



The Flyin Ryan Hawks Foundation
145 Pine Haven Shores Rd
Suite 2101
Shelburne, VT 05482

September 20, 2021

Dear Flyin Ryan staff,

We are pleased to provide this letter of recommendation for Elliot Diana as an applicant for a Flyin Ryan adventure scholarship. Elliot plans to solo paddle the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, a significant undertaking. Along his journey, he plans to do advocacy work for the trail's stewardship program, specifically the Northern Forest Explorers. It provides children who live along the trail a chance to experience their local sections for a week at a time and focuses on kids in a low socio-economic class. At communities along the route, he'll also seek to do presentations about NFCT and about watershed awareness & protection.

Elliot is well suited for this challenge. He served as a guide for our winter wilderness dogsled adventure program. He has both excellent hard "trail skills" and superb soft "people skills." His services were much valued and appreciated by both our staff team and our program participants.

A competent wilderness adventurer and a passionate advocate for wildlands and watershed protection, Elliot is an ideal candidate for a Flyin Ryan scholarship. We heartily endorse his application.

Thank you,

Paul *Paul Schurke*

Schurke (director) & the Wintergreen team

"Give me winter, give me dogs and you can keep the rest." Knud Rasmussen, Greenlandic explorer

Wintergreen Dogsled Lodge
218-349-6128
1101 Ring Rock Road
Minnesota 55731

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Lodge/Home

Ely,

August 23, 2021

Flyin Ryan Foundation
145 Pine Haven Shores
Rd
Suite 2101
Shelburne, VT 05482

RE: Elliot Diana application for an Adventure Scholarship Program

I am writing in support of Elliot Diana's application of funding support through the Flyin Ryan Foundation. Elliot was an intern of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, Waitsfield, Vermont during the summer of 2014. I supervised his work and the work of other interns who led canoe trips on the Trail for youth from throughout New England. These multi-day overnight trips were, for many, an introduction to the wonders of the outdoors and helped instill a love of the wild and adventure in many of the participants.

Elliot was an incredibly capable and enthusiastic paddler, outdoors person and leader for these young people. Elliot's persona is born from a "can do" attitude. As a leader he helped show the kids the joy of the outdoors and how to overcome and embrace adversity and challenge and to respect and enjoy the mountains, rivers, and landscape of the northern forest.

Elliot's desire to paddle the entirety of the 740-mile canoe trail is testament to his outdoor spirit and desire to challenge himself and others in taking on incredible challenges.

Thank you for your consideration of this scholarship application for this adventure. Thank you as well for sharing Ryan's passion and continuing his legacy.

Sincerely, e-z---z _____



Kevin Mack
General Manager
Burke Mountain Resort
East Burke, VT