

# COLE WEBBER



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Cole Webber, 19, is a comprehensivist and inventor. He is the author of 2 books and recently filed for his first patent. He has co-designed 23 schools, spoken at over 30 events in 4 countries including a TEDx talk, cowritten policy for the government, acted as an advisor to 15+ government officials and agencies, and sat on numerous international boards regarding education and development. His work relating to anthropology, design, education, film studies, and construction, as well has his short fiction, has also been published.

# Speaking Engagements: (Selected from 30+ engagements)

The future of qualifications, Workshop, A4LE Learning Scapes, Chicago - November 2018

Presentation on Design Thinking in education to the University of Calgary Faculty of Education Colloquium – March 2018

"What is Education good for?" TEDx Talk, Voorschoten, the Netherlands – November 2017

Keynote Speaker at Junior Achievement (JA) Southern Alberta 'World of Choices' Event – Spring 2016

Canadian representative and session chair at the International Conference for Education Research and Innovation (ICERI) held in Seville, Spain – October 2015

Keynote address on Sparked Foundation at Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PBSAA), Edmonton – November 2015 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ8bL9jP7fs

What is the purpose of education? Lecture for Alberta High School Redesign Regional Consortium, distributed by Alberta Education as Professional Development for Teachers – May 2015

Presentation of Concepts for Red Deer Museum and Gallery (MAG) Renovation Project, MAG Annual General Meeting – May 2015

Workshop on Applying LEAN manufacturing methodology to education, Portland, Oregon – October 2014

Youngest Canadian to deliver a Convocation Address, Red Deer College 50th Anniversary Convocation – May 2014

Workshop on Educational Processes, Indianapolis – September 2013

Guest Lecturer to PhD Education Students at the University of Calgary – Summer 2013

Keynote Speaker at Summit for Canadian Ministers of Education, to delegations from the Yukon, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, Alberta, and Saskatchewan – September 2013

Presented School Design Principles and Concepts to Premier, Minister of Education, Minister of Infrastructure, and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs to Alberta – June 2013

Guest Speaker and Advisor to Alberta Infrastructure Team – 2013

# Committee and Position Appointments (Full Listing)

Jury Member for the Schools Next Competition, September 2016

Consultant to German-based furniture company VS to developed plans for a line of collaborative student designed furniture, 2016

Sparked Foundation named mentorship coordinator for the Association for Learning Environments (A4LE), 2016

Youngest member of Scientific Advisory Board to the International Academy for Technology, Education and Development (IATED), 2016

Non-profit organization, Sparked Foundation, received certification as an educational institution from Google for Education, Spring 2016

Founded non-profit organization, Sparked Foundation, and acted as President, 2015-2016

Invited to co-organize and peer review new Tripartite Journal of Education (headquartered in India), 2015

First Student Jury Member for the Schools Next Competition, October 2015

Canadian representative and Session Chair at the International Conference for Education Research and Innovation (ICERI) held in Seville, Spain, October 2015

Member of Red Deer Public School District Student Advisory Council, Fall 2015-Summer 2017

Youngest and only student member of committee to revise Alberta Teacher and School Leader Professional Standards, 2015-2016

Consultant to Red Deer Museum and Gallery Renovation Project, May 2015

Student Delegate to the International Summit for the Teaching Profession, 2015, March 2015 One of five total from the 30 countries present

Coordinating member of 'Speak Out', the Alberta Government's student engagement initiative, 2014-2015

Advisor to the Albertan Minister of Education, 2013-2015 Ministers included Jeff Johnson, Dave Hancock (interim), Gordon Dirks and David Eggen Coordinator for Student Input, and Designer for the Annie L Gaetz Courtyard Renovation Project, Summer 2014

Education Consultant to the Ministry of Education, Saskatchewan, 2014 Facilitator of one of the first instances of LEAN manufacturing methodology applied to education, March 2014

Advisor to Alberta Infrastructure Team, 2013

# **Publishing Credits**

# By Cole: (Full Listing, Reverse Chronological by Publication Date)

OMNINET book | design, technology, education, creativity, economics, communication, psychology (373 pages) ISBN: 978-1729552995

Tip Toes short story | horror, weird available in The Weird Reader, Volume 3 (2018), page 19

Culture Defines Usefulness article | anthropology, design, construction, geodesic structures, housing, sustainability available in AGORA Journal, Volume 4 (2018), pages 1-6

Inglorious Basterds: Evil Through Apathy article | film analysis available in AGORA Journal, Volume 4 (2018), pages 118-122

Can Students Design Their Own Learning? edited by Terry White article | education, technology, architecture, design, construction available in Learning Spaces, journal of the international Association for Learning Environments, First Quarter 2018 (Volume 4.1), pages 64-68 ISSN: 2515-463X

A Case for Integration, co-authored with Craig Webber article | architecture, construction, design, sustainability, integrated project delivery (IPD) available in Design Quarterly, Winter 2018, pages 18-19 ISSN: 0834-3357

Disneyland by Design: an unauthorized analysis of the design success of Walt's first theme park book | design, technology, creativity, urban planning, nature of work (160 pages) ISBN: 978-1983607059 Available on Amazon, disneylandbydesign.com What is education good for? TEDx Talk | education, technology, nature of work produced in conjunction with the British School in the Netherlands and Talbott Presentations International, distributed by TEDx

Sparked, co-authored with Sarah MacLellan article | education, technology available in International Conference on Education, Research and Innovation Proceedings 2015 via the International Academy for Technology, Education and Development ISBN: 978-8460826576

What is the purpose of education?

video of lecture, professional development materials | education, technology, nature of work produced in conjunction with the High School Redesign Regional Consortium, distributed by Alberta Education

### **Publications about Cole:**

Self-Education is the Currency of the Future [interview] distributed by the British School in the Netherlands, August 4, 2017, https://voices.britishschool.nl/TEDxYouthBSN/2017/08/04/self-education-is-the-currencyof-the-future-cole-webber-tedxyouthbsn-speaker/

Imagining the Future of Education [interview] by Mary-Ann Barr in Momentum: Young People Who Shape Central Alberta, July 17, 2015

School of the Future Eyed for Pilot Project [interview] by Crystal Rhyno in The Red Deer Advocate, Summer 2013

Red Deer Fab Four Conquer World and Amaze Teacher [profile] in the ATA News, June 11, 2013

Premier Visits Students Who Designed 'Cutting Edge' School [profile] by Jenna Swan in The Red Deer Express, June 5, 2013

Students Pitch to Premier [interview] and Students: Innovative [profile] by Susan Zielinski in The Red Deer Advocate, June 4, 2013

Eastview Students Win International Competition in The Red Deer Express, May 1, 2013

The Future Has Arrived [profile] by Murray Crawford in The Red Deer Advocate, April 2013

Students earn chance to design school of future [interview and profile] by Murray Crawford in The Red Deer Advocate, Spring 2013

Students Plan 'School of the Future' [interview] by Susan Zielinski in The Red Deer Advocate, February 22, 2013

# All Experience, Reverse Chronological Order

US Patent No. 62/754,328 'METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ORGANIZING EVENTS' Filed – November 1, 2018 (Age 19)

The future of qualifications, workshop at A4LE Learning Scapes, Chicago – November 2018 (Age 19)

Book 'OMNINET' published - October 2018 (Age 19) ISBN: 978-1729552995

Book 'Disneyland by Design: An unauthorized analysis of the design success of Walt's first theme park' published – February 2018 (Age 18) ISBN: 978-1983607059

Article 'A Case for Integration', co-authored with Craig Webber published – January 2018 (Age 18) Available in Design Quarterly, January 2018

"What is Education good for?" TEDx Talk, Voorschoten, the Netherlands – November 2017 (Age 18)

Recipient of the Alberta Premier's Citizenship Award – July 2017 (Age 18) The award recognizes outstanding accomplishments in citizenship, leadership, community service and volunteer work.

Invited to be the youngest Jury Member for the Schools Next Competition – September 2016 (Age 17)

Unfortunately, I did not attend the event because of a travel delay.

Wrote Proposals (as a freelance writer) for Group2 Architecture and Chandos construction, regarding LEAN / Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) structured bids – Summer 2016 (Age 17) IPD is the methodology which Disney and Apple use for their construction projects. It is a unique contract system in which collaboration is heavily incentivized. The system is poised to make revolutionary changes in the construction and architecture industry.

Composed 50 page book proposal for first book, 'The Need to Know Basis' (Working Title) – Summer 2016 (Age 17)

The book is envisioned to address key trends in the relationship between education and business, primarily the way in which advancing technology has fundamentally altered the parameters by which humans access and use knowledge - a change which has not been paralleled since the invention of written language over 3000 years ago. The proposal involved researching competition,

developing a marketing and speaking plan, and identifying publishing houses and literary agents. Latest draft available upon request.

Developed plans for a line of collaborative student designed furniture for German-based international furniture company VS - 2016 (Age 17)

After meetings and correspondence with the Vice President in charge of North America over a period of three months the plans were eventually scrapped.

Sparked Foundation named mentorship coordinator for the Association for Learning Environments (A4LE) – 2016 (Age 17)

Peer Reviewed Abstracts and Research Papers for inclusion in the international Web of Science, on behalf of the International Academy for Technology, Education and Development (IATED) – 2016 (Age 16)

Youngest member of Scientific Advisory Board to the International Academy for Technology, Education and Development (IATED) for EDULEARN 2016 Conference – 2016 (Age 16-17)

Keynote Speaker at Junior Achievement (JA) Southern Alberta 'World of Choices' Event – Spring 2016 (Age 16)

Non-profit organization, Sparked Foundation, received certification as an educational institution from Google for Education – Spring 2016 (Age 16)

Directed, Edited and Co-Wrote 4000 word proposal submission for the XQ Super School Grant – January 2016 (Age 16)

Directed, Produced, Co-Wrote and Co-Edited over 2 hours of promotional videos for Sparked Foundation (for the XQ Super School Grant) – January 2016 (Age 16)

Founded non-profit organization, Sparked Foundation, and acted as President – 2015-2016 (Age 16-17)

Sparked Foundation is a student run non-profit which, in 5 months under my leadership as president and chairman of the board expanded to include 12 coordinating members across Canada and the US, which piloted projects in 4 schools, and have grown our initiative, the mentor network, to include 52 professionals from 6 countries, including Canadian members of parliament, American surfers, a Romanian seismologist and the VP of the largest radio telescope in the world.

Keynote address on Sparked Foundation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ8bL9jP7fs Invited to help Found and Peer Review the Tripartite Journal of Education (Published in India) – 2015 (Age 16)

Following my performance at the International Conference on Education, Research and Innovation (ICERI), and my article published by the International Academy for Technology, Education and Development (IATED), I was invited to participate in the founding of the new journal.

First Student Jury Member for the Schools Next Competition – October 2015 (Age 16)

Work Published by International Academy for Technology, Education and Development (IATED) – October 2015 (Age 16)

An article I co-authored on using student effort to accomplish real world outcomes was published by IATED, and included in the international Web of Science and Google Scholar.

Canadian representative and session chair at the International Conference for Education Research and Innovation (ICERI) held in Seville, Spain – October 2015 (Age 16) I was chosen as a Canadian representative - and the youngest person to attend - ICERI in Seville, Spain. I spoke at the event was invited to chair and moderate 2 sessions. The event brought together researches and professors from 79 countries.

Member of Red Deer Public School District Student Advisory Council – Fall 2015-Present (Age 16-Present)

Youngest subject featured in 'Momentum - Young People Who Shape Central Alberta' – June 2015 (Age 16)

Youngest member of committee to revise Alberta Teacher and School Leader Professional Standards - 2015-2016 (Age 15-16)

The position allowed me access to information and drafts of Alberta Education policy not available to the general public. I was invited by the organizers, and was the only student representative present.

Recipient of the Red Deer Mayor's Special Award – May 2015 (Age 15) The award is not given out every year, and is bestowed only for either acts of heroism or bringing international prestige to the city (I received the award for the latter).

Personal Work Incorporated into Government Professional Development Materials – May 2015 (Age 15)

One of my TED talk style lectures was incorporated into professional development materials (made for teachers) distributed by the Alberta Government.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEpAPxpMv04

Consultant to Red Deer Museum and Gallery Renovation Project – May 2015 (Age 15) I was brought in to help define a new direction and strategy for the museum and gallery. I worked with staff to conceptualize plans for new programs and features, including a maker space, and presented the information back to the board of directors.

Student Delegate to the International Summit for the Teaching Profession, 2015 – March 2015 (Age 15)

I was chosen as one of five student delegates attending the International Summit for the Teaching Profession, which brought together the 30 most economically developed countries in the world to discuss education. The role required me to interact with high ranking officials and summarize the experience and information for the Alberta provincial government.

Coordinating member of 'Speak Out', the Alberta Government's student engagement initiative – 2014-2015 (Age 14-16)

The role required myself, as well as other student members, to compile student input from hundreds of pupils, interact and report to government leaders, use information to create initiatives, appear at events and on delegations, and plan events for students.

Advisor to the Albertan Minister of Education – 2013-2015 (Age 13-16) I served as an advisor to 4 Alberta Ministers of Education.

Fully composed a 45-minute video documentary, entitled 'Endless Loop', on themes and meaning in Stanley Kubrick's 2001: 'A Space Odyssey' and 'The Shining' – October 2014 (Age 15)

Hosted Workshop on Applying LEAN manufacturing methodology to education in Portland, Oregon – October 2014 (Age 15)

Coordinator for Student Input, and Designer for the Annie L Gaetz Courtyard Renovation Project – Summer 2014 (Age 16)

The role required me to run multiple design activities with students from grades 2-5, and compile the information to design the courtyard, also collaborating with the architects and Red Deer Public School District facility staff.

Youngest Canadian to deliver a Convocation Address – May 2014 (Age 15) I became the youngest person to deliver a convocation address in Canada, speaking to over 4000 people. The speech was my first collaboration with a writing team.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T30dcJkcV9A

Education Consultant to the Ministry of Education, Saskatchewan and facilitator of one of the first instances of LEAN manufacturing methodology applied to education – March 2014 (Age 14) Facing a school shortage, the Government of Saskatchewan started a process to design 18 new schools based on the LEAN methodology - one of the first such instances it was applied to education. I was brought in by the Deputy Minister of Education to facilitate the process with students from Saskatchewan.

Spoken at over 30 international events – 2013-Present (Age 12 - present) Since 2013, I've spoken or hosted workshops at over 30 conferences, including a presentation on education in Pittsburg, hosting a workshop in Indianapolis, and hosting a LEAN education workshop in Portland, OR. I was also personally selected by the Minister of Education of Alberta to keynote several government events.

Hosted Workshop on Educational Processes in Indianapolis – September 2013 (Age 14)

Guest Lecturer at the University of Calgary – 2013 (Age 14)

I was brought in as a guest lecturer to a class of education PhD students, to deliver a lecture and answer questions around my work in building the capacity for creativity in the education system.

Keynote Speaker at Summit for Canadian Ministers of Education – September 2013 (Age 14) The summit included delegations from the Yukon, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.

Presented School Design Principles and Concepts to Premier, Minister of Education, Minister of Infrastructure, and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs to Alberta – June 2013 (Age 14)

Guest Speaker and Advisor to Alberta Infrastructure Team – 2013 (Age 13)

Work included in Red Deer Time Capsule, special guest at Time Capsule Ceremony – March 2013 (Age 13)

School Design submitted by city to Alberta Education for funding – 2013 (Age 12-13)

Won international "Schools Next" competition - 2012-2013 (Age 12-13)

Along with 3 other students, I participated in the international Schools Next competition, hosted by the Association for Learning Environments, an international non-profit organization. The competition pitted our team against 3500 other students from Australia, Asia, Canada and the USA. After progressing through 3 levels of evaluation, we won the entire competition. Due to our heavy focus on educational pedagogy (which was not a requirement of the competition) because of our win, the entire evaluation structure was revised.

#### **Reference and Confirmation**

Table of Contents of Attached Letters

## **Meghan Sparks**

Social Studies Curriculum Leader Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

#### **Brian Plastow**

Grade 12 Vice Principal Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

#### Dan Lower

Principal Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

#### Della Ruston

Associate Superintendent, System Services Red Deer Public School District

#### Ken Jaeger

Supervisor of Support Services Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, and Pacific Northwest Regional Juror, School of the Future Competition

#### Joel Ward

President and CEO, Red Deer College

Tara Veer Mayor of Red Deer

#### Jamie Anderson

Former Student Engagement Coordinator, Alberta Education

#### **David Schrader**

Chair of the International Board of Directors, Association for Learning Environments and Managing Partner, SCHRADERGROUP architecture LLC



#### École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School 4204 - 58 Street • Red Deer, AB, CANADA T4N 2L6 tel (403) 347-1171 • fax (403) 340-1676

tel (403) 347-1171 • fax (403) 340-1676 email: <u>ltchs@rdpsd.ab.ca</u>

> Principal: D. Lower Vice Principals: • J Rawlusyk • S. Bevan • G. Lehman • B. Plastow Business Manager: • R. Lavoy

November 23, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

#### **Re: Reference for Cole Webber**

I had the distinct honour of having Cole as a student in my Social Studies 30-1 class last year where I had the opportunity to get to know him as an individual and witness his extraordinary learning and thinking abilities. I believe Cole's astounding list of accomplishments speak for themselves in terms of highlighting his unique and impressive skill set, so I will instead focus on providing a reference for Cole's character and deportment.

In a class where his background knowledge, writing, and critical thinking abilities were far beyond that of his peers, Cole continuously demonstrated the utmost respect for the ideas and accomplishments of others. Cole is dedicated to his goal of contributing positively to humanity in a significant way, which begins with an in depth understanding of the society and global community that we live in. As such, Cole's personal goals and interests fit in well with our Social Studies 30 curriculum of the study of ideologies. The work he submitted was far beyond what would be expected of a Social Studies 30-1 student in terms of its complexity, precision of understanding, and quality of communication. This was true for formal writing, creative projects, and daily assessments alike. Even when he was under challenged by the content and materials provided, he remained fully engaged and took advantage of every opportunity to broaden his perspectives and further his knowledge in any way possible.

Cole is accepting, generous, and thoughtful in his interactions with peers, friends, and adults. He demonstrates a consistent maturity far beyond what is typical for someone his age. What I find most outstanding about Cole, and what I truly believe will make him an exceptional employee, thinker, and leader in the future, is the genuine passion with which he does all things. Although he has received a tremendous amount of well deserved

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Principal: D. Lower Vice Principals: • J Rawlusyk • S. Bevan • G. Lehman • B. Plastow Business Manager: • R. Lavoy

recognition for his achievements, I am confident that it is not this extrinsic praise, so much as an authentic intrinsic passion for learning and improving the world around him, that motivates Cole most.

I hold this young man in the highest regard and I recommend him with confidence for any educational, employment, or scholarship opportunity he may be considered for.

Sincerely,

Meghan Sparks Social Studies Curriculum Leader Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School meghan,sparks@rdpsd.ab.ca 403-347-1171 Ext. 2107 (work) 587-876-0234 (cell)



École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School 4204 - 58 Street • Red Deer, AB, CANADA T4N 2L6 tel (403) 347-1171 • fax (403) 340-1676 email: <u>ltchs@rdpsd.ab.ca</u> **Principal**: D. Lower Vice Principals: • J Rawlusyk • S. Bevan • G. Lehman • B. Plastow Business Manager: • R. Lavoy

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privielge to endorse Cole Webber with this letter of recommendation. I have known Cole for the last four years. He was my student in Grade 9 and now I have the pleasure of being his Grade Vice Principal. Cole is a true student leader who also does extremely well academically. Currently, all his marks are above 90 percent which is credit to his work ethic and dedication to his education. Cole also posseses a maturity and an understanding of the world I have rarely seen in someone Cole's age. Cole works extremely well with his classmates and he always seems to have a kind word to say to everyone. In short, Cole is a joy to have as a member of our school community.

Outside of class Cole is just as dedicated. He serves as our school's representative on Red Deer Public School Board's Student Advisory Council where he advises school board officials on educatinal issues. This aligns well with Cole's true passion, educational reform. Cole is extremley well-versed on this topic and I can fondly remember him citing educational reports from Finland when he was in Grade 9. Much of Cole's time is spent advising government officials in this capacity. I know he regulary meets with our Minister of Education on working to improve the education system for all students. He also has spoken on this subject internationally. In addition to this impressive work, Cole also has time to volunteer his artistic talents and donate his art to our local hospital.

In my 22 years in education I have had the opportunity to teach many wonderful students. I can honestly say that Cole has been one of the most impressive. He possess a degree of self-motiviation that is rarely seen in any person let alone a student. Cole also demonstrates the qualities of hard work, dedication, commitment and enthusiasm that will allow him to succeed in any endeavour he chooses.

It is without hesitation that I give Cole Webber my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Brian Plastsow

Grade 12 Vice-Principal LTCHS



École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School 4204 - 58 Street • Red Deer, AB, CANADA T4N 2L6 tel (403) 347-1171 • fax (403) 340-1676 email: <u>ltchs@rdpsd.ab.ca</u> **Principal**: D. Lower Vice Principals: • J Rawlusyk • S. Bevan • G. Lehman • B. Plastow

Business Manager: • R. Lavoy

December 1, 2016

To Whom It May Concern;

It is my sincere pleasure to write this letter of reference for Cole Webber. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Cole since his grade 9 year in 2013/14. Cole entered high school with an impressive resume and has done nothing but add to it over the course of his time at Lindsay Thurber. I would like to be able to say that our school played a major role in Cole's development, but that would be incorrect. Cole has been successful because he believes in using the resources of the world to further his education and make himself a better person. Lindsay Thurber has been but one of the resources that this highly intelligent, introspective young man has used to further his formal education. Cole has consistently been one of Lindsay Thurbers' top academic students, earning honours with distinction in grades 9 through 11 doing it his way.

When you talk to Cole about his ideas for education you quickly get a sense of his passion for the subject. You can't help but get caught up in his enthusiasm. Cole is not just a thinker, he has taken his ideas and turned them into reality through consulting with various education departments and agencies. I am not aware of any young Canadian whose ideas and opinions on education are sought after and valued the way Cole's are. This makes him truly special.

Cole has set some lofty altruistic goals for his future. Given what I know about Cole, and what he has achieved to this point, I have no doubt that he will achieve all of them. In my humble opinion Cole Webber should be interviewing post-secondary institutions to see who has the most to offer him, and who will have the privilege of having their name associated with Cole Webber. Of course Cole would never entertain this idea, as he is one of the humblest, most appreciative students you will ever meet. It is without hesitation that I endorse Cole Webber.

Sincerely,

Dan Lower Principal

#### **Della Ruston**

RED DEER PUBLIC SCHOOLS Associate Superintendent System Services Direct Line: 403-357-3994 Email: della.ruston@rdpsd.ab.ca

To Whom it May Concern,

It is a great honour to write this reference letter for Cole Webber. He is one of the most visionary, inspired, and motivated students I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with. Cole is humble, introspective, and a change leader who is always looking for ways in which he can make a difference. He is an independent, out of the box thinker, with endless curiosity allowing him to be a creative problem solver. Cole bravely challenges himself by setting and achieving ambitious goals.

During the 2012/2013 school year, while still in middle school, Cole and two of his classmates entered and won an international competition called "Schools Next" with their visionary model for a new school. It was a remarkable project, that exemplified an understanding of current research on effective, engaging teaching pedagogy. Before and after winning the award, this project garnered vast amounts of interest. I was fortunate to attend one of their many presentations where Cole's passion for the project was evidenced, as he enthusiastically answered all of the questions from senior administrators from around Alberta.

During the modernization of Annie L. Gaetz, Cole worked closely with architects and contractors to help design an outdoor classroom for elementary students.

As Cole begins his third year with our District's City Wide Student Advisory Council, he continues to bring unique insights, engages in thought provoking conversations, and provides the Board of Trustees for Red Deer Public Schools with rich context for their decision making. Cole is kind and considerate, and listens respectfully to the opinions of this diverse group.

Cole successfully collaborated with 12 other students to create a non-profit organization that works to inspire and provide mentorship. He speaks at conferences, reviews journal articles, consults with government agencies, and has won an international design competition.

Cole is honest, reliable, and has a strong moral character. If he commits to something it will be done to the best of his ability. He is able to collaborate well with others because of his integrity and his ability to build trusting, strong relationships.

Cole is one of the most inspirational, accomplished and courageous students I have had the pleasure of knowing and would represent your organization proudly and effectively! I can honestly say that I believe I have learned more from Cole, than he has from me.

Your Children, <sup>Our</sup> Students, <sup>Everyone's</sup> Future

4747 53 Street Red Deer. Alberta T4N 2E6 Phone (403) 343-1405 Fax (403) 347-8190 www.rdpsd.ab.ca

Cole has and continues to make a difference! I enthusiastically recommend Cole for the TD Community Leadership Award.

Sincerely,

Della Ruston

Della Ruston Associate Superintendent System Services

Your Children, Our Students, Everyone's Future

4747 53 Street Red Deer. Alberta T4N 2E6 Phone (403) 343-1405 Fax (403) 347-8190 www.rdpsd.ab.ca



November 15, 2016

To whom it may concern

#### **RE: LETTER OF REFERENCE FOR COLE WEBBER**

I am pleased to have the opportunity to provide a reference letter for Cole Webber for the TD Community Leadership Scholarship.

Cole's involvement in the CEFPI (Council of Education Facility Planners International) School of the Future (now called "Schools Next") and his team were the international winners of the competition. The success at this competition led Cole and his teammates to challenge the status quo of school planning and design in the province of Alberta and beyond. Cole's passion on presenting and making change on this topic has led him into presenting and leading workshops locally, nationally and internationally. I have had the opportunity to be involved with some of Cole's presentations and found them to be extremely professional and well done. His passion and drive has led him to be nominated for, and recipient of the City of Red Deer Mayor's recognition award.

Cole's innovation have led him to become an active leader in education and creativity, working with school boards, government agencies and design teams across Canada.

I would highly recommend Cole for this scholarship and would be pleased to answer any further questions you may have. Cole's self-motivation, passion, drive and innovation make him a great candidate for the TD Community Leadership Scholarship.

**Yours Truly** 

Ken Jaeger Supervisor of Support Services Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools P. 403-343-1055

Montfort Centre, 5210 - 61 Street, Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6N8 T. 403.343.1055 F. 403.347.6410 W. www.rdcrs.ca



July 4, 2014

Cole Webber 6 Sunnyside Crescent Red Deer, AB T4N 0E8

Dear Cole:

Once again, I would like to thank you for being the speaker at RDC's 50<sup>th</sup> Convocation! The feedback we have received on your speech has been astounding. The message you shared with our students and their families was truly inspiring. There is no doubt in my mind that you are destined for great things in the future.

As a memento of this occasion, I have enclosed a selection of photographs from the event as a well as a copy of the Convocation Program.

Yours truly,

Joel Ward President and CEO



President's Office | Department Phone: 403.342.3233 | Department Fax: 403.341.4899 Red Deer College | 100 College Boulevard | Box 5005 | Red Deer | AB | Canada | T4N 5H5 | www.rdc.ab.ca



December 12, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as a strong recommendation in support of Mr. Cole Webber.

I have known Cole since 2013 and have had the personal opportunity to observe him in multiple leadership capacities.

Cole was a recipient of the 2014 Mayors Special Award in recognition of his outstanding efforts in student leadership, innovation, community engagement, and for bringing honour to our City through his efforts and exceptional contributions.

Cole is the pride of our community and, if given the opportunity, I am confident he will serve your organization well.

If there is any further information I can provide you with in regards to Cole Webber's contributions and abilities, please feel free to contact my office at 403-342-8155.

Yours truly, Tara Veer Mayor

Aberta Human Services

Engagement Excellence Indigenous and Community Connections <sup>5rd</sup> Floor, Sterling Place 9940 – 106 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2N2 Telephone: 780-644-1826

November 21, 2016

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Cole Webber, an alumnus of the Alberta Education Minister's Student Advisory Council (MSAC) 2014/2015, volunteer for Alberta Education, and one of the most inspiring and innovative young people I have ever met. I hope that this letter will demonstrate Cole's overall leadership skills and his passion for making a lasting impact in the world.

In my former role as the Student Engagement program coordinator within Alberta Education, I had the pleasure of supervising and supporting Cole as he undertook new opportunities, both within and outside of his role as a student volunteer and Council member. The Minister's Student Advisory Council explores ways to improve education in Alberta by collecting and representing the student voice and providing advice to the Minister of Education. Council members take on a leadership role in the transformation of the education system in Alberta. Cole became a member of the Alberta Education Minister's Student Advisory Council in July 2014. Since then, I have been able to witness Cole's growth and maturity. As a member of the Minister's Student Advisory Council, Cole showed tremendous leadership and thoughtfulness as he worked to make a difference for students across Alberta.

Cole's drive to have an impact earned him a seat as a student representative for the Alberta Delegation at the International Summit on the Teaching Profession (2015). The Summit brings together education ministers and leaders of teachers' unions and associations from a number of high-performing and rapidly improving education systems to discuss education policy and practice and the teaching profession. As a student delegate, Cole participated in enriching conversations ranging from Indigenous education, technology and innovation in the classroom, and educational leadership. Cole's contributions to both MSAC and ISTP 2015 were highly valued and appreciated. Having the confidence to share the student perspective in a formal environment can be a challenge for some students. Cole was not only able to share his thoughts and opinions, but also influence decision making and initiate thoughtful debate on issues of importance.

Cole is an intelligent and dynamic person who demonstrates strong leadership skills. I have worked with many incredibly smart, thoughtful, inspired and ambitious young people over the years, but Cole is in a league of his own. Cole has vision and the ability to rally others around an idea, build momentum and see it through to the end. What Cole and his Sparked Foundation team have managed to accomplish in such a short time is incredible. I credit Cole with planting the seeds for that success to occur. He spent a lot of time talking to, teaching, and learning from the other Council members he worked with. He introduced the idea of education being more than four walls. He inspired them with his unique perspective and incredible energy, and inspired me as well.

Cole looks at all new experiences and challenges as opportunities to learn and engage. His academic experience has been no different and I always look forward to hearing about the work Cole is involved in. I have learned so much from Cole since we first met. He, and other students like him, inspire and push me to be my absolute best. I respect his feedback and I value his support for student involvement in the education system. His professionalism and superior work-ethic are impressive for someone so young. I am thrilled to see Cole pursuing his education and I believe he will continue to surprise and inspire. I look forward to seeing the lasting impact he will have on this world.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at <u>Jamie.Anderson@gov.ab.ca</u> or by phone at 780-644-1826.

Sincerely,

freester

Jamie Anderson Engagement Specialist Engagement Excellence Branch Indigenous and Community Connections Alberta Human Services



PHILADELPHIA L A N C A S T E R B A L T I M O R E WILMINGTON

12 January 2017

#### RE: Cole Webber Letter of reference

To Whom It May Concern,

I am an architect by trade but I currently have the great fortune of Chairing the International Board of Directors for the Association for Learning Environments, a 4,500 member international organization focused on the improvement of Learning Environments for our world's children.

In the process of acquiring this position, I have held positions on many of the organization's committees. My favorite and the most longstanding of roles has been in the capacity of Chair of the SchoolsNEXT competition. This is an international competition among teams of middle school students to design the Learning Environment for the future. Each year, we conduct a series of sub-competitions to eventually select a group from each of our eight regions to attend an international jury where a winning team is selected. This long introduction is to say that in the 2012-2013 event, Cole Webber and his team won the event. This vaulted Cole to some level of acclaim within our organization.

The jury annually consists of architects, planners, leaders of major industry and leaders of many of the United States' premier environmental agencies. Presenting to this jury is intimidating enough however to excel in front of this jury to the extent that Cole did is more than impressive. Cole's performance was so impressive that he has been asked back repeatedly in the capacity of competitor, as juror and as advisor to the organization. We truly value his opinion and his approach. Further, we in the organization have taken great pride to watch the achievements he has garnered as he continues to excel in the world at a very early age.

It is with great confidence that I can support Cole in any endeavor in which he might engage. He has the demeanor, the confidence, the work ethic and the couth to achieve great things in this world. He has shown not just the confidence, but also the tenacity to achieve whatever he sets his mind to. Perhaps most impressive is that his goals all appear to support the betterment of the world and humankind. As Cole continues to assert his impressive qualities coupled with these global goals, I am confident that we will see incredible achievements from him that will benefit our world.

I wholeheartedly endorse Cole Webber in all of his future endeavors! I personally look forward to watching this young man improve our world and I would be pleased to answer any questions pertaining to his character, his work ethic or his intellect. I can be reached at 215 370 9553.

Sincerely,



David L. Schrader, AIA, LEED AP

Chair of the International Board of Directors Association for Learning Environments and Managing Partner SCHRADERGROUP architecture LLC

#### SCHRADERGROUP architecture LLC