Lewis Rafuse 58 Southvale Drive, Toronto, ON M4G 1G5

rafusel@gmail.com Phone: 613-250-0474

To the Ontario Science Centre:

Re: Job ID 103353: Student Host, Science Experience

I am incredibly interested in the opportunity that has been posted on the government jobs website. After attending the Ontario Science Centre Science School (OSCSS) and holding the position of student host for the 2017 season I have become very familiar with the Science Centre and its culture and values. Were I to return for the 2018 season, I could now bring more than 7 months experience of coming to the science centre every day and interacting with visitors. My time spent at the science centre has changed my life, not only in a professional capacity, but it has changed my perspective. Being able to continue to spread my love of the science centre, and its mission of spreading open-mindedness, fun and a fascination of all things science would bring me great joy. I believe that not only would my enthusiasm contribute to my job performance but also, now, my experience doing this job.

A previous summer job I worked on a garlic farm, preparing the garlic to be sold at the Carp Garlic Festival and the Verona Garlic Festival. The Carp festival attracts nearly 30 000 people a year, and out of nearly ten other employees, I was selected to sell the garlic at market as well. During these festivals I served customers in a polite and gracious manner, by providing expertise on which varieties of garlic to purchase, as well as where and how the garlic was grown. With people coming through our stall constantly, I worked under pressure and developed excellent customer service skills, as well as exercising quick mental math skills. This experience will transfer directly to the high volumes of people that I would have to serve in the science centre.

During my time in student council, I have become extremely proficient with my communication and leadership skills. As the President, the rest of the council, as well as people in the school view me as a leader. Each time an issue or dispute arises, it is my responsibility to adapt to each challenge individually, and to problem solve in a timely fashion. As tech officer, my communication and leadership skills are called on by the minute. With so many different groups, such as the band, the organizers, and the principals that need to be informed of their own responsibilities, communication during the planning and execution of an assembly is perpetual. While I possess the technical skills to operate the sound system, I find assemblies are the truest test of my ability to communicate to all stakeholders, lead the people that need direction, and operate under pressure.

While all my prior experience would serve me well in this job, the most relevant skills I possess, are the skills I attained attending school in the science centre and hosting during the 2017 season. Spending each day in the facility, learning the nuances of working with the visitors, specifically, will ultimately means I have experience working in this specific job because I held the position. Visiting the science centre for the first time this summer opened my eyes to how special the opportunity is to have part of my high school education in this environment. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the atmosphere of learning and curiosity that has drove me to move to city of Toronto, and I hope to extend my contribution by working in this