Committee: Western Board of Governors

Organization/Sector represented: none

Name: Matthew Reid

Occupation: Lawyer

Work experience: Lawyer with Cohen Highley LLP, becoming a Partner as of January 1st. Currently the Chair of the Thames Valley District School Board for the last 2 years and was a Trustee for London Wards 2-6 for the last 5 years.

Education: 2009 - B.A. (Hons) from Western University 2012 - J.D. from University of Ottawa Faculty of Law 2013 - Called to the Ontario Bar

Skills: I was on the Board of Governors, Senate and Student Council while I went to Western from 2005-2009. I was also on the Presidents Selection Committee in 2008 that chose Dr. Chakma. I have an in-depth understanding of the organization and the long term goals of it. As I finish my term with the school board, it would be nice to take that knowledge and try to connect the school board with the university and collaborate even more.I have specialized knowledge in budgeting, policy development, employment and HR issues and constituency management from the school board that would be an asset. I also have the time now that my term with the school board is coming to an end.

Interest reason: Western is a major institution in our city and is doing innovative and cutting edge research. I am a proud alumni of Western and would enjoy going back to a familiar role. I think my background would lend itself to ensuring Western and the City of London continue to collaborate and work together on items.

Contributions: I will dedicate the time and energy needed to be an effective board member, to learn the organization from the ground up and be collaborative with fellow board members and senior staff. I believe my background and experiences could help assist this board with upcoming challenges and help connect Western with community organizations that are working towards similar goals.

Past contributions: As previously stated, I was the Trustee for Wards 2-6 and Chair for the last 2 years of the TVDSB. I've also served on the Board of Governors of Western from 2006-2008 and the Western Senate from 2008-2009. I've also served on dozens of committees with these two organizations. I also have been on various community and charity boards such as the Regional HIV/AIDS Connection.

Interpersonal: As Chair a lot of what I did was trying to collaborate and bring the team of Trustees together on initiatives. We had lively debates and did not always agree, but there was a level of respect that helped the organization continue to thrive and move on from various issues. I have always believed a strong team has diversity of backgrounds and opinions and what is important is there continues to be a level of respect regardless of debates and differences of opinion.

Interview interest: Yes