



Western  
Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

Paul Davenport Theatre

July 27, 2020

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee  
City of London  
300 Dufferin Ave.  
London, Ontario  
Canada  
c/o Clerk's Office

RE: Letter of support Sam Trosow, LPL Board application

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of the application made by Dr. Samuel Trosow for the vacant position on the London Public Library Board. Given Sam's background in both law and librarianship, as well as his ongoing commitment to the community of London, I believe he is particularly well suited for this position.

Sam is jointly appointed to both the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS), and within FIMS teaches in both the Master of Library and Information Science program, and in the Master of Media in Journalism and Communication program. I have had the pleasure of knowing Sam for nineteen years, as his student, as a colleague and as a friend. In that time, he has always demonstrated a commitment to the values of honesty, openness and tolerance, qualities which I feel are paramount for any organization, but particularly for community organizations. Sam's legal background is clear from his resume. To have that depth of copyright knowledge available from a renowned legal scholar such as Sam is a tremendous benefit to the Board. Beyond copyright, Sam is also a leading scholar in the area of legal issues within librarianship and has for many years taught courses in FIMS on Legal issues in Librarianship, as well as courses in Information Policy, which delve into diverse issues affecting libraries and information organizations.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that Sam's scholarly work and activism has always given particular focus to the disenfranchised in our communities. A lifelong advocate for social justice, as a student Sam was active in social issues and as a young Lawyer worked on behalf of tenants to ensure fair treatment from landlords in the Berkeley area. That activism naturally transferred into his work with libraries issues, again placing a great emphasis on the too often invisible or forgotten members of our society; endeavoring to ensure their equitable treatment in issues relating to privacy, access and intellectual freedom. Sam has published extensively in these and related areas and has appeared as an expert in copyright before the House of Commons. Prior to moving to Canada Sam was also active in policy work in the United States, serving as Chair of the California Library Association Government Relations Committee and Chair of the Copyright Committee of the American Association of Law Libraries. He has also guest lectured numerous times for myself in courses I have taught in Information Policy and Library Management as well as for many other colleagues.

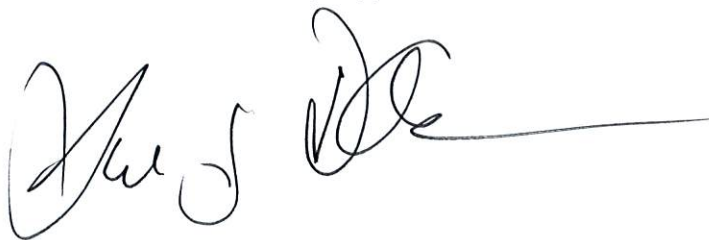
With respect to service to his various communities, Sam has served on national committees with both the Canadian Library Association and the Canadian Association of University Teachers. Within the community of Western, Sam has served on countless faculty committees and as a member of the

Senate. Most recently Sam was elected by his faculty colleagues at Western to serve on Western's Board of Governors. Within the community of London, he has served as chair of the London Advisory Committee on Housing as well as participating at a grass roots level with numerous groups in the London community. My personal connection with Sam began in part due to his love of music and participation in it as part of the London Community. For a period of time Sam was a member of the New Horizons Band program run at the Don Wright faculty of Music (the program was directed at adults in the community wishing to learn an instrument and play in an ensemble). Sam was already a capable musician and decided to expand his knowledge by pursuing another instrument. One of his qualities which I admired was his willingness to fill in wherever help was needed in the organization, playing in multiple ensembles. As I would learn over time, this willingness to extend himself to help out the larger community was part of Sam's nature.

His passion for music has continued alongside his passions for librarianship and legal issues. Though Sam no longer participates in the New Horizons Band, he is very familiar with and active in the London amateur music scene. Playing with the Mocha Shriner's band, Sophisticated Swing and the London Concert Band. He has also frequently performed in local nursing/retirement homes both as a solo pianist and with various ensembles. Given that the LPL has taken over stewardship of the music library of the now defunct Orchestra London, as well as the growing demands being placed upon public libraries with respect to the support of musical learning (through the loaning of instruments, the offering of instruction and the loan of instructional and study materials), having a member of the board with both the personal passion and professional knowledge to help understand and support this growing aspect of our community may prove invaluable.

As a resident of London for almost forty years, I believe we are incredibly fortunate to have a candidate of Sam's quality available and willing to serve in our community. His commitment to his students, his colleagues, his profession and his community have always been exemplary. It is a rare thing for a local library board to have access to a legal and community scholar of Sam's stature and passion, and as such I wholeheartedly support Sam's candidacy for the board position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louis J. D'Alton', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Louis J. D'Alton,  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Information and Media Studies  
Concert Manager, Don Wright Faculty of Music  
Ph.D., MLS, MLIS