

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: **Eldon House**

Contact Information

Name: **Mike Donachie**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N5Y 3T6**

Experience and Qualifications

If you have experience on a London Board or Commission, please provide dates and details. (max. 3000 characters):

I've been a member of the Eldon House Board twice, serving from 2015-16, and again from 2018 to now. For the past four years I have been honoured to serve as Board Chair.

What do you hope to contribute or learn as part of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters):

Working closely with other Board members and Eldon House staff, in particular the curator-director, Tara Wittman, I've maintained a focus on strategic planning and would seek to continue that approach.

The priorities for Eldon House are based on process of developing and continuing a formal strat plan that aligns well with City Hall's planning. The EH plan identifies "preserving our valued resources" as the overriding goal and responsibility of those involved in this important visitor attraction. Two other high priorities are bringing in new audiences - with special attention to DEI issues and the need to connect with today's Londoners - and generating new revenue sources.

These three issues remain at the front of my mind and will guide anything I might do on behalf of Eldon House. I'm conscious of the challenges of a small heritage attraction existing in our downtown, alongside so many potential disruptions. In that context, I would seek to be involved in and encourage initiatives that attract new visitors and income and - most importantly - ensure Eldon House is preserved for future generations to enjoy.

How will you support the work of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters):

I can offer extensive experience of leadership in the corporate world, including in media. I have a special interest in communications and marketing, as well as turning chaos into order by leading large, complex projects. A former journalist here in London, I consider myself well-connected and I continue to enjoy strong involvement in the community. It's important to note, however, that I'm ready to make the contribution that Eldon House needs, whatever challenges come its way. In the last four years, that has meant a great deal of patience and flexibility in how we provide support to Eldon House staff as they work towards strategic plan goals, and I would expect that to continue.

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've been Communications Manager for Libro Credit Union since 2017, along with a side business as a freelancer writer, mostly providing book reviews to the Toronto Star. Previously, I was a reporter for various newspapers in the UK and Canada, latterly with the Metro London. I have significant experience in volunteering, notably with a British member organization,

similar to the Rotary Club, which raised more than 100,000 UK pounds for charity during the 10 years I was involved, including a year as Chair.

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): **Other**

If you selected 'Other', please specify: **From a staff member at Eldon House.**

Submitted on: **10/13/2022 2:11:30 PM**