



The Camden College

## **WMC - The Camden College - Governor Recruitment Spring 2019**

Dear Reader

Thank you for taking the time to look at our advertisement for additional governors to join the Board of the Working Men's College. Even if you do not want to be considered for the Governing Body you may well wish to find out about our courses for adults – we have a full programme of termly part-time courses and some shorter Saturday taster sessions. If you would like to join the Board please make an application – we are particularly interested to hear from people with knowledge of the local area – either from work or because they live locally, and we always welcome applicants from a minority ethnic background.

I joined the Board almost a year ago and assumed my designated role as Chair of Governors in August when the former Chair, Professor Tom Schuller, stepped down after a long association with the College including nine years as Chair. I have a long involvement with education in Camden having been Chair of Governors at a primary school for five years: I now look forward to working with other governors, the Principal, the learners and the College staff to build on the successes of the recent period and to develop the College as a major force for adult and community learning. This will require vision, enthusiasm and working in collaboration with other Institutes of Adult Learning, Camden Council and employers. It will also involve a steady nerve to maintain the Mission of the College, to safeguard its long history, and to ensure there is a continuing story to tell.

If you do decide to put yourself forward, you do so at an exciting time when successful steering through the mix of opportunities and challenges will demand careful planning and strong governance. The College is well placed having just secured an Ofsted rating of “good” – everyone associated with the College is pleased with this whilst appreciating also that there remains much to do to ensure that learners enjoy their learning experience at the College, whether this is to gain employment skills or for more general enrichment and personal fulfilment: the College is proud to promote the wider benefits of adult learning – social cohesion and physical and mental well-being.

As an architect by profession, I am particularly pleased that since 2007 the College has made impressive improvements to the building: indeed we are continuing to do this through a significant two year programme of refurbishment to make the learning spaces meet and hopefully exceed learners' expectations. These works have been supported by grants from the LSC, the SFA and most recently the GLA, but they were only made possible by the vision of the governing body and the College Leadership through the commitment of significant financial reserves. As Chair I hope to see this work continue so that the College remains a place of, and a voice for, adult learning on Crowndale Rd as it has been since 1904, and before that since 1854 in Great Ormond St.

I hope this short letter encourages you to make an application to become a governor, but even if it does not I hope that you will visit the College to see for yourself what it has to offer.

Best wishes

Guy Shackle, Chair of Governors:

[www.wmcollege.ac.uk](http://www.wmcollege.ac.uk)