

October 26, 2017

Dear Chair Denzil Minnan-Wong and members of the Striking Committee,

I am writing this letter to request membership on the Board of Directors with the Canadian National Exhibition Association.

The CNE is one of Ontario's most popular annual traditions and is an integral part of Toronto's heritage.

The CNE economic impact on the city is significant, totaling nearly \$70 million in the Greater Toronto Area and over \$100 million in the province. With more than 1.5 million people visiting the CNE, it continues to be one of the city's largest attractions. It is also a significant summer employer for youth and a major venue for artists and performers. The CNE employed 5,000 youth and was a venue for more than 1,000 performers last year.

That is primarily over 18 days in the summer. Like the founding premise of the CNE, I believe in innovation. I want to bring in new ideas and new ways to help the CNE grow.

Today, the majority of Torontonians identify themselves as visible minorities. As a Scarborough City Councillor representing a highly diverse ward, I want to help the CNE reach out to the GTA's immense diverse communities in a way that will make the CNE more accessible while generating more economic activity during the 18 days of the summer fair, and far beyond.

I am excited at the prospect of being part of the CNE's Board of Directors to help attract a diverse audience, create new business opportunities and take the CNE to the next level of diverse programming throughout the year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neethan Shan".

Councillor Neethan Shan
Scarborough-Rouge River, Ward 42