

Committee: **London Police Services Board**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Deana Ruston**

Occupation:

Work experience:

Education: - **Bachelor of Arts in Thanatology (Grief Counselling) and Certificate in Loss, Grief & Bereavement from King's University College at Western University - Candidate of the First Responder Trauma Prevention & Recovery Program with Simon Fraser University focusing on first responder mental health and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder**  
Skills: - **education and knowledge in first responder mental health including post traumatic stress disorder - personal experience/ living and lived experience with mental illnesses and addictions**

Interest reason: - **interest in further advancing the London Police Service and its mandate to the London community - genuine interest in public safety, protection and community support and partnerships via London's Police Service to the London community**

Contributions: - **as an alumni of King's University College and Western University I look forward to the opportunity to work with many stakeholders and community partners in the collective community response to Fake Homecoming- I have vast knowledge and connections to many community partners that are needed at the table to London's community response to Western students' Fake Homecoming event. - As a person of living and lived experience with mental health and addictions challenges it is important that London Police Service conducts themselves in such a way that is inclusive of everyone within our community - as London grapples with a number of crises as a result of the opioid crisis it is vital to recognize the great importance that the London Police Service plays in our community's response- they are integral**

Past contributions: **I am a member of the following: -MP Peter Fragiskatos' Youth Council since October 2016, - the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Youth Action Council - the Young Canadians Roundtable on Health with The Sandbox Project and - the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario Youth Council**

Interpersonal: **Vast experience in sharing my views with others as well as listening to, and respecting the views of others. Over the past year and several months, I have been advocating in the community and beyond in regards to the need for a Temporary Overdose Prevention Site, and the need for supervised consumption and permanent supervised consumption facilities within our community. This advocacy has led me to hear from many different people of all different skills, knowledge levels, backgrounds, and abilities with regards to this. I have listened to their questions, and concerns and have shared with them my views while respecting theirs. This has been and continues to be a controversial topic but in the end is a misunderstood health and social service.**

Interview interest: **Yes**