

Committee: **Accessibility Advisory Committee**

Organization/Sector represented: **persons interested in issues related to persons with disabilities**

Name: **Ayo Abiola**

Occupation: **Project Coordinator at ACFOLA**

Work experience: **I graduated from UWO and works as a Project Coordinator with the African Canadian Federation of London and Area. In my role, I interact daily with members of the African communities, business communities and service providers to help individuals access various opportunities.**

Education: **Master of Engineering Science (2013), University of Western Ontario. Vice President, Student Services - Society of Graduate Students at the University of Western Ontario: I managed the Social Services and Extended Health and Drug Plan for 5000 individuals and families. I also sat for a year on UWO Services Committee as a Graduate Students representative.**

Skills: **My skills include - facilitating meetings and discussions; experience building and managing relationships with various individuals, and as an Engineer, I understand how products, utilities and spaces could be designed to support individual use, including people with disabilities. In 2006, I conducted an engineering research titled, "Anthropometry survey of Nigerian paraplegics" where I conducted measurement survey of the human body for 100 sample persons with disabilities. I wrote a thesis and published a journal article on my findings at the time.**

Interest reason: **This body has my interest because it serves some of the most vulnerable persons in our communities and I believe I do have enough knowledge and interest to help towards their needs. I am interested in serving the City of London in many capacities. I studied, live and work in the City and I am positively interested in its growth and affairs. I equally encourage others to do the same.**

Contributions: **With an engineering mind and training, I can help make decisions on how utilities and spaces can be built to support persons in need of accessibility; I can help facilitate meetings and discussions; I can help with making connections and building relationships with the service groups.**

Past contributions: **I am presently a member of Junior Chamber International London chapter, a body of young professionals for networking and making positive contribution to the local communities. I volunteer with this organization and other non-profits in London including Emerging Leaders, ACFOLA, at events, committees, etc.**

Interpersonal: **In my workplace, I work with a multidisciplinary team and with volunteers from various backgrounds. In fact, at my office, I am the only engineer, while others have background in social sciences and animal sciences. The volunteers I work with range from teenagers (13+) to adults over 55+ years and I have consistently worked successfully with these persons.**

Interview interest: **Yes**