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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this reference letter for Aleksandr Zamarashkin. I taught Aleks in both Science 9 and in Life Sciences 11. He was a strong student in both these courses. He was able to extend his thinking beyond the class materials and he worked well with others as peer support. He has consistently achieved over 90% in his classes year after year. He was awarded a Top Scholar Award in Grade 11 as well as subject awards for Socials Studies and English in Grade 9 and 11. His achievements stem from effective study patterns and organizing his schedule in a way that promoted his success. His skill set will serve him well in post-secondary education.

Outside of class time, he played on Argyle's rugby team, volunteered at both Pedalheads and the North Vancouver Recreation Commission, and worked at Pedalheads. The rugby required the ability to work with others on a common goal. This experience enhanced his school spirit and re-enforced his ability to overcome obstacles. His volunteer work required adaptability and leadership. His job at Pedalheads required a high level of dedication, responsibility, and leadership. He worked closely with children and their parents. This helped him develop his ability to socialize with groups of people and to effectively manage them. His job also involved some administrative abilities.

Aleks's past achievements include winning NASA's Scientist for a Day contest. He had to conduct extensive research and then write an essay that made him stand out from thousands of other applicants. He has participated in science-based contests, such as the Michael Smith Challenge in Grade 10 and the Math and Physics Olympiads. These contests allowed him to demonstrate his knowledge beyond the confines of class materials. He has also taken classes outside of school to develop his writing and logic skills. These were often taught by leaders in their respective fields which gave him an appreciation for being passionate about one's work.

His future plans include pursuing a career in science. He is expecting to continue his studies post-baccalaureate. He is open to multiple disciplines within sciences. He is excited to see what opportunities are available both domestically and internationally.

I wish Aleks all the best in his post-secondary pursuits.

Sincerely,

Kahlyn Adie
Secondary science teacher