

Application for appointment to: Council Compensation Review Task Force

Names: Vanessa Junior

Address: 520 Wellington St # 201, London ON. N6A 3R2

Occupation: Account Manager at Ad Vendors International

I am currently employed as an Account Manager at Ad Vendors International, a recruitment advertising agency. I build rapport with clients, while I write edit and quote employment ad. In the past, I have worked in a variety of different jobs, where I have cultivated a variety of different skills. I was employed for two years as a Teacher's Assistant to a professor, where I helped to coordinate student volunteer placements. For three years, I was employed at The Write Place, a student writing centre, as a tutor. I also, coordinated summer camps on the Peawanuck First Nation Reserve via Frontier College and on behalf of the Community Action Resource Centre in one of Toronto's top fifteen "at risk" neighborhoods, where I was responsible for completing and adhering to budget, and completing all associated paper work.

I graduated with a Honours Double Major in Political Science and Social Justice and Peace Studies.

I have strong organizational, communication and problem solving skills. I have much practice in the realm of conflict mediation and pride myself on being an active listener and a person who follows through on predetermined plans. I tend to take initiative or leadership roles in situations, however have also learned that here is also a time to let others lead and I follow. I am confident in my abilities organize initiatives and follow through with my plans. I am a very socially conscious person, with specialized knowledge in the areas of substantive equality, pay equity, human rights, development/microcredit and food security.

I am interested in serving the City of London because I have come to know London as my home and would like to actively contribute to the positive development of this beautiful city. As well, I have seriously considered municipal politics as a career path and feel like this experience will grant me a small taste of what that career might look like. However, most importantly, I am interested in serving the City of London because the City of London has served me and my personal growth for the past six years. I feel like it is my duty to become actively involved in making London a better place to be, just as it has made me a better person than who I was six years ago when I first arrived to London.

I believe that I can bring a fresh set of eyes, a critical analysis and an open mind to this committee. I have strong conflict mediation skills, and am confident in my ability to organize and build consensus among individuals, while acknowledging and appreciating the diversity among people and the opinions.

During my university career, I was actively engaged in many different committees. I sat on The Board of Directors for the Centre for Social Concern, and helped to organize speakers and events. I was the Social Justice and Peace Representative on the King's University Student Council and actively engaged in meetings to improve the College. I began Progressive Portions, a student led initiative which served weekly, healthy meals to the university population. I also helped to organize a delegation of fifty Londoners to Fort Benning, Georgia for a human rights conference. I understand that these involvements are not directly related to this committee, however I am confident that my previous experiences have provided me with the organizational, communicate, conflict mediation and problem solving skills to be an actively, involved and a contributing member of this committee.

I have been fortunate enough to have participated in many cross cultural experiences, including living for three months in Honduras during a coup d'etat, as well as in a cooperative community in Guatemala. Through my cross cultural experiences, I have learned how to respectfully engage in constructive conversation with people whom I may or may not have anything in common. I have learned that the sharing of ideas and constructive criticism is a gift that needs to be nourish and cherish and that every individual is worthy of the upmost respect. Most importantly, I have learned the power of listening, even if I do not agree with what the person has to say. To listen is to show respect.

Yes, I am interested in an interview