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Leadership Program and Chairing Skills Program

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To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

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Dear Farzi,

I would like to express my interest in being an alternate for the leadership programme, in case Ines (or another EC member, or another incoming leader) is unable to participate.

I have learned a lot since attending my first ICANN meeting in Dublin and have made substantial efforts to involve myself in the NCUC's policy work. I have not sought out a leadership role to date, partially because I have been on a journey of self-education understanding what areas of the DNS interest me most, and partially because I do not yet think I have the capacity to lead high-performing teams.

I do not believe that leadership skills can be taught. In my view (or at least, my experience), authentic leadership must be developed by each individual and addressed experientially at the level of values, beliefs, and purposes. I now have a deeper clarification of my own values and have taught myself how to 'stay on course' when circumstances change.

I have carefully reviewed the agendas for the leadership programme in previous years, and there are a number of areas where I believe I would be able to learn from the experiences of others. Coaching is a key leadership ability, but not one I have refined. I note that this course addresses how to help others perform better so that teams do not languish. I also observed that this programme gives much focus to conflict resolution and how to maintain control without being controlling. I don't consider conflict in itself to be bad (though I might say that, as I have occasionally been accused myself of creating conflict 😊), but understanding how to relieve it is important. Without conflict there can be no growth, or change, or evolution, and in a constituency like ours where coordination is inevitably hard, how we handle conflict is what determines whether it is constructive or destructive.

Finally, it would be a great privilege being able to interact on a more one-to-one basis with community members from other constituencies and other stakeholders who engage in ICANN activities. Being able to learn from their experiences and to share ideas for future engagements could lead to future collaborative endeavours for the NCUC.

Sharing information and discoveries is important to me, so if I was chosen to participate in this programme, I would report back to the community after ICANN 58 on my learnings.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best wishes,

Ayden Férdeline
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