

Committee: **London Police Services Board**

Organization/Sector represented: **citizen**

Name: **John Matsui**

Occupation: **Writer**

Work experience: **Acted as a public relations consultant and public consultation consultant/conflict resolution consultant on contentious issues e.g. First Nations relations, environmental conflicts, labour disputes, hospital closings, crisis messaging for police; instructor Western University Continuing Education public relations post-grad diploma course; reporter/editor London Free Press; active as a volunteer with many community organizations such as the London Japanese Language Heritage Language School (vice-chair); London Community Foundation (marketing chair, board member); London Ski Club capital campaign (vice-chair);**

Education: **BA in journalism, Ryerson University, Canadian Securities Course diploma, French language courses Western University, including Trois-Pistoles French immersion program.**

Skills: **I possess expert communication and conflict resolution skills used in dozens of consultation / conflict resolution projects ranging from race relations issues, organized labour strikes, neighbourhood impacts, environmental crises, policing crises, health and safety issues, business relations, partnership building, and general community outreach. I was the co-author of the Best Practice for Public Consultation for Infrastructure Renewal commissioned by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.**

Interest reason: **I am a strong supporter of our city's Police Service having the skills and resources needed to do its job in a thoroughly professional manner and using best practices in its approaches during crises and its relationship with the community.**

Contributions: **I believe many of the issues that I've seen over the past couple of years stem from communication and could be resolved with better communication skills and conflict resolution strategies that I possess.**

Past contributions: **As a consultant, I've been in a paid position to resolve conflicts happily for: - The London Police Service and OPP (Project Guardian) where the relations with the LGBTQ community was in its most sensitive and formative stages; - LHSC/St.Joseph hospitals when the neighbourhood revolted over plans to develop lands near environmentally sensitive Westminster Ponds; - For the Municipality of Central Elgin when it faced stiff opposition over its plan to acquire Port Stanley Harbour; - For CN Rail, I guided the Hale-Trafalgar overpass project through all political hurdles and accessed funding from three levels of government to bring the project to fruition. In so doing, I aligned thinking at all three levels of government and managed expectations and communications with the public; As a volunteer: - During my tenure as marketing chair for the London Community Foundation, I raised its profile and saw assets under management nearly triple; - As vice-chair of the London Ski Club Capital Campaign, I help coordinate communications and outreach with members, the wider community and government, which resulted in the development of 'Hill 2000' and doubling of the winter recreational facility's capacity. - As founding board member and secretary of Genesis Housing Co-op, I helped bring community members and government together to develop a project in the late 1980s that still provides affordable, quality housing to 75 low-income families to this day.**

Interpersonal: **I am a communication professional and have have designed and used communication systems that have endured the test of time to keep communication channels open and inviting. I am an expert in principle-based negotiations. I have used it in labour negotiations, public consultations, and hospital closings with 100% positive results.**

Interview interest: **Yes**