

Committee: **Covent Garden Market Corporation Board of Directors**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Dias, Justin W.**

Occupation: **Economic Development Officer**

Work experience: **I have worked in the fields of economic development and tourism for the past eight years including senior management roles and as a consultant to municipal clients across the country. My career in economic development was preceded by a successful career in hospitality management. I have extensive experience working directly with businesses and delivering business retention and expansion programs, resident and visitor marketing and attraction programs and conducting investment attraction activities. In addition to economic development and tourism management roles, I have also managed portfolios responsible for the operation, maintenance and capital planning of 10 recreation and community facilities.**

Education: **I have completed a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western University (honours History), an Ontario Post-Graduate Certificate from Humber College in Public Administration and am currently completing the Graduate Diploma in Public Administration through the Local Government Program at Western University. I have obtained the internationally recognized project management credential as a Project Management Professional (PMP). I have also obtained a Certificate in Merchandising from the University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies.**

Skills: **I possess strong financial management skills. I have managed budgets in both private and public sector organizations and bring an understanding of both for-profit and not-for-profit management principles that will help ensure the Market is both financially viable and accessible to all Londoners. I also have a strong background in strategic planning having developed and contributed to strategic planning exercises and implementation. This strategic planning knowledge will help ensure the Market is not only addressing current issues but looking forward to future needs. I also possess strong knowledge of facilities management & maintenance, building systems and asset management principles that will assist the Market as it contemplates the current physical building, public safety, accessibility and plans for future capital investments.**

Interest reason: **As a long-time resident of London (20+years) and regular patron of the Covent Garden Market, I want to ensure the Market continues to be a vibrant place for families and all residents of London. I also want to ensure it is leveraged as an economic development asset drawing in visitors from across Southwestern Ontario and protected for generations to come.**

Contributions: **As a previous board member, I will be able to hit the ground running and provide an immediate contribution. I also believe my ability to think critically and ask pertinent questions will help ensure the board and management are always making decisions based upon a variety of perspectives.**

Past contributions: **As a first-time board member of the Market from 2015-2019, I provided a unique perspective to the decision making process. I was committed to the position as demonstrated through regular attendance and contributions at the meetings. I have also been involved with a number of volunteer community boards and committees including the Talbotville Optimist Club and the Ailsa Craig Quilt and Fibre Art Festival organizing committee.**

Interpersonal: **As a professional in economic development and community engagement, I bring with me experiences working with businesses, community groups and residents from across a broad spectrum of backgrounds. Whether it be establishing a strategic plan, working on an initiative or facilitating workshops, I have always demonstrated an open mind, utilized active listening and built consensus so that all parties are valued and engaged.**

Interview interest: **Yes**