

Committee: **London Public Library Board**

Organization/Sector represented: N/A

Name: **Katy Eager**

Occupation: **Paediatric Nurse Practitioner**

Work experience: **My work experience is has been broad and varied within the field of paediatric nursing. Prior to obtaining my undergraduate degree in nursing I worked at several camps both municipal and not-for-profit run for children with disabilities. I then started my professional career working in Durham, North Carolina at Duke Medical Centre, where I worked in every unit of inpatient paediatrics at one point or another. During that time I pursued my masters degree as a paediatric nurse practitioner along with a post masters certificate. I then was the first Nurse Practitioner to work with a newly developed paediatric liver and intestinal transplant team. Upon my return to Ontario, after a year of travelling (literally) around the world, I had the opportunity to teach both RPNs and RNs, at Conestoga College and McMaster University respectively. During my time at Conestoga College I was involved in teaching students who had international medical training, immigrated to Canada and required a “bridging program” to bring their skills in line with Ontario standards. Currently I am a Paediatric Nurse Practitioner at Children’s Hospital London Health Sciences Centre working in the Renal and Urology programs and an adjunct professor at the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing at Western University.**

Education: **My educational background includes: -Bachelor of Science in Nursing, McMaster University 2004 -Master of Science in Nursing- Paediatric Nurse Practitioner- Primary Care, Duke University 2008 -Post Masters Certificate- Paediatric Nurse Practitioner -Acute/Chronic Care, Duke University 2008 -Certificate in Nursing Education- University North Carolina Chapel Hill 2011 My credentials are NP-Paeds, CPNP-AC/PC.**

Skills: **I am highly adept at communicating with others while working towards a common goal. Within the context of healthcare, I play a vital link between patients and their families to the health care team. The patients I typically deal with are complex, whose needs change frequently and, often times under stressful circumstances. This requires quick but throughout assessment of new information, taking multiple points of view into consideration, a potential change of action and communication back to all parties involved. Additionally I am often responsible for teaching new and often complex information to families. Frequently I am able to distil down complex information into a more concise and relatable context so that patients and families are better able to understand their condition. As a result my verbal, nonverbal and written communication skills honed, including my skill of diplomacy, as there are many players on the healthcare team, frequently with differing opinions or expectations.**

Interest reason: **I am interested in serving the London Public Library because as relative new comer to London (5 years ago), I have been very impressed with what I have seen as a frequent user. I have often bragged to those outside the city about how great I think the London Public Library is. I want to be a part of the group that helps to craft the shape of the Library of the future, so that it continues to be a brag worthy institution by being able to meet all of the varied and important roles a library serves to its community. My 3 year old daughter’s absolute favourite place in the world is the “big library” and I want to help keep it that way for all of its users, no matter why they are using it.**

Contributions: **I believe I can contribute to the library board by applying my skill set which includes written and verbal communication; analytical skills, as well as diplomacy. I also represent one of the demographics that the library system directs a large portion of its resources and programming to: a family with two small children. As a user of the public library system I have first hand experience of how my family interacts with the library. I would also bring a new perspective to the board, as I have not been involved with the group previously.**

Past contributions: **Although I have never served on any municipal boards, I have been involved in a number of committees and groups striving to implement positive change. I am a member of the Nursing Advisory Council at London Health Sciences Centre whose mandate is to strengthen nursing practice across the organization. I am also a current member of the Council for Quality Improvement within the Paediatric Medical Day Unit which seeks to identify practices which can be improved to allow patients, families and staff a better healthcare experience. I have also helped plan and participated in conferences**

which seek to disseminate new knowledge to medical professionals and translate this knowledge into practice change. Additionally, I have spent time volunteering with Easter Seals and the Diaper Bank of London for the good of our community and those the programs serve. Most recently I have been appointed as an adjunct professor to the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing at Western University and look forward to making contributions to the academic community. All of these groups have provided me with experience in assisting groups move towards common goals that have been identified. I am hoping to be able to apply my skills and past experience to the London Public Library.

Interpersonal: I spend the larger portion of my waking day exchanging views with others while appreciating and respecting their skills, abilities and knowledge. From strategizing with a teenage patient to take their medication daily, to discussing the importance of vaccination to a hesitant parent, to bringing a group of healthcare providers to consensus on the care of a patient, to negotiating with my three year old about “helping” in the kitchen. From experience, I know the only way to create change or reach a common goal is to respect someones skills, knowledge and abilities. I truly believe we all have something to learn and we all have something to teach, one just needs to listen, ask questions and discuss.

Interview interest: **Yes**