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Swiss Polar Institute
Rue de l'Industrie 17
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Davos, January 17, 2023

Letter of Recommendation Application "Polar Access Fund" Brandon van Schaik

Dear Committee

It is my honor to provide a letter of recommendation for our PhD candidate, Brandon van Schaik, and recommend him as an extremely capable and suitable candidate for the project "Assessing Wind Energy Potential and Wind-Induced Risks at the Princess Elisabeth Antarctica Research Station" which will take place in the 2023-2024 Austral summer season and the Princess Elisabeth Antarctica Research Station.
The candidate is scientifically capable of leading a wind-doppler LiDAR measurement campaign for wind assessment and will be supervised by me and our senior scientists at the CRYOS laboratory at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne.
CRYOS will support the candidate with the necessary infrastructure such as wind-doppler LiDAR and the candidate will have access to data already collected in the area through our previous work there. I confirm that we have the expertise to apply the machine learning methods as described in the application in a meaningful way, and that the results of this campaign will be of great interest to the scientific community on wind energy assessment in complex terrain. Furthermore, the help with renewable energy installations at such remote locations will give visibility to CRYOS and SPI.
We are well acquainted with the personnel at the International Polar Foundation due to our previous collaborations, and I have no doubt that our PhD candidate will perform adequately and produce excellent scientific work as a result from your Polar Access Fund.

Very sincerely

Michael Lehning

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