Committee: Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: Alison Regehr

Address:

50 Palmerston Place, London

Occupation: Environmental Scientist

Work experience: In my current role at the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, I work in the field of stormwater management, particularly low impact development (LID). This includes designing and managing LID projects, taking into account local hydrology and geology to ensure ultimate project success. I also liaise with municipal officials, developers, consultants, and contractors to promote the uptake of LID. My previous roles have included work in stormwater education, nutrient management, environmental site assessments, hydrogeological assessments, waste management, and water quality management.

Education: I have a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Environmental Studies. These degrees included studies in biology, geology, ecology, hydrology, hydrogeology, and natural resource management. I completed a master's thesis on soil nutrient processes and an undergraduate culminating project on mapping areas of high erosion.

Skills: I have experience in the application of low impact development (LID), a relatively recent form of stormwater management. As the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is in the process of developing guidelines that will likely require a greater use of LID in new developments, my knowledge of LID will be useful. I also have applied knowledge of hydrogeology. I work well in a team, communicate clearly, am an effective researcher, and successfully apply theoretical information to real-world problems.

Interest reason: I am interested in applying my knowledge at a broader scale within the City of London, helping London meet the environmental leadership strategic priority outlined in the Official Plan. I believe that it is extremely important to consider the environmental and ecological implications that arise from on-going growth and development within the City, to ensure a sustainable future. Although it can be a challenge to balance new development with ecological considerations, this is a challenge I am interested in engaging in.

Contributions: As discussed above, I can contribute knowledge in the fields of stormwater management and hydrogeology. I can contribute time and energy to be an engaged member of the committee, participating in working groups as needed. I can work with other committee members to provide advice to the Planning and Environment Committee, asking questions when necessary, and providing technical input.

Past contributions: I have volunteered on a variety of committees, including in the position of chair. I recruited and coordinated volunteers, managed projects, developed agenda, sought input from other committee members, and contributed relevant opinions and ideas through the decision-making process.

Interpersonal: When I volunteered on other committees, I respectfully listened to the opinions of other committee members. I always ensured I was prepared in advance of meetings so that my views could be well-researched and substantiated. In the workplace, I enjoy working with colleagues from a variety of disciplines so that we can each contribute meaningfully to the project, resulting in a better product than if one of us worked alone. Additionally, I worked in Honduras for a year, working with a local NGO. In order to for me to work effectively, I had to learn from my local colleagues in order to adapt my work to the local context.

Interview interest: Yes