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September 17, 2025

To whom it may concern,

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Dakota Bacchus, who worked as an Architectural Intern at Studio MaNA Inc. from January to August 2023. Dakota began his internship as a third-year student at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture and quickly became a valued member of our team.

From the beginning, Dakota impressed us with his ability to rapidly improve his technical proficiency, quickly adapting to the firm's operational pace. His strong organizational skills and a meticulous attention to detail allowed him to excel in his work and execute projects with great accuracy. He was also consistently punctual, a trait that speaks to his strong character and dedication.

Beyond his technical and collaborative skills, Dakota demonstrated a strong intellectual curiosity and a capacity for critical and creative thinking. I recall his work on a set of adaptive re-use infill projects, which required us to investigate existing multi-story residential buildings for unused spaces. This task demanded complex analysis and innovative thinking to provide our client with efficient plans for new dwelling units. Dakota not only excelled in the analysis but also showed great competency in the execution of these creative solutions. This ability to think conceptually and solve complex problems is a key indicator of his readiness for a rigorous graduate program.

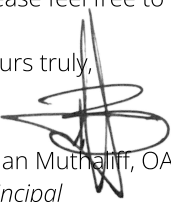
Dakota is an excellent communicator. He was always careful and thoughtful in his interactions and was never hesitant to ask clarifying questions to ensure he understood the task at hand. While he did make some mistakes, as is common in a learning environment, he was always open to feedback and focused on understanding his errors to prevent them from happening again. This willingness to learn and improve is a testament to his maturity.

As a small business, reliability is crucial, and Dakota consistently proved himself to be dependable. I was able to trust him to manage the tasks he was given, complete them to the best of his ability, and work with me to resolve any questions or issues that arose.

Dakota's passion for architecture is evident in his pragmatic and purposeful approach to every task. He is a truly goal-oriented individual, and we are confident that he possesses the intellectual maturity and dedication required to excel in a Master of Architecture program. We look forward to seeing the valuable contributions he will undoubtedly make to both the academic community and, in the future, to the field of architecture itself.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Yours truly,


Brian Muthaiff, OAA
Principal