

Committee: **EEPAC**

Organization/Sector represented: **The University of Western Ontario**

Name: **Mirindi Eric Dusenge**

Address:

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Occupation:

Work experience: **I have been doing research on plants for the past 7 years. My experience mainly comes from tropical ecosystems where I studied plant diversity (plant taxonomy), and also plant ecology - physiology. With respect to plant diversity, I was involved in two studies in Rwanda that aimed to explore plant diversity, one in some islands in lake Kivu (Rwanda-Congo border) and another one in tropical montane forests that are home of many endemic primate species. I worked for 1 year for the Rwanda Environment Management Authority, in a project that aimed at developing an online platform for the Rwandan flora - the Rwandan Biodiversity Information System. With respect to plant ecology - physiology I have been involved in many tropical studies investigating leaf traits that govern carbon cycle in tropical montane forests.**

Education: **I have a Bachelor of Science in Biology (with specialization in botany and conservation). I obtained this degree at University of Rwanda I have a Master of Science in Environmental Sciences that obtained from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden I am currently a PhD Candidate at University of Western Ontario**

Skills: **Skills that I think would assist this body include skills in conservation biology, particularly safe practices that would promote protection of natural ecosystems. My interests and curiosity on plants, I consider it to be an asset that would benefit this body.**

Interest reason: **My ultimate goal after I finish my doctoral studies is to be involved in projects that promote science into decision making and science based policy making. Therefore, by serving on this EEPAC committee, I strongly feel that I will gain this experience by contributing scientific knowledge that will help the city of London in planning on and dealing with different environmental issues.**

Contributions: **My contribution is to bring my knowledge related to protecting natural ecosystems that would benefit some of the ongoing projects in this regard on the city of London**

Past contributions: **As I mentioned before, I worked for the Rwandan government, on a project that aimed at developing an online platform for Rwandan biodiversity, where I was serving as a botany officer on this project nearly a year. Besides gathering data on the Rwandan biodiversity, I also worked on another project that developed biodiversity indicators that are being used in Rwanda currently to monitor the health of Rwandan natural wetland ecosystems. I am fluent in french, and if there materials that would need to be written in french I would also contribute to that.**

Interpersonal: **I have been working as a part of a team in every project I was involved in, and I believe that my team work spirit has been honed through my experience. So I believe that working as team where everyone brings his/her own knowledge/expertise is always more fruitful than working as one individual.**

Interview interest: **Yes**