

City of London - Application for Appointment to City of London Community Advisory Committees

Application

Committee you are interested in serving on: **Environmental Stewardship and Action Community Advisory Committee**

Contact Information

Name: **Dolapo Olufade**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N6G 1K5**

Experience and Qualifications

If you have experience on a London Advisory Committee, please provide dates and details. (max. 250 characters):

While I do not have experience on a London Advisory Committee, I have however, had the opportunity to intern at the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Division of the City of London between November 2023 and March 2024. In my role as an intern, I played a key role in the implementation plan of the Anti-Black Racism Action Plan. I was also involved with the drafting and implementation strategy of the Workplace Equity Action Plan and the Anti-Islamophobia strategy.

I also successfully collaborated on events/projects, especially the Black Business Opportunities and Career Conference which was a joint project involving the City of London, the Western University EDI Office and the London Black History Coordinating Committee. This project allowed me to establish relationships with amazing individuals from the business, academic, and political communities in London.

What do you hope to contribute or learn as part of a Community Advisory Committee? (max. 250 characters):

Across the country, Canadians are increasingly feeling the impacts of climate change. Higher temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns; extreme weather events, such as floods and heatwaves; and rising sea levels are just some of the changes already affecting our country. I believe that addressing the climate apocalypse rests on transformational leadership which will invariably impact mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Consequently, as a member of a Community Advisory Committee, I hope to contribute by leveraging my background in environmental law and climate finance to help the City of London's climate action plan into actionable, community-specific strategies. I aim to engage in thoughtful dialogue, bringing my perspective to foster innovative solutions tailored to our local needs. By participating, I intend to deepen my understanding of local environmental challenges enriching my ability to advocate effectively for sustainable practices.

How will you support the work of a Community Advisory Committee? (max. 250 characters):

As a graduate student researching the role of climate finance in mitigation and adaptation efforts, I possess a strong understanding of the interdisciplinary issues impacting environmental management and climate action. This enables me to propose evidence-based solutions to environmental challenges.

My communication and research skills will be invaluable in gathering data and feedback from the community, stakeholders, and experts to inform the development of a bespoke environmental strategy. Additionally, my ability to analyze complex information and synthesize it into actionable recommendations will ensure that the implementation of any proposed strategy is practical and effective.

Lastly, my commitment to inclusivity and diversity, coupled with a keen awareness of

cultural sensitivities, will help ensure that proposed policies are sensitive to the unique needs and perspectives of the diverse London community.

We value the contributions of Londoners with diverse experiences and welcome applications from individuals who share our commitment. Please describe how your work, community or lived experience will enhance these efforts through Community Advisory Committee work. (max. 3000 characters):

My academic and professional backgrounds which cut across Africa and North America, have afforded me the opportunity to develop an interdisciplinary and cross-border experience in climate action, sustainability and environmental management encompassing both public and private sector engagements. This has provided me with a comprehensive perspective on legal issues pertinent to climate change. Furthermore, my Master of Laws program at Western University has exposed me to complex issues in green finance, securities regulation and sustainable investment practices while also equipping me with the analytical skills to solve these issues through advanced legal research and case analysis.

Moreover, my stint at a leading financial services firm in West Africa, where I played a pivotal role in regulatory compliance and legal advisory has provided me with excellent communication and analytical skills, and the ability to collaborate effectively with diverse teams to tackle complex challenges with creativity and resilience. Furthermore, I believe that the Advisory Committee will benefit immensely from my familiarity with international environmental law, and experience in providing legal advice which transcends borders. This uniquely positions me to thrive in a multicultural setting such as the Community Advisory Committee.

Concurrently, my recent involvement with the Sustainability Committee of the Society of Graduate Students at Western University showcases my passion for organizing around environmental issues and sustainability.

What is more, my experience with grassroots community engagement within the black community will enhance my work at the Community Advisory Committee. This background allows me to bridge gaps between technical insights and community needs, ensuring that solutions are both innovative and inclusive. Having recently co-organized one of the largest educational and career conferences in London during the last Black History Month which drew attendance from high schools, Fanshawe College and Western University, I believe I possess the network and reach that can drive engagement for the Committee's work across varying demographics.

Please describe additional experience, training, or community involvement that will help you in your role as a Community Advisory Committee Member. (max. 250 characters):

I bring a multidisciplinary background to the Community Advisory Committee, enriched by academic and professional experience in law, finance, climate policy and environmental law. In March, I completed a specialized course with the Oxford Climate Society on climate change.

Beyond academia, my engagement with community initiatives has been robust and varied. I have volunteered with several environmental NGOs, where I helped organize local clean-up events, tree-planting drives, and educational workshops aimed at raising awareness about sustainable practices. These experiences have honed my skills in community outreach, stakeholder engagement, and public speaking, enabling me to effectively communicate complex environmental issues in a way that is accessible and motivating to diverse audiences. Together, this blend of academic training, community involvement, and advocacy work positions me well to contribute meaningfully to the Community Advisory Committee

Attach resume or other document here, if needed: **Resume - Dolapo Olufade.pdf**

Attach more files here, if needed:

Confirmations

I declare the following: **I am at least 18 years old.; I am not a City employee or Council member.; I understand that the commitment may be up to 4 hours per month to attend meetings and prepare.; I understand that my application and any attachments will be included on a public agenda that is published on the City website.**

To help inform our outreach activities, please tell us how you heard about this opportunity:
(optional): **Word of mouth**

If you selected 'Other', please specify:

Submitted on: **4/17/2024 9:06:09 PM**

DOLAPO OLUFADE

London, Ontario

EDUCATION

Master of Laws (LL.M) Candidate

Sept 2023 - Aug 2024

University of Western Ontario (Western University), Canada

- *Relevant Courses:* Environmental Law, Mining Finance and Sustainability, Advanced Securities Law and Practice.
- *Research Project Focus:* Climate Finance and Carbon Markets.
Supervisors: Prof. Martin Petrin, and Prof. Sara Ghebremusse

Bar Licensing Certificate

2016 - 2017

Nigerian Law School

- Graduated top 4% in a national class of over 5, 000 students.

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)

2011 - 2016

Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

- Graduated top 5% in my cohort.

AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP

- Western University, Faculty of Law Graduate Research Scholarship.
- Western Black Leadership University Experience (BLUE) Fellowship.

ACADEMIC AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Member, Sustainability Committee

Apr 2024 - Present

Society of Graduate Students (SOGS), Western University

Centralized by the SOGS Climate Emergency Declarations, the Sustainability Committee strives to make SOGS an environmentally sustainable organization.

Managing Editor, Canada-United States Law Journal

Oct 2023 - Apr 2024

Canada-United States Law Institute

The Canada-United States Law Journal was the first academic law journal dedicated to the exploration of the complex trade relationship between Canada and the United States.

- Led communication among editorial board members, authors, and other contributors.
- Oversaw the submission and peer-review process for submitted manuscripts.
- Collaborated with the public relations team to creatively promote the journal. This led to the receipt of submissions from scholars across three continents.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern

Nov. 2023 - Mar.2024

Corporation of the City of London, Ontario

- Worked with the Black Community Liaison Advisor on the implementation strategy for the Anti-Black Racism Action Plan.
- Provided research support for the Workplace Equity and Inclusion Action Plan, the Anti-Black Racism, and Anti-Islamophobia Action Plans.

Legal Counsel

Oct. 2020 – Dec. 2023

Meristem Securities Limited, Lagos, Nigeria

One of the largest financial services and capital market groups in West Africa headquartered in Lagos, Nigeria.

- Co-led the team that structured the trust transaction for the *InfraCredit* guarantee of *GLNG Funding SPV PLC's* NGN5.0 billion 10-Year Series 1 Bond for clean energy solutions.
- Praised for leading the team that provided corporate trust service to a consortium of free trade zone companies for a renewable energy transaction in Nigeria.
- Commended for leading the review of the Clearing and Settlement Agreement involving Meristem Stockbrokers Limited and the Nigerian Exchange (NGX) promoting a Sustainable Bond Market in Nigeria.
- Integral member of the team that provided Bond Trustee services to a N40 billion corporate bond issued by *Geregu Power Plc* for its sustainable energy generation.
- Led the team that provided Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) advisory and compliance services to leading companies in the financial, capital market and healthcare industries in Nigeria.

Associate (Corporate-Commercial)

Nov. 2018 – Oct. 2020

Jackson, Etti and Edu, Lagos, Nigeria

A commercial and business advisory law firm consistently ranked as a top-tier law firm by Chambers Global

- Provided legal advisory services to national and multinational companies on issues related to environmental compliance matters, including air and water quality regulations, waste management, and land use planning.
- Successfully represented corporates in the energy, and oil and gas industries on various administrative hearings and negotiated settlements with regulatory agencies.
- Member of the project finance team that provided an advisory focused on the environmental impact of a public-private Partnership Project.
- Supported the team that conducted a factory audit of one of the largest Fast-moving Consumer Goods companies in West Africa. The audit focused on regulatory compliance with environmental codes and laws in Nigeria.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams, including compliance officers, risk management professionals, and senior executives, to promote a culture of compliance and risk mitigation in clients' businesses.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- Successfully coordinated the hosting of the Black Business Opportunities and Career Conference geared towards inspiring the black community in London, Ontario as part of Black History Month initiative.

RESEARCH PAPERS

- Bridging the Climate Finance Gap: Designing a Legal Framework for Carbon Market in sub-Saharan Africa. (*in progress*)
- Making a Case for “Testing the Waters” in the Nigerian Securities Market: Lessons from Canada and the United States.
- The Tragedy of the Commons in the Context of the Egyptian-Ethiopian Nile Dispute: Lessons from John Locke.
- Climate Change Disputes: Litigation, Arbitration or Mediation?
- The Control and Regulation of Oil Pollution in Nigeria: A Critical Appraisal.