

January 13, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Eli Penkar

I am pleased to write a letter of support for Eliran Penkar's (Eli) as he pursues the internship application process. As Manager of the Youth Secretariat, I have had the pleasure of working closely with Eli on emerging youth issues in Alberta since September of 2009. Eli volunteers his time as an active member of the Government of Alberta's Youth Advisory Panel.

The Youth Advisory Panel plays a critical role in providing the Youth Secretariat with a youth perspective and helps identify important issues for youth in Alberta. The Youth Advisory Panel of the Youth Secretariat provides the Chair and staff of the Secretariat with feedback and advice on proposed strategies, recommendations, and findings. Eli comments on current initiatives and passionately shares his experiences and perspectives on youth issues. Always eager and prepared, Eli offers solutions to improve the services provided to young people.

To date, Eli has had the opportunity to table his ideas with current chair, Kyle Fawcett, MLA for Calgary - North Hill. Eli has been afforded the opportunity to table his thoughts on Alberta's current youth homelessness issues, high-risk youth supports and Alberta Education's new health curriculum. At the municipal level, Eli is a strong advocate and youth leader. His experience on the Panel and his efforts in the community did not go unnoticed as he has been selected as a Youth Advisory Panel member for a second term. I can truly say that Eli always keeps the best interests of others in mind.

Eli is extremely outgoing and very friendly. His warm and infectious personality is appreciated by each and every one of his fellow Panel members. His dedication to volunteerism and his community adds an invaluable perspective. Eli's commitment to representing the youth of Alberta who often don't have a voice is to be commended.

Should you require further information, do not hesitate to contact me directly at 780-644-5156 or via email at david.french@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you,



David K. French
Manager of Youth Engagement and the Youth Secretariat