

Committee: **London Public Library Board**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Jeremy C. Roberts**

Occupation: **Management Consultant**

Work experience: **I provide strategic and tactical advice with a view to helping clients make the best use of their technology resources. I author research on IT infrastructure topics ranging from cloud services to process optimization, advise clients all over the world (including the Canadian Federal Government, the World Trade Organization, and a number of multinational corporations), speak at conferences, give media interviews, and provide custom consulting work (including authoring technology strategies). I am a professional researcher and advisor with experience leading productive engagements.**

Education: **I hold a BA from the University of Western Ontario in political science, an MSc degree from the University of Oxford in the UK in politics research, and am currently completing a PhD in political science at UWO (2015-present). I received the S.F. Glass Gold Medal in honours political science for completing my BA at the top of the class, and my work was recently published in Politics and Governance, a peer-reviewed journal. (The article is titled: "The Populist Radical Right in the US: New Media and the 2018 Arizona Senate Primary")**

Skills: **As an experienced management consultant and analyst, I have worked with dozens of different organizations to produce improvements to existing policies, processes, and practices. While I have developed many of the competencies of a traditional management consultant (including requirements gathering, analysis, decision-making, and strategic planning), I consider the facilitation of productive discussion to be most useful for a role on the Library Board. Understanding diverse perspectives and incorporating them into an effective outcome is essentially my job description. I'd be happy to bring that skill to bear on the City's behalf. I am also a formally trained researcher, and can bring a student's perspective to the library's governance, if such a perspective is desirable.**

Interest reason: **I firmly believe in the library as an essential public service. As technology evolves into an increasingly essential component of daily life, I believe that the library will play a critical role in providing all London residents with access to the tools and resources they need to thrive (whether personally or professionally). I like the idea of a shared public space designed to serve all, and I would like to help make the library the best it can be.**

Contributions: **I work with IT infrastructure and have experience with infrastructure and device deployment strategies, so I believe I would be especially useful when the Board is tasked with making technology recommendations. (I spend my days speaking with IT workers, including those at a number of municipalities, and am well-positioned to ask the right questions and incorporate feedback into a final strategy document.) As a graduate student, I also bring the perspective of a researcher, and believe I can help with acquisition priorities, along with the more practical matter of producing research-based recommendations on library improvements.**

Past contributions: **I am a founding member of the London Tenants Association and the 75 Ann Street Residents' Association. I have produced web copy for the LTA, and built the entire 75 Ann Street Residents' Association website, and am solely responsible for its content. (www.75annresidents.org). I am also the primary strategist for the Association, and part of the LTA's executive committee. I have formally organized tenants, lobbied local politicians and City staff, organized joint legal action against a landlord, and have been featured in the local media (CBC, Western Gazette) for these efforts. When I encounter a problem, I do what I need to do to solve it. I would love the opportunity to bring this passion to the LPL.**

Interpersonal: **I exchange views with others every day at work. My job as a management consultant is to draw the first picture and incorporate the insight generated by others to build towards a valuable output. I believe many of these skills are transferable. Coupled with my volunteer position with the tenants' and residents' associations mentioned above, which have exposed me to a diverse range of skills and perspectives, I am confident that I have the ability to work productively and in good faith with any and all of the LPL's stakeholders.**

Interview interest: **Yes**