

July 3, 2020

Dear Members of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of my colleague, Dr. Sam Trosow, who is applying for the vacant position on the London Public Library Board of Directors. I believe that Professor Trosow is uniquely qualified for this position given his expertise in both law and library science, and his demonstrated commitment to intellectual freedom and the local community.

I have known Professor Trosow since I joined the Faculty of Law as a junior colleague in 2005, and have come to especially value his contributions since I became Dean in 2017. He carries a disproportionately heavy service load at the university, sitting on a wide range of Faculty committees, the Board of Governors and, until June 30 of this year, the University Senate. His service commitments have given him the opportunity to work with diverse colleagues from across campus, government, and the private sector, and given him critical insight into the complex interaction of budgets, regulations, and the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge.

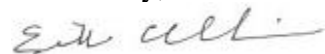
In 2018, Professor Trosow served on Western's Ad Hoc Committee on Freedom of Expression, which rapidly developed a policy that was unanimously passed by both Senate and the Board of Governors. This is no small feat in university governance, and is a testament to the consultative, constructive and collaborative efforts by the members of that Ad Hoc Committee.

Within the Faculty of Law, Professor Trosow has been a strong advocate for intellectual freedom and open access to educational materials. He is a renowned expert on intellectual property and copyright law, and volunteers his time and expertise to educate faculty and students on their rights as both authors and users of scholarly materials. Earlier this year, he initiated discussions that ultimately led to the creation of a standing Law Library Committee at the Faculty.

In addition, Professor Trosow has been an important proponent of more widespread access to legal education, especially for Indigenous, first-generation, and low-income students.

More personally, Professor Trosow exhibits a rare dedication to the matters that are close to his heart – of which libraries and the local community are the two examples that spring most quickly to my mind. I highly recommend him to you for the Board position.

Yours truly,



Erika Chamberlain, LLB, PhD
Professor and Dean