

May 5, 2022

Dear C.D. Howe Scholarship committee,

I am writing this letter in support of Josh Dolgin's application for a C.D. Howe Scholarship Endowment Fund National Engineering Scholarship. I instructed Mr. Dolgin from Jan-Apr 2022 for a core 2nd year Mechatronics course (MTE 262, Digital Logic and Microprocessor Architecture). Based on my interactions with Mr. Dolgin, I can attest to his strong performance and his ability to contribute to his class through informal leadership and academic capabilities.

While I have not known Mr. Dolgin for a long time, I genuinely appreciated his contributions to his class during a challenging time. As one of the strongest students in the class (cumulative GPA 93%), I was particularly glad for Mr. Dolgin's contributions to facilitate the shift from online to in-person learning midway through the term. Not only was Mr. Dolgin a consistent participant in online lectures through asking questions, responding to his fellow classmates' queries, and enhancing the content with additional examples, but he maintained this level of participation when we returned to in-person lectures.

As an example, Mr. Dolgin generated a 4-bit custom computer in machine language on his own time which he shared with me to help demonstrate key concepts in low-level microprocessor architecture. When we returned to in-person learning, Mr. Dolgin was a willing and enthusiastic participant in labs where he worked on both his own lab with his group and neighbouring groups. As an instructor, Mr. Dolgin's constructive attitude and energy were important to making the course a positive learning experience for many classmates. Sorely lacking in 2 years of online courses, this collaborative spirit is exactly what is needed to establish a healthy class community.

Considering the pandemic has tested the resilience of all out students, Mr. Dolgin has demonstrated leadership in academics and excellent ability to collaborate with his classmates. In combination with Mr. Dolgin's outstanding academic record and strong extra-curricular activities, I highly recommend Mr. Dolgin for this award. In comparison to ~600 2nd year engineering students I have instructed over the past 5 years, I rate Mr. Dolgin in the top 5% of this group. If you have any questions, I would be happy to address them via email (james.tung@uwaterloo.ca) or telephone (519-888-4567 x43445).

Sincerely,



James Y Tung, PhD, PEng
Associate Professor, Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering
University of Waterloo
james.tung@uwaterloo.ca



