

February 1, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

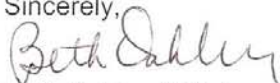
It is my pleasure to write a letter of reference for Mr. Nick Olynyk. I first met Nick in September 2007 when he agreed to volunteer for a blogging position for the Educational Development Centre (EDC). The EDC is responsible for helping to support new students with the transition to university. Nick agreed to share his personal experiences, challenges and successes of being a first year student by submitting three postings each week during the entire academic year. The purpose of the blog is to enable high school students, fellow first year students and parents to get a sense of what it is like to be a first year university student.

Nick's reflections are thought provoking, mature, and exceptionally written. Nick exhibits a writing style that goes above and beyond simply stating a summary of his day's activities. He provides the reader with an opportunity to reflect on topics and does not shy away from issues that might lead to feedback from his reader. In fact, Nick provides an open invitation to his readers to contact him. Most importantly, Nick always ensures that his entries are suitable for publication on our University website maintaining respect for the University and his readers.

Nick has always been dependable and consistent in his commitment. This can be a challenge for someone as involved as he is. Not only does Nick successfully balance his academic workload, he also maintains a part time job at the Lance and is a Lancer hockey player. Being able to juggle all of these activities, while living away from home, is a testament to Nick's ability to be an effective time manager.

I have also had the opportunity to review articles written by Nick in our school newspaper, the Lance. Nick's reporting style is clear, accurate, concise and professional. On a personal note, I have found him to be a mature and personable young man. I would not hesitate to recommend Nick for employment as I believe he has a strong work ethic, and above average writing skills. If you require additional information, please contact me at [oakleyb@uwindsor.ca](mailto:oakleyb@uwindsor.ca) or by telephone at (519) 253-3000 ext 3461.

Sincerely,



Beth Oakley, M.Ed.  
Director, Educational Development Centre