



## **Kwantlen Student Association Congratulates Federal Liberals on the Release of Their Plan for Post-Secondary Education**

But KSA expresses concern over lack of commitment to a federal PSE Act and Minister.

**Surrey, BC** — The Kwantlen Student Association has reviewed yesterday's Liberal announcement, "The Liberal plan for post-secondary education," and is happy to see that the Liberals consider public, post-secondary education (PSE) a fundamental component of their election platform.

"It's good to see that the federal Liberal Party has developed a plan to help Canadian students," said KSA Chairperson Derek Robertson. "However, it's clear that we desperately need national standards, and so what Canada needs is a National Post-Secondary Education Act and a federal cabinet minister responsible for post-secondary education."

With federal transfer payments for PSE shrinking, there is a greater and greater need for national standards of post-secondary education. Canada is one of the only developed nations without a national act or minister of post-secondary education, and the KSA believes that Canadian students and families would benefit from such an act, in the same way that the Canada Health Act establishes standard health care delivery standards from coast to coast — while respecting provincial jurisdictions.

A national post-secondary education act should include national standards for accessibility and affordability, comprehensiveness, public and not-for-profit administration, and the protection of academic freedom.

The KSA is looking forward to seeing the other major parties' policy plans for PSE, and will be actively working to ensure that Kwantlen students know the issues and get out to vote on October 14, 2008.

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*The Kwantlen Student Association represents over 18,000 students enrolled at the four Greater Vancouver campuses of Kwantlen Polytechnic University*

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