

Committee: **London Diversity & Race Relations Advisory Committee**

Name: **SHARIF BEHRUZ**

Address:

**687 Silversmith Street
London, Ontario N6H 5R8**

Occupation: **Consultant, Tele-interpreter**

Work experience: **I have worked for a US company providing interpretation services to people with English language barrier. The primary languages that I interpret for are Kurdish and Persian.**

Education: **I have obtained my honours BA in Political Science from the University of Western Ontario in 2001. I have been certified by Language Line Services as Certified Professional Interpreter.**

Skills: **As a person going through first-hand experiences challenging newcomers to Canada, I am well aware of the issues most important to diversity in the country and in the city of London where I chose as my new home in 1994. In my years in London, I had organized sports club and ran children's programs for newcomers to Canada and others. As a manager and business owner in Ottawa for over 4 years, I have worked with people from various backgrounds and races, which I believe will all assist in this body. I have also been a member of my son's school Student Council which I think have earned enough skill to contribute to this body as well.**

Interest reason: **I have called London, my new home in 1994 and I would like to contribute as much as I can to contribute in making London a proud, accepting, accommodating and diverse city.**

Contributions: **I well understand the challenges faced by newcomers who are making London as diverse as possible and I am also well aware of race, religious and ethnic issues that can be good contribution to this body, I believe.**

Past contributions: **As the President of the Kurdish Canadian Soccer Club, I was able to assist many families who had difficulties paying for their child's enrolment fees and transportation. I was also my son's school Student Council at Jack Chambers Elementary School in the year 2010-2011 and I was a member of the standing committee on Information and Technology. I have also advised families of Kurdish background in London and surrounding on integration, cultural differences, language and etc...**

Interpersonal: **I highly value others views and feedback and I have always been able to engage in lively exchanges of views with people from various backgrounds. I enjoyed being in my Son's Student Council and contributing to the Committee that I was a member of. I really respected the commitment and contribution of many parents who cared about the safety and well being of their community.**

Interview interest: **Yes**