ecological Sustainability, School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability, University of Waterloo, Canada.
2020-2024 (FT)	
2018-2024	Co-Ordinator, Ontario Land Skills Network

Previous Relevant Positions

2021 Jan-Oct	Resilient Palgrave Initiative Coordinator, Oak Ridges Institute for Applied Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination of stakeholder surveys and facilitation of participatory workshops
2019 Mar-Oct	Knowledge Management Consultant, STORM (Save The Oak Ridges Moraine) Coalition Project Protect Our Water: Building a Moraine Movement in the Greater Golden Horseshoe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination of stakeholder surveys and facilitation of participatory workshops
2011 Jul-2018 May	Living Landscapes Project Officer/ Manager, Surrey Wildlife Trust, UK.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Living Landscape Strategy through evidence review, objective-setting, stakeholder engagement and project delivery.
2013 Jun- Aug	Mammal and Herpetological Surveys Team Leader , Operation Wallacea, Romania 2013 (Jun- Aug)
2008 Apr - 2011 Jul	Hedgerows for Dormice Project Officer & other roles Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species London. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further developed volunteer management and science communication skills by creating and delivered a national citizen science project based on scientific research to help address declines in endangered mammal
2005 Apr – 2007 Feb	Consultant Ecologist , Thomson Ecology, Guildford, Surrey. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided scientific and policy advice to a range of clients and projects and undertook and supervised EIAs, baseline Ecological Assessments and Protected Species Surveys.
2004 Sep- 2005 Apr	Volunteer & Farmer Alliance/ Conservation Officer , RSPB, Eastern England, Norwich.
Pre-2000	Senior Support Worker (Learning Disabilities), Home Farm Trust and others. Pre 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Leader at a home for people with learning difficulties providing day to day care and access to living opportunities.

Education

Degrees

2020-2025?	PhD Social and Ecological Sustainability, University of Waterloo, Canada. <i>Emerging from the land: narratives of change in land-based livelihoods</i>
2003 to 2004	MSc Applied Ecology and Conservation , University of East Anglia, (NERC Funded).
2000-2003	BSc (Hons) Ecology (2:1) University of Plymouth.

Certificates

2020-2024	Fundamentals of University Teaching , Centre for Teaching Excellence, University of Waterloo Courses: Effective Lesson Plans; Classroom delivery skills; Giving and Receiving feedback; Collecting and Using Feedback; Microteaching Practical Developing Your Teaching Skills in Grad School
2020	Classical Sociological theory MOOC , University of Amsterdam
2019	Introduction to Complexity MOOC , Sante Fe Institute
2018	Economic Literacy Project Workshop Series , Sustainability Network Landscape Ecology MOOC , ETH Zurich. Transforming Development: The Science and Practice of Resilience Thinking MOOC SDG Academy/Stockholm Resilience Centre
2000	NVQ Level 2 Promoting Independence
1999-2000	'A' level Biology, Kingston College, Surrey.
1999	Certificate in Natural Sciences, Open University
1986-89	3 'A' levels, 1 'A/O' level, 8 'O'Levels Ewell High School, Surrey