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**Canadian Association for
Co-operative Education (CAFCE)**
834 Yonge Street, Suite 205
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Attn: Canadian Association for Co-operative Education (CAFCE)

I am writing to highly recommend Kath Blair for CAFCE's Student of the Year Award.

I have supervised co-op students at Business Objects for over seven years, and in that time Kath is the best co-op student I've had the pleasure to work with. Her work performance has been simply phenomenal. Kath has exceeded not only our company's expectations of a co-op student, but also our expectations of a full-time employee.

Kath takes on all challenges with energy and enthusiasm, and she is always willing to pitch in when coworkers need help. She has a strong work ethic and a determination to do the best work she can in any situation. Kath is also an incredibly fast learner. During her placement, we were struggling to learn new authoring software and Kath mastered the tool quickly and even helped full-time employees learn how to use the software and troubleshoot issues.

Kath went above and beyond a normal co-op role to apply her artistic experience in creating diagrams for our documentation. She also brought a fresh perspective to usability discussions about the software user interface – a process that our co-ops have never been involved in before. Kath's input was invaluable to software developers; her feedback helped us create a more user-friendly experience for our customers. Kath continued to help with our usability efforts by taking on responsibility for editing all of the user interface text.

I trust Kath's work implicitly. Her writing is on par with technical writing professionals and her inquisitive nature and research skills ensure that information is accurate and comprehensive. One of Kath's greatest achievements in her time here at Business Objects was to write a full chapter of completely new content for our administrator's guide. Due to the complexity of the work and the highly-technical administrative audience, this is a task we would not normally entrust to a co-op

student, but Kath handled the challenge like a professional and this chapter stands among the highlights of the project. I'm still getting emails from other departments thanking us for the high quality of this chapter. Her work is as thorough and well-written as anything produced by our full-time staff.

What is even more remarkable about Kath's achievements during her co-op placement, is that despite the large workload, Kath still found time to take classes, volunteer in her spare time, and get involved in extracurricular company events.

In her time at Business Objects, Kath became a valued member of our team and we sincerely hope that she will consider returning to work with us when she is finished school. Both my manager and his manager have talked to me about the possibility of hiring Kath full-time when she graduates.

Working with Kath has also made it very clear to us how important the co-op program is to our organization. Without her help during this project, we would have been unable to meet our work goals and achieve the high quality standards we strive for. And our experience with Kath demonstrated to us how important the co-op program is for finding new talent for our organization.

Please email or call me if you have any questions about Kath's work at Business Objects, and thank you for considering her for this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Savage', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Doug Savage