

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

### 3.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Application – 448 Oxford Street East (Z-9104)

- Laverne Kirkness, Kirkness Planning Consultants – indicating that he has Dr. Riyadh Khamis and his dad, Mac, beside him who has been supporting him and wants to do the renovations in this office that he has purchased at Oxford Street and Thornton Avenue; expressing agreement with the staff report that Ms. M. Vivian, Planner I, was going to present and he hopes that the Planning and Environment Committee does too and recommend it to Council; advising that they have been waiting all Fall to get into this establishment; pointing out that most important about this is that Dr. Riyadh Khamis has quite a set of unique credentials and London is always interested in knowing how to attract the best and brightest and the skills; reading some of the things that, this is kind of unique in London, he is more than an Optometrist, he completed his Undergraduate training at the University of Waterloo with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Honors from the University of Waterloo; he then went on to complete his Doctor of Optometry at the University of Waterloo, School of Optometry in Vision Science where he graduated on the Dean's Honour List; after completion of his OD degree, Dr. Khamis furthered his education by completing a one year optional extensive residency program in family practice with an emphasis on ocular disease at Northeastern State University in Oklahoma and during his residency Dr. Khamis became a trained surgeon and performed interior segment laser procedures as well as minor surgical eyelid procedures; Dr. Khamis worked in the Optometry wing of a Native American hospital as well as the Ocular Trauma and Disease Unit at the Urgent Care department; advising that he is an avid sportsman, Dr. Khamis also developed a keen interest in vision therapy and sports vision where he lectured and supervised students at NSU, he served as the Faculty Advisor for Sports Vision at NSU working with both college and Olympic athletes, Dr. Khamis brought his experience in both primary care and ocular disease to Highbury Huron Optometry, which is 1288 Highbury, where he has been practicing as well as starting the innovative London Vision Development Centre, the London Vision Development Centre is then his to perform vision therapy and sports vision for children and adults but not limited to vision problems that interfere with school performance, crossed, wandering or lazy eyes as well as neuro-optometric rehabilitation for traumatic brain injuries so he also provides vision therapy for athletes seeking to gain an edge through visual performance; stating that related to this and the word that is missing here is that he has been working with a lot of concussion therapy and that will be one of the focuses at 448 Oxford Street and he could go on but he thinks the Planning and Environment Committee has got the gist of it, this young man has gone many skills that have not really been here in London and he, himself, is glad to be able to represent him in this zoning application.