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File No. 697-682  
October 24, 2022

**SENT VIA EMAIL – james@jsmklaw.ca**

James S. M. Kitchen  
Barrister and Solicitor  
203-304 Main Street South  
Suite 224  
Airdrie, Alberta T4B 3C3

Dear Mr. Kitchen:

**Re: Western University – Request for Accommodation (COVID Vaccine Requirement) – Shane McCarthy**

Our client has reviewed your correspondence of October 12, 2022 which was sent to my attention in respect of two students at the University who have requested exemptions from the requirement to be vaccinated. In that correspondence you refer to my earlier letter of September 28, 2022 in respect of Mr. McCarthy, and specifically assert that the University has concluded, in respect of Mr. McCarthy, that “a Christian student’s beliefs are not protected by law if they are similar to those of other students”. Respectfully, this is not an accurate representation of our client’s position.

Rather, the University’s position is that the template affidavit provided by Mr. McCarthy, which is not similar but substantively identical to the affidavit submitted by two other students, is not demonstrative that Mr. McCarthy holds a sincere religious belief which is personal to him and which precludes vaccination. You will also recall that in my letter of September 28, 2022, Mr. McCarthy was invited to provide additional information that is personal to him, rather than the two template documents previously provided, to explain his sincerely held religious beliefs and why they preclude him from being vaccinated. To date, we have received no further information from Mr. McCarthy for the University to consider. Should he wish to do so, the University remains prepared to review and assess all information submitted.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amanda E. Lawrence-Patel'.

Amanda E. Lawrence-Patel