



Kwantlen Students Pleased to Meet with Minister Stockwell Day

Surrey — Members of the Kwantlen Student Association (KSA) met today with Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, to discuss three issues of concern to Kwantlen students: federal funding for post-secondary education, federal support for environmentally sustainable public transportation, and a commitment from the federal government for equal rights and human rights for LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered) individuals.

KSA representatives advocated for a separate, dedicated transfer from the federal government to the provinces for post-secondary education. Minister Day agreed to speak to his colleagues in Canada about the possibility of a dedicated post-secondary education transfer.

With respect to public transportation, KSA representatives noted the Conservative government's new tax credit for transit passes (<http://www.transitpass.ca/>), and requested that the federal government ensure that this tax credit would also apply to students with a Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass). The Kwantlen Student Association is working with Kwantlen University College and TransLink to bring a Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) for all Kwantlen students. Minister Day agreed to speak with federal staff to ensure that students will receive a tax credit for their U-Pass fees.

Kwantlen Student Association representatives were also relieved to hear a firm commitment from Minister Day that the Conservative government will not be moving to roll back equal rights, including equal marriage rights, for LGBT individuals.

"Kwantlen students are pleased that Minister Day has agreed to raise these issues with his Cabinet colleagues in Ottawa," said KSA representative Derek Robertson. "We are hoping that the federal government will come to the table with a financial contribution to a regional U-Pass program for Kwantlen students."

- 30 -

The Kwantlen University College Student Association represents over 17,000 students enrolled at the four Lower Mainland campuses of Kwantlen University College.

For more information, please contact Laura Anderson, Chairperson (778-386-7684 [cell]) or Titus Gregory, Policy Analyst (778-869-9717 [cell])