

City of London - Application for Appointment to a City of London Board or Commission

Application

Please choose the Board or Commission you are interested in serving on: **LMCH**

Contact Information

Name: **John Corboy**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N6J3G4**

Experience and Qualifications

If you have experience on a London Board or Commission, please provide dates and details. (max. 3000 characters): **not applicable**

What do you hope to contribute or learn as part of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters): **Providing a lens from lived experience, combined with my background in sociology and work experience as a Caseworker supporting vulnerable populations, I bring a wealth of knowledge to the perspectives impacting the reality of housing in London Ontario.**

I'm currently working with the Cabinet Office in the Policy Innovation Hub, advising the Premier's office and his Ministers on policy. Having a better view of the reality of problems facing Londoner's would prove helpful to our community and in my contributions to Ontario as a whole.

I am passionate about social justice, safe and affordable housing, and believe in the resiliency of people and community capacity building.

Growing up in housing, living in poverty, being homeless as a youth and navigating the systems to get to where I am today, gives me a genuine compassion for helping others do the same and improving the experiences and services they encounter.

My hope is to lend my knowledge, perspectives, lived and work experience to the board members to make meaningful contributions that lend themselves well to positive change within the housing realm.

How will you support the work of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters): **I am experienced in group facilitation, presentations, public speaking, data analysis, strategic foresight, service design, and a variety of other techniques that would help improve our chances of success.**

I am confident in my ability to motivate others, advocate for what is best for our communities, and am well versed in strategy, sociology and communications.

I work on multiple projects with my team at the Cabinet Office, that are across a variety of Ministries, involving political acuity, external shareholder relationships and ongoing consultations and data collection.

I believe my lived experience and the skills noted above would prove helpful in contributing meaningfully to the work the board completes.

Please describe additional experience, training, or community involvement that will help you in your role as a Board or Commission Member. (max. 3000 characters): **I am hoping this will give me an opportunity to give back to our community.**

I have a deep connection to the Indigenous community leaders locally and in Northern Ontario. I am actively involved in community events, community planning and advocacy. I have a diploma in social services, decades of experience in customer service, 10 years of Casework in social services and am presently employed in Policy with the Cabinet Office working for the Provincial government.

Please tell us about your interest in being a part of the London Middlesex Community Housing board. Why are you interested in this particular opportunity? What do you hope to contribute, and how would you support the work of the London Middlesex Community Housing board?(max. 3000 characters): **Growing up in social housing, I witnessed the hardships of many families. I saw what happened with children who's parents were struggling with mental health and addictions, and lived it myself. I never felt safe at home, and the sense of community with the children I grew up with was my only and most important support system.**

Had it not been for that social network and sense of community, I don't think I'd still be here today. It helped me find mentors and friendships and escape troubles in my home. Many of the friends I grew up with are dead or in jail. They have inherited generational traumas and patterns of criminal behaviour. I hope to help prevent these harsh realities from persisting within our public housing communities.

I understand the importance and benefits of community capacity building and know first hand what it feels like to live in poverty and feel hopeless. I understand how vital it is to feel cared for, to feel valued and find purpose in life.

I would love the opportunity to improve the lives of Londoners and work together to better the subsidized housing system.

Please tell us about your educational background, professional credentials, or any other training which is relevant to this position. (max. 3000 characters): **Social Services Diploma**

25 years in customer service

10 plus years in social assistance/social services

Previously worked as a Youth Worker in group homes and Youth Homeless Shelter

Presently employed by the Cabinet Office in policy

Community and capacity building experience

Working on a specialized team focused on housing stability with the City of London

Please describe any relevant work and/or lived experience you have. (max. 3000 characters): **I grew up in public housing, was a client of social assistance, and have overcome my own personal struggles with mental health, addictions, and childhood traumas to become a public servant.**

While with the City of London, I worked on a specialized team operating from a housing-first lens. I was in constant contact with London Middlesex Housing and helping clients complete subsidized housing applications. I created a partnership with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, the first of its kind, with one of our probation offices. I led the initiative to provide Ontario Works services from the probation office, which helped eliminate barriers to benefits and connected vulnerable clients to housing, mental health, financial and social supports. This was successful in preventing many involved in the justice system from reoffending, and proved helpful in identifying undiagnosed mental health issues, brain injuries, literacy and learning disabilities and helped improve access to resources available within our community. During this time, I also worked with the population of people experiencing homelessness. Through partnerships with walk-in clinics and Indigenous healing agencies, I was able to link many people to ongoing health care providers, refer them to Developmental Services of Ontario and helped many qualify for the Ontario Disability Support Program. I successfully housed many who had been living vicariously, outdoors in rough conditions, and were once deemed chronically homeless. This was made possible through my collaborations with housing providers and housing stability support workers throughout the City of London. While working with Ontario Works in Sault Ste. Marie, I helped to establish a Neighbourhood Resource Centre. Through partnerships I built with City Council, Provincial and Federal politicians, and local agencies, I was able to convince the city to invest in the revitalization of many neighbourhoods. By supervising local University Students and focusing on community capacity building, we were able to build trusting relationships with community members and establish a network of information, family and learning supports, and remove barriers for people seeking help.

Currently, I'm working with the Policy Innovation Hub, within the Strategic Innovation Branch of the Cabinet Office. We provide an in-house consultancy service. Our daily work is a variety of project management, group facilitation, policy analysis, strategic thinking, and working both autonomously and collaboratively on projects and reports. I'm presently involved in a variety of projects across several different Ministries. Many of the projects involve strategic analysis, development, and design, while others focus on policy analysis, strategic foresight, service design, data analysis, summarizing user data research and the creation of presentations and reports focused on improving housing, social services and other programs for Ontarians.

Tell us about your involvement in any public or private sector boards, community involvement, or other experiences that are relevant to this position. Please describe the roles you played and the period of time you were involved.(max. 3000 characters): **I am actively involved in the Indigenous community in London. I take part in traditional ceremonies and celebrations. I'm a father of 3, who takes pride in his community, cares deeply about all our citizens and wants to give back in a meaningful way and improve the living conditions of our most vulnerable.**

If necessary, please provide any additional relevant information that is not captured in your previous answers.(max. 3000 characters): **thank you**

Attach resume or other document here, if needed:

Attach more files here, if needed:

Confirmations

I declare the following: **I am a resident of London. ; I am at least 18 years old.; I am not a City employee or Council member.; I understand that my application and any attachments will be included on a public agenda that is published on the City website.**

To help inform our outreach activities, please tell us how you heard about this opportunity: (optional): **Word of mouth**

If you selected 'Other', please specify:

Submitted on: **7/5/2022 9:17:54 AM**