

WorldUniversity Service of Canada Regional Director Philip Landon

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Reference for Blair Henry

This letter serves as a reference for Mr. Blair Henry. I have known and worked with Blair since 2010 first in his role as a WUSC volunteer advisor with the Ngamiland Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations (NCONGO) and later as a key partner in the USAID-funded Maatla Botswana Civil Society Strengthening Project.

WUSC is a leading Canadian international development organisation with a mission to foster human development and global understanding through education and training. WUSC has worked in Africa since the 1950s, strengthening the capacity of local organizations, government departments and individuals in their efforts to contribute more effectively to the economic and social development. In Botswana, WUSC's program has focused on strengthening both local and national-level Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to provide more inclusive and effective HIV/AIDS services, to increase the integration of equality between women and men and to engage in policy dialogue for the benefit of disadvantaged or marginalized communities.

Blair has been a skilled, committed and effective advisor. During his tenure as volunteer for NCONGO, he transformed the organization from being a one-person volunteer-run organization into a fully staffed, sustainable organization that is being held up as a national model for NGO coalitions to be replicated in other areas of Botswana. He helped revitalize the membership, the mission and the activities of the organization in a participatory manner appropriate to the cultural context. His work in designing and implementing the Maatla project helped ensure that the project sustainably addressed the needs issues of beneficiaries in the underserved areas of the country.

I am very pleased and honoured to recommend Blair. He approaches all challenges with skill, hard work, determination and a sense of humour that helps get people to work with him to meet their common goals.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Philip Landon
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