

January 12, 2019

**UPDATE TO COUNCIL: ARGYLE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to update you on operations at the Argyle BIA.

In Ward 2 the Argyle Business Improvement Association is working hard to make the Argyle neighbourhood a great place to work, shop, dine, and play.

In December I participated as a member of the “Hiring Committee” to interview applicants for the Executive Director position which had been vacant for several months.

I am pleased to inform council, through PEC, that Randy Sidhu has been hired for this position and assumed the role on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Randy is a resident of the area and his family are customers of the BIA businesses so he understands the local realities. He also brings a wealth of experience to the role, including 5 years as the ED of the Downtown Young St. BIA in Toronto.

In addition to Randy’s hiring, Sarah McConnell, who has been an administrative assistant with the BIA for several years on a part-time basis and filled in admirably on an interim basis as the ED while the position was vacant—including organizing and executing the Santa Claus parade—will be taking on an expanded role as the BIA’s Director of Communications.

With these two individuals in place, I am confident that good things lay ahead for the Argyle BIA. Of course for the BIA to truly be successful, the City of London will also have to play a role in addressing infrastructure needs in the Argyle area, in particular the condition of Dundas St. as the eastern gateway to the city and as the primary commercial corridor of the Argyle Planning Area. I know that the BIA Board members and staff are looking forward to working with council and city staff to enhance the Argyle neighbourhood and help east London succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shawn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shawn Lewis  
Councillor, Ward 2