

Committee: **Covent Garden Market Corporation Board of Directors**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Dias, Justin W.**

Occupation: **Director, Economic Development and Community Services**

Work experience: **I have worked in the fields of economic development, communications and community engagement in the public sector after a successful career in hospitality management. I have been specifically engaged in business development over the past number of years. In addition to economic development responsibilities, my current community services portfolio includes leading a staff of 11 and managing an annual operating budget of approximately \$1.6 million while overseeing 10 recreation and community facilities.**

Education: **I have completed a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western University (honours History) and an Ontario Post-Graduate Certificate from Humber College in Public Administration. I am also in the process of obtaining certification as both a Certified Economic Developer (Ec.D) and Project Management Professional (PMP). I have also obtained a Certificate in Merchandising from the University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies.**

Skills: **I possess strong financial management skills. I have managed budgets in both private and public sector organizations and bring an understanding of both profit-based and level of service based management principles that will help ensure the Market is both financially viable and accessible to all Londoners. I also have a strong background in strategic planning having developed and contribute to strategic planning exercises and implementation. This strategic planning knowledge will help ensure the Market is not only addressing current issues but looking forward to future needs. I also possess strong knowledge of facilities management & maintenance, building systems and asset management principles that will assist the Market as it contemplates the current physical building, public safety, accessibility and plans for future capital investments.**

Interest reason: **As a long-time resident of London and regular patron of the Covent Garden Market, I want to ensure the Market continues to be a vibrant place for families and all residents of London. I also want to ensure it is leveraged as an economic development asset drawing in visitors from across Southwestern Ontario.**

Contributions: **As a current board member, I will provide continuity by ensuring current initiatives reach their fullest potential. I also believe my ability to think critically and ask pertinent questions will help ensure the board and management are always making decisions based upon a variety of perspectives.**

Past contributions: **As a first time board member of the Market, I have provided a unique perspective to the decision making process. I have been committed to the position as demonstrated through regular attendance at the meetings. I have also been involved with a number of volunteer community boards and committees including the Talbotville Optimist Club and the Ailsa Craig Quilt and Fibre Art Festival organizing committee.**

Interpersonal: **As a professional in economic development and community engagement, I bring with me experiences working with businesses, community groups and residents from across a broad spectrum of ethno-cultural and socio-demographic realities. Whether it be establishing a strategic plan, working on an initiative or facilitating workshops, I have always demonstrated an open mind, utilized active listening and built consensus so that all parties are valued and engaged.**

Interview interest: **Yes**