

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: **London Police Services Board**

Contact Information

Name: **Muhammad (Hamoody) Hassan**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N6A 1G1**

Experience and Qualifications

1. Serving on the Police Services Board requires monthly, full-day meeting attendance; each meeting requires 4-6 hours of reading in advance. Can you describe your ability to participate and contribute this minimum amount of time monthly?:

I have practised law for going on 44 years. I established with my spouse, (now the Hon Justice Sharon Hassan, OSCJ FC) our law practice in our heritage award winning office building on Dundas Place. I am active in Downtown London events and support many other local groups. I was on the board of Across Languages and also the Original Kids Theatre Company. I ceased practicing criminal law about 20 years ago. Hassan Law's practice is restricted to civil, family, estates & wrongful dismissal litigation and advisory services. We do not sue London Police Services, health care professionals or facilities such as nurses, doctors, firefighters or emergency service workers. I am able to read and understand large volumes of technical or other material quickly. I am able to arrange my schedule for full day meetings, subject to co-operation of courts for hearings I may have. I understand many other lawyers and other professionals on the board do likewise. I am a member of a diverse community and am one of the first Arab Muslim lawyers called to the bar of Ontario April 11, 1979 and the first in London. I have worked Downtown most of my life as I was born and raised here. I do not drink alcohol, take illicit or recreational drugs. I do not have a criminal record. Our office regularly consults with London Police Services as well as the OPP, hospitals, doctors, ambulance services and others regarding our personal injury practice.

2. What skills, education, community involvement and/or experience (including lived experience) do you have that will assist you in a role on this specific board?:

I attended Victoria Public School, but completed gr 8 at Seaforth PS where our family lived for 3 years. I went to Westminster SS. I have worked in London or Windsor where I went to law school since I was very young. I worked at Labatts Beer in their retail outlet and their factory. I also bar tended at the former Embassy Hotel Beaver Lounge and the original Embassy Cultural House & hosted several TVO music nights there in 1974-1977. I also worked at Newt Webster Fruit Company formerly on Colborne near Pall Mall as a truck driver as a summer employee for several summers while in Undergrad studies at Western University where I earned a BA in Anthropology with a focus on what now is called Indigenous studies (1974-1977). I also worked at University Hospital as a night custodian for several years while in undergraduate. These efforts meant I was able to pay for my own university as the 3 youngest child of a family of 11. While attending Windsor Law school (1974-1977) I worked as a taxi driver during the school terms & summer and also in summers at nights 12 am- 8 am as a supervisor at a halfway house called Millhouse CRC for provincial offenders . I had married young and had two small children so for daily child care, when my spouse worked at the time I also volunteered at their co-op University day care program serving lunches. These efforts helped to keep my costs lower for me while at university. As a lawyer I have also worked in a large local firm while the firm experienced a crisis as the senior partner was charged with and convicted of one of the largest frauds in the profession. Over the years I have had to deal with various

health crisis of family members (children, siblings and parents) and was a caregiver to my elderly mother, my older sister and also my daughter when each had cancer. I have an excellent driving record and imagine I would successfully pass a police record check if needed. I understand the legal limits and obligations of boards both public and private. I am a volunteer legal advisor to Sunfest and the Muslim Community Social Services Resource Centre. I have a sound background in criminal justice and child protection work as well as negligence law. Hassan Law was the primary sponsor for 10 years of what was called the London Abused Women's Centre (LAWC) now called Annova. I am 71 years old and enjoy practicing law and community service work still. I have lived in London most of my life and then since purchasing the family home from my mother many years ago.

3. If you have experience on a Board, Commission or Committee (in London or elsewhere), please provide the details. If you have not previously served on a Board, Commission or Committee, please describe why this appointment is of interest to you.:

I was a member on the Across Languages (2 years) and the Original Kids Theatre Company (for the maximum 6 years) boards of directors. The former I had to step away after several years after my spouse was appointed to the bench due to increased practice demands and potential conflicts of interest with the interpreters who often appear in family court hearings. I had excellent attendance at board meetings. I plan to be in the Middle East on business from about July 13- August 15, 2023.

4. We value the contributions of Londoners with diverse experiences and welcome applications from individuals who share our commitment to reconciliation, equity and inclusion. Please describe how your work, community or lived experience will enhance these efforts through Board and Committee work. (max. 3000 characters):

I have personally been an advocate of reconciliation, diversity, equity and inclusion most of my adult life. I have lived experiences of prejudice and racism. As a child I was cared for by Jane Elm a lovely woman from Muncney. Jane was employed as a caregiver support person by my late mother to help care for her then 9 children. For my 40th anniversary in the procession I facilitated and funded a Meina Wheel Installation at Hassan Law and the Middlesex Law Association Law Library. Hassan Law staff lawyer volunteers on board of Atlohsa and we offer indigenous clients special service terms. Hassan Law has employed people from many different walks of life. Staff here are recruited because of their ability to speak a second language or have diverse life experiences. We support employees who have health care needs. I have been a life long advocate of these issues. I consider these topics to be first principles along with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms which informs my life and practice. As a working senior who associates with many people of many ages, backgrounds, and circumstances, including at times including the criminal justice system I consider I have a balanced perspective concerning issues of law enforcement, community safety, mental health and social justice. I have supported the Unity Project, Indwell's Embassy Commons, and have volunteered at Kings' College in both Indigenous studies and child protection sessions. I am an expert in child protection law. I have a mindful understanding of Young Offenders and the applicable laws relating to such offenders and much experience with many hard to serve community members.

Attach resume or other document here (optional): **2023.03.12 Resume Hamoody CV March 12, 2023.pdf**

Attach more files here, if needed:

Confirmations

I declare the following: **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): **City Website**

If you selected 'Other', please specify:

Submitted on: **3/13/2023 12:25:53 AM**

CURRICULUM VITAE

Muhammad (Hamoody) Hassan BA LLB
Senior Counsel & Mediator
www.hassanlaw.com



London On
N6A 1G1

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2023

I reside in: London On, since 1952 except Seaforth 1963-1966 and Windsor while at Law School 1974-1977

You can reach me by telephone or digitally & via social media:

Residence:
Business:
Cell
TF North America:
Fax No.:
E-Mail Firm:
Direct:
Website:
[Facebook](#)
Also available on request

Skype:
What's App:
Zoom:
Cisco Webex:

POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

1971-1974 UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
London, Ontario
Bachelor of Arts
*Major in Social Anthropology (Honours)

- 1974-1977 UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR, Faculty of Law
Windsor, Ontario
LL.B., (accepted after my 2nd year of Undergraduate I deferred acceptance as my father was ill so I stayed in London to assist family & younger siblings).
- I was employed week nights each summer in 1975 & 1976 at Millhouse CRC in supervising provincial offenders in a transition house as they re-integrated into the Windsor Community;
 - I worked as a Checker Cab driver throughout my academic career at law school to support the family and avoid large student loans;
 - I volunteered at Windsor University Daycare in consideration of reduced daycare fees
 - I was admitted as student member to Law Society of Upper Canada (now Law Society of Ontario)
- 1977-1978 I completed my Articles of Clerkship with a firm formerly known as Cockburn, Foster & Francis
555 Waterloo Street
London, Ontario
- 1978 I completed the Law Society of Upper Canada Bar Admission Course, a series of subject matter exams related to real estate, wills & trusts, commercial law criminal law, civil litigation, legal accounting. On April 11, I was called to the Bar of Ontario, Law Society of Upper Canada
- 1979 **Hamoody Hassan Law Office** Upon my call to the bar I set up a successful law practice in London, Ontario renting space amongst a group of lawyers on Talbot Street
- 1980 **Hassan & Toon** I was joined by William S. Toon as a commercial law & real estate partner. Bill was in practice with me until he was recruited to assist Canada Trust (now TDCanada Trust) as legal counsel handling default mortgage portfolios. He later became a VP in 1981.
- 1981 The late Gustave Monnette, practiced criminal and personal injury. Gus eventually left to set up his own practice.
- 1982 After 1982 I worked in various environments detailed below. Older dates are estimates.

PRACTICE HISTORY

1979-present Panel Lawyer, Legal Aid Ontario for the Province of Ontario and currently hold the highest of 3 available experience ratings, although 20 years ago ceased practicing criminal law.

1979-present Lawyer, having appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, except the Supreme Court of Canada, including the Court of Appeal for Ontario, the Divisional Court, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Ontario Court of Justice, in various trial and mediation proceedings.
 Appeared as Counsel in a variety of cases in a wide variety of litigation matters including complex and lengthy family law actions with briefs as far afield as Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Ottawa, and regular appearances in Toronto, Brampton, & elsewhere in GTA, Sarnia, Goderich, St. Thomas, Woodstock, Windsor, Kitchener, and weekly in London.

Trained in the tradition of a trial lawyer.

Trained and qualified as a mediator ADRIO Certificate 2021

1992-present HASSAN LAW
 Trial Lawyer with significant emphasis on Family Law, Estates, and Civil
 Engaged in Practice with an experienced team of clerks and associates

1988-1992 COHEN HIGHLEY VOGEL & DAWSON
 255 Queens Avenue One London Place, 11th Floor
 London, Ontario
 Senior family law counsel employed as departmental lead associate in a large London firm formerly CohenMelnitzer

1985-1988 HAMOODY HASSAN
 Sole Practitioner
 541 Talbot Street North
 London, Ontario

1982-1985 HASSAN & MONETTE
 Partner engaged in litigation practice
 541 Talbot Street North
 London, Ontario
 The late Gustave Monette left the firm to focus on criminal law and remained a life-long friend until he passed away

1980-1982 HASSAN & TOON
 Partner engaged in litigation practice
 541 Talbot Street North

London, Ontario
 William Toon left the partnership and became an Assistant V-P at the now TD Canada Trust and remains a life-long friend

- 1979-1980 HAMOODY HASSAN
 Sole Practitioner engaged in litigation practice
 481 Talbot Street North
 London, Ontario
- 1982-1996 Certified by the Official Guardian's Office, now the Children's Lawyers Office to represent children as Counsel for the child in adoptions, protection proceedings, and civil actions.

CURRENT AND PAST MEMBERSHIPS

- ❖ Current Member, Law Society of Ontario
- ❖ Current Member, Middlesex Lawyers Association
- ❖ Current Member of Middlesex Family Lawyers Association (former Middlesex Family Court Lawyers Association)
- ❖ Current Member Ontario Trial Lawyers Association
- ❖ Current Member Ontario Child Protection Lawyers Association
- ❖ Current Member with Canadian Arab Society
- ❖ Current Member Arab Canadian Lawyers' Association
- ❖ Current Member of Karoun Association, A Lebanese Community and Social Project Fund Raising Committee for family Village of Origin in Bekaa Valley, Lebanon
- ❖ Past Member of Board of Directors, Across Languages
- ❖ Past Member of Board of Directors, Original Kids Theatre Company
- ❖ Founding Member Muslim Lawyers Association
- ❖ Past Member of Board of Directors, Canadian Mental Health Association for London and Middlesex
- ❖ Award co-Recipient for repurposing 142 Dundas Street- London Chapter Architectural Conservancy Ontario (2015)

- ❖ Award co-Recipient for repurposing 142 Dundas Street -Architectural Conservancy Ontario (2015)
- ❖ Member, Downtown London Business Association
- ❖ Member, Islamic Centre of Southwestern Ontario
- ❖ Supporter, Forest City Community Church
- ❖ Advisor to London and Middlesex and annual conference presenter Muslim Resource Centre
- ❖ Former Member Law Union of Ontario
- ❖ Active in local heritage, environmental, philanthropic, and social justice causes

CURRENT & PAST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ Lecturer in the field of Islamic Law for Muslims, lay people and lawyers;
- ❖ Lecturer Mental Health Law, Civil Litigation practice, Law of expert evidence, and Family Law to law associations, social groups, schools and service and treatment organizations
- ❖ Past half day seminar co-presenter child protection practice "Social Work and the Law" at King's University College, London, Ontario with Justice Sharon Hassan and Prof. Dr. Rachel Birnbaum
- ❖ 2010 Chaired Middlesex Law Association seminar "Retirement Planning for Lawyers"
- ❖ Past instructor "Social Work and the Law" night courses for Fanshawe College, London, Ontario
- ❖ Lecturer, Law Society of Upper Canada, Bar Admission Course – Seminar Practice in Child Protection Proceedings from the Parent's Perspective, interviewing skills, and negotiating skills
- ❖ Attended, participated in as an attendee or presenter at numerous conferences and continuing education programs
- ❖ Mentor to various co-op students in practicum, John P. Robarts School for the Deaf, Thames Valley Board of Education, London & Middlesex Roman Catholic Board of Education, Fanshawe College Law Clerk programs, Trio College Paralegal and law clerk programs, summer Law Students, articling students and young lawyers.

- ❖ Founder, Shoreline Property Management Inc. a Cottage rental and property management enterprise see www.shorelinegetaways.com
- ❖ Co-Founder A. Chisholm Company Inc. website www.hassanlaw.com

INTERESTS

- ❖ Spouse Sharon, and three children
- ❖ Large Extended family
- ❖ Downtown London
- ❖ Heritage restoration
- ❖ Supporter of many local charities, non-profits, arts venues, and events
- ❖ Biking, Hiking, swimming, and skating
- ❖ Antiques, Art, Gardening, Music, & Reading