

Committee: **Cycling Advisory Committee**

Organization/Sector represented: **Two (2) members-at-large, both of whom regularly utilize cycling as a mode of transportation in London**

Name: **Jean-Marc Metrailler**

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Occupation: **Law Student/Library Assistant**

Work experience: -- I currently work at the UWO Law Library providing research and clerical support. -- In the past I have worked for the Canadian Competition Bureau, an independent law enforcement agency of the federal government. In this role I was responsible for reviewing corporate mergers, with the ultimate purpose of preventing the formation of monopolies. -- Prior to the Bureau, I worked in the Compliance Department of Equitable Bank. In this role I was extensively involved in managing projects to ensure compliance with banking legislation. These projects involved changes to corporate governance and business processes, including complaint handling and consumer disclosure. -- While completing my undergraduate degree at McMaster University, I was employed as the Chairperson of the McMaster Student Union's Bylaws and Procedures Committee. In this role I worked with committee members to devise and recommend changes to student council, relating to changes in corporate bylaws and other governance matters. -- I have been hired as an Articling Student, to commence in the summer of 2015, at Harrison Pensa LLP, a law firm in London.

Education: -- I have an Honours Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Political Science from McMaster University, am in my final year of the law program at UWO. -- I expect to be a lawyer, licensed with the Law Society of Upper Canada, in 2016.

Skills: -- I am incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about cycling. In 2012, I rode my bicycle 9000 kilometers across the United States, to raise money for a local women's shelter. -- I ride my bicycle in London for both recreational purposes and for commuting. My daily bicycle commute to work/school averages 10km. I often bike in London's urban setting, taking full advantage of the city's bike routes and Thames Valley Parkway. I also enjoy cycling on the cities country roads, which allows my to experience cycling in smaller communities like Delaware and Dorchester. -- Being an avid cyclist in the city, I have knowledge of the city's safety and other requirements for cyclist (restrictions on sidewalk cycling, bicycle lighting, registration etc.) -- In 2012, I sat on the executive board of the McMaster Students Union. In this role, I was on the hiring committee for the staff of a bicycle co-op called "MacCycle," and was responsible for approving its budget and operations. Though not directly involved in its operation (but being a frequent patron), this oversight role taught me a lot about the types of services and infrastructure cyclists need in a community. -- I am familiar with bicycle repair, and have a small repair station set up in my garage. I regularly repair/refurbish bicycles for myself and for friends. -- As outlined elsewhere in this application, I have vast experience in governance settings and law, which, combined with my cycling knowledge and skills, could make me a valuable addition to the committee.

Interest reason: -- Having resided here for over 2 years now, I have really fallen in love with London, as demonstrated by my commitment to staying here after graduation. I want to give back to a city that has given me so many opportunities. I have always been interested in government and politics, but I am specifically interested in getting more involved in local government, which is an area where I believe people are more open to new ideas and working together. -- I firmly believe the bicycle is one of humanity's greatest inventions. It has been said that, converting calories to gasoline, the bicycle gets the equivalent of three thousand miles per gallon. Cycling is not only a fun activity, but it is the cheapest, most environmentally conscious way for people to get around. No city can be serious about being "green" without a serious commitment to cycling. Helping improve the cycling experience in London is therefore something I am incredibly passionate about.

Contributions: -- As a young adult, given the opportunity to sit on the Committee, I think I

could be a voice for fresh ideas. I would hope to be able to provide impartial opinions, grounded in my experience with governance and with cycling. -- In particular, I would like to work within the goals set by the London Plan, to improve the cycling experience in the city. This means recognizing and promoting cycling infrastructure along with transit, as an alternative to congested roads. -- Though ideas like new bike lanes are expensive, there are other innovative ways that the cycling experience can be improved in London. In particular, I would like build off the work the committee has already done in improving safety for cyclists on the road through the London Road Safety Strategy and the Bicycle Master Plan. I would also like to explore new ideas to reduce bike thefts in the city.

Past contributions: As explained in the "skills" section above, I have had numerous experiences sitting on similar bodies to the Cycling Advisory Committee. In all of these experiences I have proven myself to be an effective problem solver, and source of innovative ideas: -- As Chairperson of the McMaster Student Union's Bylaws and Procedures Committee, I spearheaded changes to the organization's elections bylaws and its bylaws governing affiliation with external lobbying groups, obtaining compromise from committee members who otherwise often disagreed. -- As a member the McMaster Student Union's Executive Board, I worked with a team to assess budget issues, make day-to-day management decisions, and to set the long-term strategic goals of the organization. -- As Vice-President of the McMaster Young Liberals, I gathered feedback from our members and local politicians, and drafted the group's first ever policy statement on an important local issue. -- As a member of Western's Grants Committee, I worked with other members to evaluate and prioritize grant funding to help out worthy community causes and activities. -- As Speaker/Meeting Chair of Western's Student Legal Society, I enforced Roberts Rules of Order, kept decorum, and interpreted the organizations constitution and bylaws.

Interpersonal: -- In addition to my governance positions as outlined above, my work at Equitable Bank and the Competition Bureau involved extensive team-work skills. -- At Equitable Bank, I worked in the Compliance Department, and was responsible for managing an extensive project to modify the Bank's complaint handling procedures. This task involved working with numerous other business units, and evaluating their specific needs, abilities, and views. The interests of the business and of compliance sometimes appeared to be in conflict, but I successfully found compromise on many issues. In completing this task, I worked with the IT department to create new complaint tracking software, which would help address our compliance concerns but which would also make it easier for the business units to manage complaints. I also worked with the business units to establish written procedures, and training, to strengthen their complaint resolution process. -- At the Competition Bureau, I gained more unique team-work experience. Much of my role involved reaching out to market participants, and lawyers in the private sector, to request information and gather evidence. Though their views often differed (and in some cases could have been in conflict with) the views of the Bureau, I was able to successfully point out our shared interests, and establish relationships to get the required information. Files were often assigned on a team-basis, with individuals from different backgrounds and with different abilities. In this role I was able to evaluate team-members' unique strengths, and work with them to complete work most efficiently.

Interview interest: Yes