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To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to show our support for Lucy Graham and Mathilde Gordon and their project, Passage Adventures.

We first met Lucy in 2009, when she was working full time as an adventure guide in New South Wales, Australia. We have followed Lucy as she has taken on new challenges, including the [Hawkesbury Canoe Classic](#) and the [Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride](#). Lucy continuously strives for new challenges in adventure and to make an ongoing contribution to conservation and community development.

Although we have not met Mathilde, we know of the challenges that she has taken on alongside Lucy. Not only in adventure, but in ocean conservation too. Although Mathilde is not new to adventure and challenge, kayaking is a new sport to her. Mentored by Lucy, she is determined to succeed and show other young women that with the right attitude, adventure is a place for all women, of all different experiences. I can relate very well to Mathilde as when my now husband, Chris Bray, and I purchased our 29ft, rotten, wooden sailing boat in Halifax Canada I had no sailing experience. I very quickly learnt that our expedition was to be the first junk rig sailing boat and youngest couple to sail North West Passage. The expedition was not about the sailing but good risk management, decision-making and teamwork. I believe that both Lucy and Mathilde have all these skills and more for a successful project.

I have sailed along the Alaskan coastline where Lucy and Mathilde are planning to paddle and truly understand the challenge they are taking on. Paddling 2000km is a challenge physically, mentally and emotionally. It takes serious planning and logistics, as well as a commitment to facing the unpredictable nature of the ocean and wildlife in these areas. Both of these women seek the thrill of adventure and possess the kind of determination that it takes to succeed.

One of the most exciting parts of this fantastic project is that it has brought the worlds of ocean conservation and women in adventure together. Both Mathilde and Lucy have contributed large amounts of their time to ocean conservation. That passion is shared in their paddle as they use it to raise awareness of the issue of Marine Debris. Apart from the adventure element of this journey, Lucy and Mathilde are working in association with the Vancouver Aquarium 'Shoreline CleanUp' program, doing educational talks along the way, inspiring young Canadians to take action for ocean conservation and chase their dreams. They are also raising money for The Tangaroa Blue Foundation and Living Oceans Society, which actively work to clean oceans and create waste reduction programs both here in Australia and in Canada.

So that they can donate all fundraising efforts to Marine Conservation, Mathilde and Lucy are self funding this epic adventure. Sponsorship for the paddle will ensure that this dream becomes a reality and ensure their adventure is a roaring success. They are a young, outgoing duo and I have no doubt that they will be successful in their expedition and would be great ambassadors should you choose to support them.

Yours truly,

Jess & Chris Bray