

Committee: **London Police Services Board**

Organization/Sector represented: **Heritage London Foundation/Downtown Business Community**

Name: **Jacob McNiven**

Occupation: **Marketing Specialist**

Work experience: **As a former member of the Law Society of Upper Canada, I spent five years employed as a Paralegal (four of which were spent working in London). My primary focus during this time was insurance defence, with my secondary focus bring plaintiff personal injury. Currently I work in downtown London as a Marketing and Client Relation Specialist. Our firm is heavily engaged with the downtown community, helping local small to medium-sized businesses achieve their marketing goals. Each day we strive to make downtown London a safe, pleasant and efficient place to conduct business.**

Education: **In 2011, I obtained a President's Honours Diploma from Westervelt College in the Paralegal Studies program, earning a certificate of appreciation for my volunteer work at the school.**

Skills: **My education in the legal field has taught me to read, understand and interpret complex legislation and regulation with extreme attention to detail. It taught me to navigate contentious situations, work with difficult personalities, and negotiate effectively. My experience in marketing has taught me how to anticipate and control public reaction to company decisions, and ensure that organizations are putting their "best foot forward" to the community. It has taught me to solve-problems, think creatively and work collaboratively with other community partners. As Vice President of Heritage London Foundation, I have learned quickly how to work with the city to promote the organization's goals and develop strong community relationships. I have experience with human resource development, member communications, volunteer coordination, organizational redevelopment and financial management.**

Interest reason: **I was born and raised in the city of London, and over the years it has become an important facet of my personality. My long-term goal is to ensure that London will be a safe and hospitable place for all future generations; one that will attract new residents and organizations, expanding and improving on London's already-rich cultural fabric.**

Contributions: **I believe my background in law and marketing have provided me with unique insight into the ever-changing needs of Londoners. I am a forward-thinking individual with a desire to make this city a better place to live. My experience on charitable boards has provided me with experience navigating various city departments, making important staffing decisions, and cultivating deep community relations.**

Past contributions: **Since March 2016, I have served on the Board of Directors of Heritage London Foundation. Since April 2017, I have served as Vice President of this organization. HLF is dedicated to preserving and maintaining buildings and structures that are of historical or architectural importance to the city of London and surrounding areas. In addition to functioning as an advocacy group, we are licenced by the city to operate two significant heritage properties; Grosvenor Lodge on Western Road, and Elsie Perrin Williams Estate on Windermere Road. As part of my contributions to HLF, I chair the Membership, Communications, and Catering committees. In addition, I sit on the Executive, Human Resources, and Finance committees, and am responsible for board member development.**

Interpersonal: **As a Paralegal, I successfully operated under a strict set of guidelines that require respect and professionalism towards all parties. Lawsuits are naturally contentious, and while it can be difficult at times, I maintained a high level of decorum in all situations, working with my clients and the opposing parties to resolve often difficult legal questions. As a result of my board experience, I am accustomed to navigating the politics associated with board leadership, and working with city politicians and various departments to ensure the organization's continued success.**

Interview interest: **Yes**