

Committee: **London Public Library Board**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Paul P. Gray**

Address:

182 Gammage Street

Occupation:

Work experience: **Working in the fields of building automation controls, IT and customer service, I have spent the last 15 years actively nurturing a thriving business network across Southwestern Ontario. As a lead service representative of Johnson Controls in the area, I am responsible for developing, testing, and assuring the implementation of green energy and cost-saving solutions for clients such as London City Hall, London Convention Centre, Toyota and 3M, among others. My work is also collaborative, as I meet with consultants and engineers to determine the feasibility of a given project and collectively see the project through from its initial conception to the final stage of quality control.**

Education: **Certified Electronics Engineer BA in Political Science (Western University)**

Skills: **From the campaign I just ran in the race for Ward 4 city councillor, I became adept at gauging public opinion and the ways that social media – along with face-to-face encounters – can help develop relationships between the stakeholder and the service provider. I also have a keen understanding of operating costs, returns on investment and how to coordinate sales and solutions so that these facets work in tandem to enable the organization to fulfill its mandate.**

Interest reason: **I feel it is essential for the healthy development of our city that more support go toward the public library system and I support funding our collective base of knowledge. I understand how libraries enrich London and bring cohesion to communities and neighbourhoods by bringing people together under the banner of improving one's lot in life, whether through study, job searches or community and cultural events. Therefore, I'd like to further assist this body and give back to the community what the public library system has given to me.**

Contributions: **I bring an eclectic combination of technologically-based work experience, an arts education and a commitment to community – a major part of the reason I decided to live in a smaller, warmer city like London. And although much of what I do is based on numerical equations, I naturally gravitate towards a personable approach, one that focuses on end-users' practical, social and aesthetic considerations. During my studies at Western, I've used the library system extensively for research papers understanding how this played fundamental role in my success. I believe my commitment to this body can also inspire and encourage members of London's community.**

Past contributions: **I've been a member of the board of directors at Beth Tefilah Congregation for the last 2.5 years. In this role I've been responsible for budgeting, resolving competing interests between members, staff and clergy, developing cost-savings strategies for the synagogue, appointing new members, voting on resolutions, passing them and looking at new resolutions for future consideration.**

Interpersonal: **Finding a common ground amid budgetary and other conflicts is the thread which ties together my roles as electronics engineer, husband, father, and dedicated participant in civic affairs. For example, when I meet with consultants and other engineers to come up with energy-saving plans, not everyone always shares my view. I am always curious to hear the details that I may have not noticed, and present my interlocutor with the evidence behind my idea. When it comes to collaborative projects, it is imperative that everyone is satisfied in order that the project is seen through to fruition. I therefore do not assume ownership over an idea, fact or circumstance, but instead recognize that different perspectives help to build a better project overall.**

Interview interest: **Yes**