

Committee: **Middlesex-London Health Unit Board**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Bayan Sharif-Chan**

Occupation: **Clinical Consultant Pharmacist**

Work experience: **I have had the pleasure of working as a community pharmacist at a big chain as well as a small independent pharmacy in the country and now as a consultant pharmacist at long term care homes. Nothing brings me greater joy than to help solve the health concerns of my patients. Working in these different environments has broadened my understanding of our health care system and increased my awareness of the various health concerns that affect the public. Currently as a consultant pharmacist I work with Nurses, Physicians and families at long term care facilities to evaluate their complicated medication regimens to determine the safest and most effective regimen with the least amount of medications.**

Education: **I completed my undergraduate Bachelors of Science degree at Western University in Biochemistry and Medical Sciences in 2008. I then obtained my Bachelors of Science in Pharmacy and Post Baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy Degrees at the University of Toronto in 2015. My schooling at UofT included theoretical training as well as extensive practical training ranging from the emergency room, intensive care unit, community, antimicrobial stewardship, drug information services and research. I continued my post-graduate education by gaining credentials in geriatric pharmacy and medicinal cannabis.**

Skills: **I have had experience in many tiers of health care from the intensive care unit to emergency room in the hospital to working at a big pharmacy chain in the city to a small independent pharmacy in the country and now finally in long term care facilities. I am acutely aware of how dichotomous the health care system can be, where some patients fall through the cracks and where others are successful in navigating the system. As a pharmacist I am the first point of contact with the health care system for many patients. They ask for my advice about their personal health and also how they can access health care services. My education and work experience has provided me with extremely unique experiences where I can see how a patient travels through the health care system utilizing different resources. This unique perspective will be a great asset to your team as you look at and evaluate the health of the citizens of London. Understanding how all layers of health care are interconnected is extremely valuable when implementing initiatives on broad scale. For example: Supervised Injection Sites – by implementing these sites you are helping the individual patients but also the system at large, there will be fewer calls to emergency response teams, less admissions to the emergency room, and these patients will have direct access to health care professionals who can guide them to substance abuse management and in the future reduce the burden on social services; as well as improve safety in the community. By developing initiatives that target our most vulnerable population we will see ripple effects of improvement in our health care system and most of all the health of our community.**

Interest reason: **I want to help improve the health of our community. I have been lucky so far in my career to have the opportunity to improve patient's health on an individual scale. However I have also seen how the lack of access to resources can damage a person's health. I hope that by participating in the Middlesex-London health board I can aid in initiatives that will improve the community as a whole. Creating a healthy community requires government motivation and citizen partnership. I hope to be the citizen that can provide her experience and skills to help implement initiatives here in London.**

Contributions: **I believe that I can bring forward my unique perspective as well as my ability to work with different teams to successfully implement our initiatives for the city. I am comfortable with developing and writing proposals as well as presenting on various topics.**

Past contributions: **I have not participated in formal organizations or similar bodies, however I have participated in a round table discussion on national pharmacare to put forward the perspective of the pharmacist (where we see the daily struggle of patients unable to afford their medications as well as the challenges of government billing processes). I have completed self motivated internal audits of pharmacy processes to improve workflow. I have developed curriculum for continuing education on change management for the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto.**

Interpersonal: As a pharmacist I work with different health care professionals to provide the best possible solutions for our patients. This requires healthy debate with regards to medication regimens and balancing each health care professional's perspective. Without respect and understanding there is no way we could successfully provide care to our patients. Additionally I have experience debating national pharmacare with individuals from various backgrounds (private companies, insurance, professors, and policy developers). In order to agree on points that would be presented to the Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare we needed to communicate effectively and respectfully and understand that each individual brings a unique perspective to the discussion.

Interview interest: **Yes**