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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to introduce myself as a Grade 12 student at Edward Milne Community School. I will be graduating in June of 2007. I have been on the Honour Roll since grade 8 and have collected numerous academic awards from grades seven through my senior years. These awards include a seventh grade Top Academic Award, a Senior Social Studies Award, an English 11 and Biology 12 Top Academic Award. I currently have a Grade Point Average of 3.8. Each day, I work hard to maintain and improve my average, although Calculus 12 is proving to be quite a worthy adversary!

Outside of school I have many interests. I have been playing Minor Hockey since I was 8 years old, and I attended the EMCS Hockey Academy for the first semester this year. I am a very active person and I enjoy most physical activities, especially hockey, golf, snowboarding and mountain biking. Additionally, I have been working at SEAPARC since September 2005, where my work with youth includes skate patrol, skate instruction and skate sharpening. I am also a summer camp leader and have recently been awarded a position at Juan de Fuca Recreation Center as a Camp Leader for 6 to 8 year olds. I look forward to starting that challenge in June 2007. At SEAPARC, I was named the Instructor of the Year for my work as a skate instructor this past year. When I'm not at school, being active, or working, I love listening to music and playing my guitar. In school, I enjoy most subjects, but my true passion lies in the sciences. Through Biology 12, I have developed a keen interest in the complex functions of the human body.

I am a member of the leadership group at EMCS, and am actively involved in organizing school functions, especially intramural sports such as four corner soccer, floor hockey and badminton. For the past two years, in addition to my leadership roles, I have been a Big Brothers Big Sisters Teen Mentor to a younger boy, who has made improvements in the areas of self-confidence, creativity and social skills. In the community, I have volunteered at SEAPARC as a summer camp helper, as well as selling corn-on-the-cob to raise money for safe youth programs through P.L.A.A.Y. (Positive Leisure Activities/Assets for Youth). Up until the end of the hockey season I volunteered my time as a goaltending coach for the Bantam 'A' ice hockey team. Lastly, I have tutored a variety of younger students in subjects including learning to read, science and math for the past two years.

I plan on studying at Camosun College to obtain an Associate of Science degree. Upon completion of this degree, I will complete my Bachelor of Science degree, specializing in either Chemistry or Biology at the University of Victoria. Finally, after obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree, I would like to enroll in a post-degree program in Education. I have been working with children, tutoring and mentoring, for the past few years, and my long-term career goal is to become a high-school Teacher.

Unfortunately, these aspirations come with a great cost, which will put strain on my family's and my own finances. Although, I hope to continue to work part-time while attending University, paying the thousands of dollars in tuition will be a challenge. For these reasons, I hope you will consider me for the Sooke Merchants Association Scholarship. Thank you so much for taking the time to view my scholarship resume and my letters of reference.

Yours truly,

Jason Millwood