Committee: London & Middlesex Housing Corporation

Organization/Sector represented: NA

Name: David Schefter

Address:

550 Ridout Street N, Apt. 27

Occupation: Business Development Associate

Work experience: I began working as a Business Development Associate at Raymond James' London office in September 2014. Prior to that, I was a graduate student at Western. Prior to graduate studies, I worked for 2 years as a Research Economist in the Canadian Economic Analysis department at the Bank of Canada at it's Headquarters in Ottawa. I was mainly responsible for inflation forecasting in that role.

Education: I graduated as the Gold Medalist (highest academic standing) from the MBA program at Ivey Business School at Western in the class of 2014. I graduated with an undergraduate degree (honours with distinction) in Economics from Queen's University in Kingston in 2011. I was valedictorian in my highschool class of 2007.

Skills: I have board-level experience with an affordable housing charity in Ottawa called Daybreak (2012-13). As a member of the board, I sat on the Finance and Audit committee where I brought my strategic, financial and leadership skillsets to the table. I have specific skills in budgetting, strategic planning and risk-management. I feel these skills and attributes will be of value to this body.

Interest reason: I believe that safe, secure housing is critical to one's physical and mental well-being and that a home brings dignity and a sense of self-worth to the occupant. As someone with a financially modest upbringing, I know how hard it can be to afford housing on a limited income. Now that I am embarking on a professional career in the city of London, backed by solid educational and work experience, I feel compelled to give back to a community that has given me so much opportunity in spite of my relatively short time living here.

Contributions: I think that I am well positioned to add not only a youthful voice to the housing corporation, but also one that is backed up by a sense of professionalism, a desire to make London a better place, and an ability to relate meaningfully to the corporation's tenants. I offer my skills and experience in combination with a strong work ethic to deliver value for the organization.

Past contributions: During my time as a director with Daybreak (mentioned above), I took a lead role in improving committee/board communications. I accomplished this in 2 important ways. First, I streamlined the information presented to the wider board, focussing on relevant, action-oriented items. Second, I organized a board member financial education process to help those members who were less financially savvy understand the financial information, thus facilitating the fiduciary duty of care for board members. I also led the next fiscal year budget formulation process, reaching cross organization to gather data and make decisions.

Interpersonal: I use these skills every day in my current role where I work with members of the public as well as my team. I also built this skill during my MBA program at Ivey, a program which is structured to ensure that you learn with people who have diverse backgrounds, opinions and views. I would therefore rank my experience level with these sorts of situations to be high.

Interview interest: Yes