

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

## Application

Committee you are interested in serving on: **Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee**

## Contact Information

Name: **Shlair Alqais**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N6E1J5**

## Experience and Qualifications

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

**Though I haven't yet served on a London Advisory Committee, my career reflects a rich tapestry of experiences primed for such a role. As a Professor at Fanshawe College, I've honed communication and leadership skills, fostering inclusive learning environments and championing academic excellence. Additionally, my tenure as a Clint Advisor at the Royal Bank of Canada underscores my ability to understand diverse needs and provide tailored solutions. At the same time, my community involvement as a United Way Champion and volunteer exemplifies my dedication to promoting diversity and inclusion. My background as Director of Quality Assurance at the University of Zakho demonstrates my capacity to coordinate complex projects and ensure high-performance standards. With this breadth of experience, I'm poised to bring fresh perspectives and a robust skill set to the London Advisory Committee, facilitating informed discussions and driving positive change for our community.**

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

**I am dedicated to supporting the committee's efforts in providing valuable recommendations and advice to the Municipal Council. Through collaboration, empathy, and a commitment to equity, I am confident that we can work together to create a more inclusive and just city for all. I aim to bring insights from my diverse background in academia, finance, and community service to foster inclusivity and equity. My leadership experience equips me to amplify marginalized voices and drive initiatives for equitable community development, promoting collaboration and innovation. I hope to learn new approaches to collaborative decision-making for social impact. This includes developing skills in consensus-building, conflict resolution, and leveraging resources for the betterment of our community. I am particularly interested in learning how to navigate complex issues.**

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

**I will support the Community Advisory Committee by actively participating in meetings, contributing diverse perspectives, and conducting thorough research on relevant issues. I will ensure a comprehensive understanding of local needs and priorities informs our recommendations. Additionally, I am committed to fostering collaboration and consent-building within the committee. I will diligently work to ensure our efforts have a meaningful impact and positive change for our city. My academic background has honed my research, critical thinking, and communication skills, enabling me to analyze complex issues and articulate informed recommendations. Furthermore, my involvement in community organizations such as the Cross Cultural**

**Learner Centre and United Way has instilled a strong sense of social responsibility and a passion for fostering inclusive environments.**

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 journey is shaped by diverse experiences rooted in academia, finance, and community engagement. As a Canadian immigrant with a background in economics, I bring a unique perspective to the table. As a professor at Fanshawe College, I've had the privilege of teaching students from diverse backgrounds, each with their unique perspectives and experiences. Through this role, I've cultivated a deep appreciation for the value of diversity in enriching learning environments and fostering understanding. I have developed practical communication skills to engage with individuals from varied cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic backgrounds, ensuring that all voices are heard and respected. This experience has taught me the importance of creating spaces where everyone feels valued and included, and I am committed to bringing this ethos to my work on the committee.**

**Outside of my professional roles, I have been actively involved in community organizations such as the Cross Cultural Learner Centre and United Way. I have worked to promote diversity, inclusion, and social justice. Through these experiences, I have developed a deep understanding of the systemic barriers that marginalized communities face and the importance of collaborative, community-driven solutions. I am committed to bringing this perspective to the committee, advocating for policies and initiatives that center the voices and experiences of those most impacted by inequity.**

**My diverse background and experiences have instilled a deep commitment to promoting inclusivity and equity within our community. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the Community Advisory Committee's efforts to create a more just and equitable city for all residents. I am confident that my unique perspective and skills will enhance our collective efforts.**

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

**My extensive teaching experience at various academic institutions, coupled with my master's degree in economics and multicultural upbringing as a Canadian immigrant, equips me with a unique perspective and skills that will be invaluable in my Community Advisory Committee Member role. My involvement in community organizations such as the Cross Cultural Learner Centre and United Way has also provided me with firsthand experience promoting diversity, inclusion, and social justice. Through my diverse experiences, I have developed strong communication, leadership, and advocacy skills, enabling me to effectively contribute to the committee's mission of fostering inclusivity and equity within our city. Furthermore, my recent completion of the Leadership Microcredential Series at Fanshawe College demonstrates my commitment to continuous learning. Further, it enhances my ability to lead and collaborate effectively within diverse community settings.**

Attach resume or other document here, if needed:

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): **City Website**

If you selected 'Other', please specify:

Submitted on: **4/20/2024 11:16:42 AM**