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Charge Nurse Extendicare Kirkland Lake October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

To the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Selection Committee,

I am writing to strongly recommend Darren for admission to your medical program. Having had the pleasure of working with Darren for 8 months at Extendicare Kirkland Lake, where I served as the Charge Nurse, I have directly observed his professional growth and personal dedication to healthcare.

Darren's commitment to patient care is evident through his meticulous attention to detail and his exceptional critical thinking skills. He consistently demonstrates the ability to develop insightful nursing diagnoses, significantly contributing to our patients' care planning. His proactive approach and his capability to listen actively have been instrumental in addressing and meeting patient needs effectively.

In terms of communication, Darren, although on the quieter side, communicates with profound intellect and clarity. He ensures a comprehensive understanding of discussions, avoiding assumptions, which has been crucial in his interactions not only with our nursing team but also with nurse practitioners and physicians. This ability has enhanced the quality of patient care through improved interdisciplinary collaboration.

Darren's problem-solving skills are notably above average. Darren thinks outside the box. When there is a concern, he tends to look for possible solutions in and outside of the problem at hand. He exhibits a capacity to think creatively, especially evident during challenging times such as staffing shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic. His initiative to introduce strategies like job sharing and encouraging management participation in care activities not only figure figured out how to meet residents care needs but also direct other care workers on methods of working safely without risking burnouts.

Furthermore, Darren maintains professional standard that is promoted by the College of Nurses of Ontario, he is professional not only in patient care but in relationships in a professional setting. He proficiently stays within professional boundaries.

While Darren is exceptionally skilled and empathetic, he tends towards shyness. However, this is not a reflection of who he is, and I have witnessed him actively working on and improving on this. His continued efforts to build stronger professional relationships are commendable and will undoubtedly enhance his capabilities in healthcare further.

Darren's insatiable curiosity for health-related knowledge and his passion for medicine are admirable. His dedication to continual learning and research underscores his readiness and suitability for a career as a physician.

In conclusion, Darren's blend of skills, dedication, and personal qualities not only make him an excellent candidate for your medical program but also promise a future physician dedicated to the highest standards of healthcare. I wholeheartedly support his application and am confident that he will be an asset to your program and to the medical profession.

Sincerely,

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RN, BScN