

Contact information / Información del solicitante**First Name / Nombre ***

Michael

Last Name / Apellido *

Thompson

Today's Date / Fecha de hoy *

1/30/2026

Address / Dirección *

[REDACTED]

Phone number / número de teléfono *

[REDACTED]

Email / Correo electrónico *

[REDACTED]

Selection and interests / Selección e intereses**Select board(s) or commission(s) you wish to apply for. / Seleccione la(s) junta(s) o comisión(es) a la(s) que desea presentarse. ***

You may select more than one. If the group you're interested in is not listed, please check "other" and fill in the name of the group. / Puede seleccionar más de uno. Si el grupo que le interesa no aparece en la lista, marque "otro" y escriba el nombre del grupo. Seleccione la junta, la comisión o el grupo de trabajo al que desea presentarse:

- Charter Commission / Comisión de la Carta
- Economic Development Authority / Autoridad de Desarrollo Económico
- Environmental Quality Commission / Comisión de Calidad Medioambiental
- Heritage Preservation Commission / Comisión de Preservación del Patrimonio
- Hospital Board / Junta del hospital
- Human Rights Commission / Comisión de Derechos Humanos
- Library Board / Consejo de la Biblioteca
- Youth Substance Prevention Alliance Task Force / Grupo de trabajo de la Alianza para la Prevención del Consumo de Sustancias entre los Jóvenes
- Northfield Area Fire & Rescue Services Joint Powers Board / Junta de Poderes Conjuntos de los Servicios de Rescate e Incendios del Área de Northfield
- Planning Commission/Zoning Board / Comisión de Urbanismo/Junta de Zonificación
- Other / Otro [REDACTED]

Why are you interested in serving on a City of Northfield board or commission? / ¿Por qué le interesa formar parte de una junta o comisión de la ciudad de Northfield? *

Since I was a teenager and continuing through my time as a student at Carleton and throughout my professional career, I have been passionate about engaging with and improving the communities where I have lived. I strive to leave every place I am a bit better than I found it.

What interests you about the board(s)/commissions(s) you selected? / ¿Qué le interesa de la(s) junta(s)/comisión(es) seleccionada(s) en la pregunta 1? *

Growing up in rural Minnesota, I was always interested in the growth or sometimes decline of many of the small towns around the state. My hometown of Albert Lea has not experienced the prosperity and expansion that Northfield has encountered since my days as a student at Carleton in the mid-90s, yet it has maintained a vibrant and diverse economic base. After almost eight years back in Northfield, I am eager to help develop and grow the economic base and opportunities for all residents through service on the Economic Development Authority.

What do you feel you would add to selected board(s)/commission(s)? / ¿Qué cree que aportaría a la(s) junta(s)/comisión(es) seleccionada(s)? *

As a member of the Development and Alumni Relations division at Carleton and a resident of the Sibley Swale neighborhood in Northfield, I am eager to apply my skills, experiences, and background to help foster and expand the vibrant economic opportunities in Northfield. Having worked with various community and governmental agencies during my time building and opening a new middle school in Palo Alto, CA, and with the Chamber of Commerce during my time as a school leader in Half Moon Bay, CA, I am well-versed in community and governmental relations. My work directing our alumni programs and relationships, and my passion for continuing to improve the quality of life and experiences for residents of Northfield, enliven me, and I look forward to providing leadership and guidance to the Economic Development Authority.

Describe any current or past experience serving on a board or commission. / Describa su experiencia actual o pasada como miembro de un consejo o comisión. *

I led the Carleton Bay Area Alumni Club from 1999 - 2016, served on the Carleton Alumni Council from 2003-2005, served on the board of the Bay Area Directors of Admission from 2016-2018, served on the board of the Select College Alumni Directors from 2020-2025, and serve on the Dacie Moses Committee and the board of Carleton's LGBTQIA+ Community Resource Group.

Describe any current or past community involvement. / Describa cualquier participación actual o pasada en la comunidad. *

I volunteered with the Half Moon Bay Art and Pumpkin Festival from 2013 to 2018 and participated in the city leadership training program. I have been a volunteer and now a board member for Nordic Fest in Decorah, Iowa, for the past 5 years. I was a highly engaged Carleton alum for over 20 years while living in the Bay Area, and I continue that involvement as both an active alum and now Director of Alumni Relations here at Carleton.

Describe any current or past related education, training, or work experience. / 7. Describa cualquier tipo de educación, formación o experiencia laboral relacionada actual o pasada. *

I have a B.A. from Carleton College with a major in Political Philosophy and took many economics classes. I have an A.M. from Stanford University in Education, Learning, Design, and Technology.

What does Northfield do well? / ¿Qué hace bien Northfield? *

Northfield does an exceptional job of creating, nurturing, and maintaining a strong community feel for most of its residents.

What challenges does Northfield face? / ¿A qué retos se enfrenta Northfield? *

Along with the very immediate challenge that Northfield faces from the presence of federal immigration forces, Northfield is also challenged to develop and maintain a more diverse and expansive economic base in the downtown core and throughout the city. This is especially evident in the need for redevelopment of the former Archer House site and the need for more diverse dining and entertainment options.

What is your vision for Northfield? / ¿Cuál es su visión de Northfield? *

I would hope that Northfield could continue to grow into an even warmer, more welcoming community that provides diverse opportunities and experiences for residents and visitors alike. We have many historical, cultural, and natural resources that could be utilized and highlighted to provide greater economic and social returns.

Reapplying

If you are reapplying for a term on a board/commission, please complete the below questions. / Si Vuelve a presentar su candidatura para un mandato en un consejo/comisión, rellene las siguientes preguntas.

Explain what you've added to the work of your board or commission during your term(s). / 11. Explique qué ha aportado al trabajo de su junta/comisión durante su(s) mandato(s).

What have you found most fulfilling during your term(s)? / ¿Qué es lo que más le ha llenado durante su mandato?

What have you found most challenging during your term(s)? / 13. ¿Qué le ha resultado más difícil durante su mandato?

Questions / Preguntas

Contact Lynette Peterson, City Clerk, City of Northfield, 801 Washington St., Northfield, MN 55057

[Email Lynette Peterson](#)

Póngase en contacto con Lynette Peterson, Secretaria Municipal, Ciudad de Northfield, 801 Washington St., Northfield, MN 55057

[Envíe correo electrónico a Lynette Peterson](#)

Public data / Datos públicos

All information supplied on this form will be public data. Your address, telephone number, email address do not become public until you are appointed.

Toda la información facilitada en este formulario serán datos públicos. Su dirección, número de teléfono y dirección de correo electrónico no se harán públicos hasta que sea nombrado.