Committee: Board of Governors, University of Western Ontario

Name: Michael M. Lerner

Address:

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Occupation: Lawyer (Partner) Lerners LLP

Work experience: I have practiced law in London since my call to the Bar in 1974. Prior to that I had one year of high school teaching experience in Burlington, Ontario before going to law school.

Education: BA UWO 1967 LLB UWO 1972 Call to the Bar 1974 Certificate in Dispute Resolution 2007

Skills: I have been actively involved in the local community and chaired a number of community and charitable boards and committees. I was President of the Masonville Ratepayers Association and regularly represented the neighbourhood in matters involving the university. I have lived in close proximity to the university my entire life. I have been "on campus" on a regular basis for one reason or another since 1952! As a resident and student I well know the need for an amicable relationship between the City and the university. I am familiar with the dynamics between the two. I believe that it is important to maintain a good relationship between the city and one of its largest employers. There is a synergy yet to be fully developed. Because of my knowledge and experience I believe the learning curve will be minimal and I am in a position to represent the interest of the citizens of London on this Board.

Interest reason: I believe to most of Londoners, the university is an undiscoverd asset. It is important for all citizens to know that the university has something to offer them and they should be comfortable on the university campus. The relationship between Londoners and the university needs to be expanded. There is a need to explore and develop business and employment opportunites together. The university attracts students and visitors to London that support the local economy. One needs to feed off of the other to maximize the full potential of a symbiotic relationship.

Contributions: Simply stated, the university has had a significant influence on my life. I visited the campus as a child, attended as a student otbtained 2 degrees and continue to support as an alumnus as a donor a occasional lecturer in the Faculty of Law. I recognize the importance of one to the other.

Past contributions: I have been an active member of several boards and committees assuming the position of Chair. I have an appreciation of the importance of board work and its responsibility for governance. I currently Chair the Children's Health Foundation and recognize the need to expand the relationship between it and similar boards to the mutual benefit of the city and the university. My board experience is broad and has allowed me exposure to a variety of organizations. I have the time and inclination to be of service. There is a need to promote both the city and the university globally. There is a need to continue to work together.

Interpersonal: As a lawyer I am involved in decision making and dispute resolution on a daily basis. I recognize the importance of sharing views and the need to collect all the facts and background information before reaching a decision. I am not afraid to make and standby a decision but also recognize that I am not always right. I appreciate the need to hear the minority and the impact of decision making on those that may not carry the day. I am neither a liberal or a conservative. I am a moderate who can work with others. I am able to assume positions of leadership if asked to do so as I have in the past

Interview interest: Yes