



## Kwantlen Student Association Council Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, August 19, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m.  
Surrey Campus, Room G1244**

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Introductions** (Page 3)
3. **Adoption of the Agenda** (Pages 1 – 2)
4. **Adoption of Minutes**
  - The minutes of the July 8 (open and closed sessions), July 22, and July 31, 2008 meetings of Council are available for adoption
  - The minutes of the July 15, 2008 meeting of Council are NOT yet ready for adoption
  - The minutes of the June 27, July 4, July 11, July 18, July 25, July 28, August 1, and August 8, 2008 meetings of the Executive Board are available for adoption
5. **Presentations to Council**
  - Robert's Rules of Order workshop
6. **Unfinished Business**
7. **Appointments, Resignations, and Removals** (Pages 4 – 5)
  - See attached letter of resignation from Trevor Loke (Page 6)
8. **Reports of the Executive Board and the Chairperson** (Pages 7 – 8)
  - See attached list of Non-Meeting Motions of the Executive Board (Page 9)
  - See attached letter to Phillip Newmarch (Page 10)
9. **Report of the General Manager**
10. **Reports of Committees and Executives**
  1. Director of Academic Affairs *and* Academic Affairs Committee Report (Page 11)
  2. Acting Director of Events and Student Life *and* Events and Communications Committee Report (Page 12 – 13)
  3. Director of Finance *and* Finance Committee Report (Page 14 – 16)
  4. Director of External Affairs *and* Student Issues and Action Committee Report (Page 17 – 19)
    - Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance (Pages 20 – 24)
  5. Director of Operations *and* Operations and Services Committee Report (Pages 25 – 26)
  6. Beer and Girly Drinks Committee Report
  7. Primary Appointments Committee Report
11. **Reports of Campus Councils and Campus Directors**
  1. Langley Campus Director/Council Report (Page 27)
  2. Newton-Cloverdale Campus Director/Council Report
  3. Richmond Campus Director/Council Report
  4. Acting Surrey Campus Director/Council Report
12. **Reports of Commissions and Liaisons**
  1. Queer Liaison Report
  2. Women's Liaison Report
  3. International Students Liaison Report
  4. Mature Students Liaison Report

5. Students With Disabilities Liaison Report (Page 28)
13. **Reports of Board of Governors and Education Council Representatives**
14. **New Business on Notice**
  1. Discussion on Movie Licenses (Szekeres)
15. **Other Business**
16. **Next Meeting**
17. **Adjournment**



## Kwantlen Student Association Members of Council

### Voting Members of Council

#### Executive Board

Director of Academic Affairs.....	Ashley Fehr
Acting Director of Events and Student Life.....	Vanessa Knight
Director of External Affairs and Chairperson of the Executive Board.....	Derek Robertson
Director of Finance.....	Steve Lee
Director of Operations.....	Nathan Griffiths

#### Langley Campus

Langley Campus Director.....	Jennifer Mamchur
Langley Campus Representative.....	Jennifer Campbell
Langley Campus Representative.....	Matthew Szekeres

#### Newton-Cloverdale Campus

Newton-Cloverdale Campus Director.....	vacant
Newton-Cloverdale Campus Representative.....	vacant
Newton-Cloverdale Campus Representative.....	vacant

#### Richmond Campus

Richmond Campus Director.....	Kareem Elmassry
Richmond Campus Representative.....	Reena Bali
Richmond Campus Representative.....	Harjit Dhesi
Richmond Campus Representative.....	Vanessa Knight

#### Surrey Campus

Surrey Campus Director.....	Vy Trinh
Surrey Campus Representative (Acting Surrey Campus Director).....	Emily Hampton
Surrey Campus Representative.....	vacant (3)

### Non-Voting Members of Council

#### Liaisons

Women's Liaison.....	Sarah Williams
Queer Liaison.....	Matthew DiMera
First Nations Liaison.....	vacant
Students with Disabilities Liaison.....	Ken McIntyre
Students of Colour Liaison.....	vacant
Mature Students Liaison.....	Robert Kovacic
International Students Liaison.....	Thinesh Balasubramaniam

#### Other

Speaker.....	vacant
Ombudsperson.....	vacant
Board of Governors.....	Rob Mumford
Board of Governors.....	Derek Robertson
Education Council.....	Mohammad Kallas
Education Council.....	Steve Lee
Education Council.....	Ken McIntyre
Education Council.....	Derek Robertson



## Kwantlen University College Student Association Committees Composition

As of August 15, 2008, the committees of the Kwantlen Student Association have the following compositions and memberships:

### Finance Committee

- a. Director of Finance (Chair) .....Steve Lee
  - b. Langley Campus Council member .....vacant
  - c. Newton-Cloverdale Campus Council member .....vacant
  - d. Richmond Campus Council member .....Reena Bali
  - e. Surrey Campus Council member .....vacant
  - f. Member at-large .....Sarah Williams
  - g. Member at-large.....Harjit Dhesi
  - h. Member at-large .....Derek Robertson
  - i. Member at-large.....vacant
- Support Staff (Financial Controller): .....Rolando Navarro

### Student Issues and Action Committee

- a. Director of External Affairs (Chair) .....Derek Robertson
  - b. Student member of the Board of Governors .....vacant
  - c. Non-executive member of Council .....Jennifer Mamchur
  - d. Non-executive member of Council .....Matthew DiMera
  - e. Member-at-large .....Chris Parsons
  - f. Member-at-large .....Vanessa Knight
  - g. Member-at-large .....Kari Michaels
  - h. Member-at-large .....Chris Farrer
- Support Staff (Policy Analyst) .....Titus Gregory

### Events and Communication Committee

- a. Acting Director of Events and Student Life (Chair) .....Vanessa Knight
  - b. Other members appointed by the Director of Events and Student Life
- Support Staff (Events and Special Projects Manager) .....vacant

### Academic Issues Committee

- a. Director of Academic Affairs (Chair) .....Ashley Fehr
- b. Student member of Education Council .....Ken McIntyre
- c. Non-executive member of Council .....Jennifer Campbell
- d. Non-executive member of Council .....Kareem Elmassry
- e. Non-executive member of Council .....vacant (2)
- f. Member at-large .....vacant (3)

Support Staff (Policy Analyst) .....Titus Gregory

### **Operations and Services Committee**

- a. Director of Operations (Chair) .....Nathan Griffiths
  - b. Non-executive member of Council .....Emily Hampton
  - c. Non-executive member of Council .....Sarah Williams
  - d. Member-at-large .....Nicole Joe
  - e. Member-at-large .....Matthew Szekeres
  - f. Member at-large.....Sally Le
  - g. Members at-large .....vacant (2)
- Support Staff (Commercial Services Manager) .....Catherine Wilkinson

### **Primary Appointments Committee**

- a. Student member of the BoG or Education Council (Chair) ...Derek Robertson
- b. General Manager .....Desmond Rodenbour
- c. Member at-large .....Reena Bali
- d. Member at-large .....Ashley Fehr
- e. Member at-large .....Nathan Griffiths
- f. Member at-large .....Matthew Szekeres
- g. Member at-large .....Kari Michaels
- h. Member at-large .....Steve Lee

### **Beer and Girly Drinks Committee**

- a. Member (Co-Chair) .....Nathan Griffiths
- b. Member (Co-chair).....Derek Robertson
- c. Member .....Kareem Elmassry
- d. Member .....Trevor Loke
- e. Member .....Vanessa Knight
- f. Member .....John O'Brian

### **Representatives of the Kwantlen Student Association on non-KSA committees**

- a. Executive Committee, Canadian Federation of Students – British Columbia Component .....Derek Robertson
- b. Kwantlen University College — Creating Our Future Action Plan Implementation Committee .....Ashley Fehr

Note: The term “member at-large” is not defined in the Bylaws or Regulations.



Titus Gregory &lt;titus.gregory@kusa.ca&gt;

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## Fwd: Job Interview and my role as Director of Events and Student Life

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Derek Robertson &lt;external@kusa.ca&gt;

25 July 2008 19:08

To: titus.gregory@kusa.ca

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Trevor Loke &lt;tjloke@gmail.com&gt;

Date: Fri, 25 Jul 2008 18:18:49 -0700

Subject: Job Interview and my role as Director of Events and Student Life

To: Desmond KSA GM Rodenbour &lt;desmond.rodenbour@kusa.ca&gt;, Catherine Wilkinson &lt;catherine.wilkinson@kusa.ca&gt;

Cc: [executive@kusa.ca](mailto:executive@kusa.ca)

Hi Catherine,

Pertaining to our earlier discussion, I want to confirm my resignation as Director of Events and Student Life in order to be officially considered as an applicant for the role of Events and Special Projects Manager. I look forward to our interview on Monday relating to the position of Events and Special Projects Manager and I am very excited about the opportunities awaiting should I get the position. I want to thank you for your support during my time on the Board and, hopefully, can continue to work with you in the future.

With Warmest Regards,

--

Trevor James Loke  
Director of Events and Student Life  
Kwantlen Student Association  
w: 604-599-2343 c: 604-916-0483

--

Derek Robertson

Director of External Affairs  
Kwantlen Student Association  
12666 72 Ave. | Surrey, BC | V3W 2M8  
w: 604.599.2341 | c: 604.319.4906 | fax: 604.599.2429  
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**Kwantlen Student Association  
Reports of the Executive Board and the Chairperson  
(Derek Robertson)**

**INTERNAL ELECTED OFFICIALS ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

On July 18<sup>th</sup>, the Executive removed Trevor Loke as Chairperson of the Executive Board. The Executive will continue with the rotating Chairperson for the rest of this term. The Director of External Affairs will serve as Chairperson until October 18<sup>th</sup>, when the Director of Academic Affairs will become Chairperson until January 5<sup>th</sup>, when the Director of Finance will become Chairperson.

Later on July 18<sup>th</sup>, the Executive received notice that the Director of Events and Student Life had resigned to apply for the position of Events and Special Projects Manager.

Also on July 18<sup>th</sup>, the Executive received notice that Langley Campus Officers, Chris Farrer and Jennifer Peterson, had resigned.

For proper support of the Campus Councils and Liaison's, members of the executive will begin to attend Campus Council and Commission meetings to provide support in making decisions. The Director of Operations and Director of Academic Affairs will begin attending Langley Campus Council and Cloverdale Campus Assembly meetings, the Director of Events and Student Life and the Director of Finance will attend Richmond Campus Council, and the Chairperson and Director of External Affairs will attend Surrey Campus Council and Commissions. This support is to ensure that the Campus Councils and Commissions are able to know the activities of the Executive, and are able to utilize the experience of the members of the Executive.

**COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

- A written submission was made to the Federal Standing Committee on Finance.
- A letter was written to Phillip Newmarch regarding the KSA's efforts to get the Kwantlen Administration to provide a room in which too take medical Marijuana
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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVES UPDATE**

Nothing new to report.

**EBOD MEETING REVIEW AND RECCOMENDED MOTIONS**

The last meeting of the Executive Board took place yesterday on Langley Campus.

The Executive has met a number of times since the last meeting of council. It has a number of out of meeting motions for Councils information. As well, the executive has recommended a number of motions for Council to adopt.

**Minutes of Executive Board Meetings**

Minutes from a number of Meetings of the Executive Board will be presented to Council.

### **Out-of-Meeting Motions**

Please find all of the Out-of-Meeting Motions of the Executive Board since the last meeting of Council.

### **Recommended Motions**

#### **Regulation Housekeeping Motion**

Resolved, That the Executive Board recommend to Council that the Regulations, s. 1, art. 2 be amended by adding an additional clause, to read:

"The Policy Analyst may revise the Regulations and the Executive Procedures to correct spelling, punctuation, reference, numbering, and lettering errors and irregularities."

#### **Events and Communications Committee Structure**

Resolved, That the Executive Board recommend to Council that the Regulations, SECTION IV, COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL, ARTICLE 5.3 (i) be entirely replaced with the following text:

i. The voting members of the ECC shall be:

- a. the Director of Events and Student Life, who shall be Chair;
- b. four (4) members of Council who are not members of the Executive Board, one such member from each campus; and
- c. four (4) at-large Members, as appointed by Council;

Resolved, That all references in the Regulations to "Member Services Coordinator" be changed to "Events & Special Projects Manager"

### **OTHER BUSINESS, ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

#### **Legal**

On August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Chairperson and General Manager met with the KSA Legal Counsel to obtain an update on the serving of the Plaintiffs in the RAF lawsuit.

#### **Meeting for More Student Space n Cloverdale Campus**

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, the Chairperson, Cloverdale Assembly Coordinator, and the SHIP Coordinator met with Amy Ditchburn, Cloverdale Campus Operations Manager, to discuss more student space on campus. The meeting was a success, with a number of ideas being discussed, and a number of suggestions to the KSA.

#### **KSA Executive Orientation**

The KSA Executive held an orientation last Friday at the KSA Legal Counsel's office in downtown Vancouver. The Executive focused on teambuilding and a number of other topics. A more detailed report will be presented to Council.



**Kwantlen Student Association  
Non-Meeting Motions of the Executive Board (July 22 – August 19)**

**EBOD:2008-07-31:01**

Resolved, That the Executive recommend to the General Manager and the Financial Controller to withhold the final paycheque of Trevor Loke until Mr. Loke meets with the General Manager regarding the tuition benefit that was paid out to him, as per the Director of Finance's email to Mr. Loke dated July 29, 2008

**EBOD:2008-07-31:02**

Resolved, That the Executive Board approve the Finance Committee's recommendations of July 25, 2008 that the:

1. Disabilities Award become the 3rd year studies award with the criteria being set up the same as for the 2nd year studies award;
2. Trades Certificate Award be turned into a 4th year studies award with the criteria being set up the same as for the 2nd year studies award;
3. "Pride Award" be turned into a Humanities Students Award with the criteria being the same as the Social Sciences Award;
4. GPA requirement for the KSA Improvement Award be raised to 2.5 from 2.0;
5. GPA requirement for the KSA Sciences Award be raised to 3.0 from 2.5; and
6. GPA requirement for the KSA Excellence in Business Award be lowered to 3.5 from 3.75

**EBOD:2008-08-08:08**

Resolved, That the KSA Executive Board approve the Surrey Campus Council budget be approved *[sic]*

**EBOD:2008-08-13:01**

Resolved, That \$200 be released from the Surrey Campus Council budget line item to purchase used movies, as per the "Movie Nights – Surrey Campus" Planning Tool

**EBOD:2008-08-14:01**

Resolved, That the Executive Board recommend to Council that the Regulations, SECTION IV, COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL, ARTICLE 5.3 (i) be entirely replaced with the following text:

- i. The voting members of the ECC shall be:
  - a. the Director of Events and Student Life, who shall be Chair;
  - b. four (4) members of Council who are not members of the Executive Board, one such member from each campus; and
  - c. four (4) at-large Members, as appointed by Council;

Resolved, That all references in the Regulations to "Member Services Coordinator" be changed to "Events & Special Projects Manager"

**EBOD:2008-08-14:02**

Resolved, That the KSA purchase a "Death Star" for an inauguration gift for Kwantlen's First Chancellor



KWANTLEN  
STUDENT  
ASSOCIATION

12666 72nd Avenue  
Surrey, BC V3W 2M8

Reception: 604.599.2126  
Facsimile: 604.599.2429  
Website: [www.kusa.ca](http://www.kusa.ca)

August 13th, 2008

Mr. Phillip Newmarch

Dear Mr. Newmarch,

I am writing you to follow up on your request that the Kwantlen Student Association lobby the Kwantlen University College administration to provide you a room in which to take your medical marijuana. I am pleased to inform you that a number of KSA Executives and staff have brought your concern to the Kwantlen administration during a number of meetings that we have had during our term.

As you already know, the Kwantlen Administration doesn't always share the entirety of it's views and thoughts with us on all issues, but on this matter they did advise us that they understood your concerns, but of course needed to balance your interests with those of other students, staff members, and limited facilities/budget. On behalf of the KSA I would like to inform you that during the design process for a proposed Student Union Building we will seriously consider the integration of various special purpose rooms, one of which may suit your needs with regard to medical marijuana use.

I would like to thank you for continuing to stand up for civil rights. And I wish you all the best in the future.

Sincerely,

Derek Robertson  
Chairperson and Director of External Affairs

cc: Desmond Rodenbour, Ashley Fehr, Nathan Griffiths, Steve Lee, Vanessa Knight, Roy Daykin



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Director of Academic Affairs / Academic Issues Committee**  
(Ashley Fehr)

**Current Academic Concerns, Advocacy and Internal Issues**

Current issues that have been brought to me by a student are the lack of classes in Langley (there's only about ¾ of the classes in Langley this fall as there have been in past Fall semesters). Another concern brought to me by the same student is regarding the way that some instructors treat students in the classroom (individually and collectively).

I have unfortunately fallen off of the Creating-our-Advocacy-thing wagon. So I need to jump back on.

**Completed Academic Concerns, Advocacy and Internal Issues**

Nothing is ever done.

**Academic Concerns, Advocacy and Internal Issues under Consideration**

I want to hold a "Love Your Body" week/day in October. The purpose of this week/day is to create awareness about eating disorders, etc and to take the first step in having people love themselves. T-Shirts will be made that say "Start a Revolution ... Stop Hating Your Body." I am excited.

**Volunteering and Student Involvement Update**

I have e-mailed all of the volunteers that Erin had found and 6 got back to me. They will be helping with Cram Jam, and I will get them involved in other campaigns and events in the future.

**Academic Committee Update and Recommended Motions**

Date of last academic committee meeting: August 19, 2008

Date of next academic committee meeting: not sure yet (my meeting has not happened yet).

**Other Business, Issues and Concerns**

In other news, I have been helping Vanessa with Cram Jam. I am working on getting a charter company to sponsor Cram Jam so that we can get a great (or at least better) deal on buses.



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Acting Director of Events and Student Life /**  
**Events and Communications Committee**  
(Vanessa Knight)

**Current and Upcoming Events Update**

CRAM JAM!!!! OH GOD IT'S COMING!!!!

The biggest things we have going on in the works for Cram Jam right now are that we have the bands and we changed the stage layout. Sloan, Daniel Wesley, and Ten Second Epic are confirmed. The stage is now on the side (I have a map if you want to look at it) instead of at the back of the room, which saves us money on bleachers and fencing, and plus the venue likes it better that way. We met with the venue and brier who is the tech company we're going with (they're very nice!) and we've sent tickets to The Fox so that they can start giving them away. They're also going to write a script for commercials and send it to us for approval, and we have to send it to the bands...

WELCOME WEEK!!! OH CRAP!

I've met a lot with Surrey Campus about their Welcome Week. I haven't talked as much with the other campuses, as they did not send delegates to ECC on Thursday. There was some concern over what to do with bands if it rains, but I have talked to The Fury who is playing on Richmond, and they will be able to do an acoustic set indoors. As seen previously, indoor events do not work as well for No Holds Barred, but Kari and I are working on a plan in case of rain for them. Some companies have expressed interest in buying tables for Welcome Week. The price of tables is \$300 per table per day. If they would like to come to all three campuses, they get a deal; \$800 total. (Cloverdale is not having tables). Eddie has planned a ton of great things for SHIP's participation in Welcome Week, he can tell you about those.

**Summary of Completed Events**

There have been no completed events since I have taken office.

**New Events under Consideration**

SPEAKERS WEEK (OR A MONTHLY EVENT)

Several students and business people in the Kwantlen area have expressed interest in giving clinics to students on certain topics, ex. Not getting screwed over when buying a car, or personal finances, etc. It was discussed that we have a different speaker each month, visiting every campus, for students to learn "Life Lessons".

**Clubs and Programs Based Support Update**

The only clubs I know exist are the D20 club. When there is a proper Events Coordinator in office, I will know more. I've just been swamped with Cram Jam Stuff.

### **Events Committee Update and Recommended Motions**

Date of last events committee meeting: Thursday August 14, 2008

Date of next events committee meeting: I don't know. When is everyone available? I plan to have at least one more before Welcome Week.

Minutes / Agendas Posted online: The agenda's posted at the time I'm writing this report. By the time Council happens, hopefully the minutes will be posted...

### **Other Business, Issues and Concerns**

I would like to be able to be in contact with all campuses and so in September will start spending one day on each Richmond and Langley campuses every two weeks.



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Director of Finance / Finance Committee**  
(Steve Lee)

**Current Financial and Budgetary Considerations**

1. The budget is being thoroughly reviewed right now in terms of, but not limited to:
  - a. Revenues and the new fee structure currently in place for the Fall 2008 semester as adopted by the membership during the Spring 2008 General Election;
  - b. Expenses in light of changes to the HR section of the budget;
  - c. Expenses in light of a review of the legal expenses (in regards to what can be allocated from the Health & Dental reserves);
  - d. Expenses in light of some line items that have been spent; *and*
  - e. Expenses in light of some items that were approved for spending from the reserves as opposed to the current year's budget.
2. The post-audit memorandums of the past few years have been examined with an eye towards making the appropriate regulation changes and to also ensure that changes already in place are being adhered to. There are a number of financial regulations that allow certain arms of the KSA to create further rules of their own and in an attempt to cut down on red tape and layers of rules, whatever procedures that can be placed into the regulations will occur. Drafts of those changes have been posted to the Finance Committee discussion page on the KSA forums for review and they have appeared in the last few Finance Committee agendas. It is my intention to have these changes brought to Council at its first meeting in September.
3. My review of other student union fees with an eye to completing an updated comparison of fees continues > a draft of this review has been posted online. As reported before, this secondary information will inform changes being proposed for our own fee structure – as has been discussed at the Finance Committee over the past few months (in spite of the referendum that was just held). Improvements to the current structure will come to Council at its first meeting in September.

**Resolved Financial and Budgetary Considerations**

4. Questions that the General Manager, our legal counsel and myself had regarding the 2006 and 2007 post audit memorandums have been compiled by our legal counsel and forwarded to our auditors. They are reviewing the information and we will be meeting with them shortly. Council should be in receipt of the post audit memorandums at its first meeting in September.

### **Future Financial and Budgetary Considerations**

5. With our current review of the budget that is ongoing, some thought has gone into the 2009 budget.

### **KSA Sustainability Update**

6. Nothing new to report.

### **Advertising, Promotions and Website Update**

7. Draft plans for meeting revenue projections in a number of areas have been posted online and will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.
8. Work on updating the online archive continues. Everything from the 1980s that we have on hand is online (agendas, minutes, financial documents and student handbooks). The only items not online are newspaper articles from the 1980s. A good chunk of stuff from the early 1990s is online or will be shortly. I had hoped to have all of this done by now but there are more documents than I anticipated. I will be getting a scanner at my desk so I can continue work on building our electronic archive both at home and in the office.
9. I noted in my last report to Council that no agendas or minutes from any of our standing committees or liaison commissions have been posted for our current term. Since the last meeting, I've updated the website with my Finance Committee agendas and minutes from the current term. The Cloverdale, Langley and Surrey Campus Councils have also not posted anything. Richmond appears to be the only campus council regularly posting these documents since we took office in April. Also, the executive and council agendas / minutes are not far behind but it appears some are missing. **PLEASE WORK TO ENSURE THE MINUTES / AGENDAS THAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARE ONLINE BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST.**

### **Finance Committee Update and Recommended Motions**

10. Date of last finance committee meeting: There have been a number of meetings from the last meeting of Council as follows:
  - a. July 25, 2008: QUORUM MET / AGENDA & MINUTES POSTED ONLINE: At this meeting the committee reviewed KSA Bursaries.
  - b. August 1, 2008: QUORUM NOT MET / AGENDA & MINUTES POSTED ONLINE: This meeting did not occur as regrets were sent in by Reena, Harj & Derek.
  - c. August 8, 2008: QUORUM NOT MET / AGENDA & MINUTES POSTED ONLINE: Derek and I were in attendance, but this meeting did not occur as regrets were sent in by Reena & Harj and we did not constitute a quorum.
  - d. August 14, 2008: QUORUM NOT MET / AGENDA & MINUTES POSTED ONLINE: Reena & Harj again sent regrets. This meeting informally occurred between Steven and Derek, first online via MSN Messenger and then in the Surrey office.

11. Date of next finance committee meeting:

- a. Monday, August 18 @ 5pm, Richmond Campus
- b. Wednesday, August 20 @ 2pm, Surrey Campus
- c. Friday, August 22 @ 3:30pm, Surrey Campus

I have set three meetings for next week as three of the last four have not met a quorum. We have to discuss the regulation changes, our budget and the fees. *It is very important we meet and discuss these things so that we can formulate recommendations for Council's first meeting in September.*

12. The Finance Committee made a number of changes to the awards and bursaries which were presented to the Executive Board. After a few more revisions, the Executive adopted the changes and they were forwarded to the foundation office. If you are interested in what changes were made, please visit the following discussion thread on the forums:

<http://forums.kusa.ca/index.php?topic=157.msg958#msg958>

13. I would hope that as we advertise our volunteer positions available that we can fill the at-large positions with students who are not currently elected to the KSA.

**Other Business, Issues and Concerns**

14. Nothing new to report, but I am continuing my tally of my hours worked as part of my work blog on the KSA forums:

<http://forums.kusa.ca/index.php?topic=16.0>

**Other Business > Legal Update**

15. Before I left, I had a number of meetings with David Borins, KSA legal counsel. Specifically, we discussed:

- a. The statement of claim. As everyone knows, the statement was completed and a draft was presented at the last meeting of Council. Acting upon Council's motion at that meeting, the process of serving the defendants is underway. If anyone has any more questions in regards to this I direct them to speak with Desmond.
- b. RCMP Letter. We have not heard back from the Surrey RCMP. My attempts to contact the person who was given the letter have been unsuccessful but I will keep trying and will update Council once I have more information.

**Other Business > Newspaper Society Work**

16. I unfortunately do not have much to report on this front. Due to my own schedule over the past two weeks, I was unable to attend a meeting that was planned for last week. I will be touching base with Desmond and others early next week to see where things are at on this front.



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Director of External Affairs / Student Issues and Action Committee**  
(Derek Robertson)

**Canadian Federation of Students**

**CFS-BC Executive Meeting**

The Date of the last CFS-BC Executive meeting took place on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Emily Carr Institute. Once again the CFS-BC refused to recognize the representative from the KSA. This time ratification of the KSA representative was not even discussed. This once again breaks the CFS-BC Bylaws, and breaches the contract between the KSA and CFS-BC.

**CFS-BC SAGM**

The upcoming CFS-BC Semi-Annual General Meeting is taking place this week from the 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> of August. The KSA delegation to the SAGM includes Nathan Griffiths, Josephine Wong, Jennifer Campbell, Vanessa Knight, Chris Parsons, with the Director of External Affairs leading the delegation. A Delegates preparation session will be held tomorrow at 12pm in order to coordinate the travel and preparation of our delegation for the CFS-BC SAGM.

**Student Issues and Action Committee (SIAC)**

SIAC has met twice since the last regular meeting of Council. We met once on July 23<sup>rd</sup> with quorum, and again on August 7<sup>th</sup> without quorum.

At the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SIAC the committee had a presentation by, Kwantlen Student/ Teacher, Terry Berg. During this amazing presentation, Terry informed the committee of different steps that Organizations, Corporations, Universities, and Student Associations from around the world are taking to become more sustainable. Terry also commended the KSA on the steps it is taking, through the Grass Roots Cafe, to become more sustainable in our business practices. He also urged the KSA to sign onto the United Nations Earth Charter.

During his presentation, Terry also showed his support for linking the different campuses through community shuttles. For this reason I have asked him, and he has accepted my invitation to sit on a Sub-Committee of SIAC on Transportation, when it is formed.

A couple of policies on Domestic Abuse and Cruelty to Animals, which were requested to be presented to SIAC at this meeting, were not presented at this meeting. The hope is that these policies will be presented, then be brought to council within the next couple of weeks. The next meeting of SIAC will take place tomorrow at 10am on the Surrey Campus. The committee will be given a presentation by Metro Vancouver on the importance to drink tap water. Also, we will be discussing strategy for the upcoming Municipal election. If there is time SIAC will also discuss the upcoming Provincial and Federal elections.

## **Lobbying**

### **Municipal**

The Director of External Affairs is currently trying to set up meetings with Municipal Chief Electoral Officers in order to get advanced polling days on each of Kwantlen's four (4) main campuses.

The Director of External Affairs will also be lobbying municipal politician in order to make issues such as Transportation, Housing, and the Agricultural Land Reserve -- important issues in the upcoming Municipal elections.

### **Provincial**

The Director of External Affairs and General Manager met with former Chairperson and Director of External Affairs, Laura Anderson, to engage her, on behalf of the KSA, to complete the lobbying she had begun on Society Act Changes.

The Director of External Affairs will be consulting with SIAC over the next month to see what issues it feels are important for students in the May 2009 Provincial Election.

The Director of External Affairs (KSA) has also met with Vice-President External (AMS) to talk about issues that the KSA and AMS can work together on.

Policy Analyst (KSA) and Associate Vice-President External (AMS) are conducting joint research on review of the BC Student Loans System.

### **Federal**

With the suspicion of a Federal election being called in the fall, The Director of External Affairs has made planning of the KSA Federal Campaign one of the top priorities.

The Director of External Affairs will meeting with the Federal Political Parties to arrange debates for the ridings in the Kwantlen region.

## **Other Business**

### **Coalition of Students Against Student Cuts**

The Coalition had planned to hold a media event in order to publicize its work before the commencement of the new school year, but due to a lack of coordination, was unable to hold the event planned for August 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Coalition of Students Unions**

In an attempt to coordinate the Lower Mainland Students' Unions, representatives from the different student unions have met twice to discuss working together in the upcoming municipal elections.

The main focus of these meetings were to coordinate the Vancouver Municipal election, and such, the overall relevance to the KSA is not what I would like it to be.

### **Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation**

The Director of External Affairs and Policy Analyst attended a presentation by the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation at UBC on July 24<sup>th</sup>. The presentation dealt with the fading out of the CMSF and the main barriers to Post-Secondary Education in Canada.

### **Other Students Unions**

#### **Joint meeting with the AMS, KSA and Robert Clift**

On July 30<sup>th</sup> the Director of External Affairs (KSA), Policy Analyst (KSA), Vice-President External (AMS), Associate Vice-President External (AMS), and Policy Analyst (AMS) met with Robert Clift (Executive Director, Confederation of University Faculty Associations – British Columbia) to discuss and ask questions about the current state of education in BC. Also we asked about the different campaigns CUFA-BC is planning for the next provincial election.

### **Submission to the Federal Standing Committee on Finance**

The Director of External Affairs and Policy Analyst prepared a submission to the Federal Standing Committee on Finance regarding the Back-end system for student grants. The KSA has applied to have the Director of External Affairs present to the Standing Committee when it makes its way through Vancouver on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Deputy Director's of External Affairs**

Due to the unusual number of major projects External Affairs is tackling this term, the Director of External Affairs has consulted with members of the Executive and the General Manager about the hiring of Deputy Director(s) of External Affairs in able to help plan the three (3) elections that will happen in the next year, and the negotiation of the U-Pass program. At this time I seek Council's opinion on this matter.



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# A Simple, Revenue-Neutral Solution to Help Students:

How the Federal Government Can Improve Access to  
Post-Secondary Education

Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance

2008 Pre-Budget Consultations

August 2008

## Executive Summary

Although the Canadian Constitution vests primary responsibility for education with the provinces, the federal government has long played a key role in promoting post-secondary education and research in Canada. These include the Canada Social Transfer, research funding, the Canada Student Loan Program, and other forms of student financial assistance. This submission focuses on student financial assistance.

**The federal government currently spends billions of dollars a year on certain forms of ‘student financial assistance’ that are very ineffective at promoting access to post-secondary education.** Specifically, these programs are:

- Education Tax Credits – various tax credits that students or their families can claim on tuition fee and textbook expenses;
- Canada Education Savings Grant – a federal government ‘top-up’ on investments that families make in a Registered Education Savings Plan.

There are significant problems with these programs. Both of these programs are ‘back-ended,’ in that financial assistance is only provided to students several months after their tuition fees and other educational expenses are due. Neither of these programs is targeted towards students with the greatest financial need; they are provided on a universal basis. Many students will not make enough money during the year to claim their education tax credits. And the Canada Education Savings Grant is an extremely regressive form of ‘student financial assistance’; it amounts, essentially, to a “national system of grants for the wealthy.”

In contrast, the Canada Student Grants Program (which will replace the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation’s bursary program) is an up-front grant targeted at low- and moderate-income students. Studies have confirmed what the Kwantlen Student Association knows to be true anecdotally – that up-front, needs-based grants are one of the best forms of student financial assistance in existence. Scrapping the Education Tax Credits and the Canada Education Savings Grant and using the savings to support the Canada Student Grant Program would likely be of significant benefit to students, without costing the federal government any additional money.

**Recommendation:**

**The federal government should phase out the Canada Education Savings Grant and Education Tax Credits, and re-direct the funding towards improving the Canada Student Grant Program.**

## Introduction

Student financial assistance in Canada is complicated. Students (and potential students) are faced with a bewildering array of scholarships, loans, grants, savings programs, and tax credits offered by local, provincial, and federal jurisdictions. Students face substantial risks as they pursue post-secondary education, as it is very difficult for a student to be able to predict how long it will take for the student to finish her program, how much tuition fees and other expenses will cost from year to year, and how much financial assistance she will receive from year to year.

The following is a brief summary of the many existing student financial assistance programs available to Kwantlen Polytechnic University students:

- (a) Scholarships: Millennium Excellence Awards Program (federal) \*, seven different provincial scholarships, dozens of local Kwantlen awards;
- (b) Loans: Canada Student Loan Program (federal), British Columbia Student Loan (provincial) (note that both the federal and the provincial loan programs contain a number of different back-end 'loan forgiveness' mechanisms);
- (a) Grants: Millennium Bursary Program (federal) \*, Millennium Access Bursary (federal) \*, Canada Access Grant (federal), Canada Study Grant (federal), provincial grant programs for adult basic education students, students in health care programs, and former youth in care, and emergency bursaries (local Kwantlen);
- (b) Savings Programs: Registered Education Savings Plan (federal), together with two associated programs: Canada Learning Bond and Canada Education Savings Grant
- (c) Tax Credits: tuition tax credit, education tax credit, and textbook tax credit (all federal);<sup>1</sup>
- (d) Institutional Funding: although it is not commonly regarded as 'student financial assistance,' institutional funding from the provincial and federal governments (the latter through the Canada Social Transfer) has the effect of reducing tuition fees paid by students. As such, institutional funding could be conceived of as a form of up-front, universal student financial assistance.

\* Note that the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation will be phased out in 2010 and replaced, in part, with the Canada Student Grant Program, an up-front, income-based, non-repayable grant administered through the Canada Student Loan Program.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Obtained from StudentAidBC ([www.studentaidbc.ca](http://www.studentaidbc.ca)) and Kwantlen (<http://www.kwantlen.ca/awards.html>) websites.

<sup>2</sup> Finance Canada, "Budget Plan 2008," pp. 110-111, available from <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2008/pdf/plan-eng.pdf>.

Not all forms of student financial assistance are created equal, however. In fact, we are concerned that two specific programs are extremely ineffective at assisting students: the Education Tax Credits and the Canada Education Savings Grant. The principle problem with these programs is that they are regressive: they disproportionately provide funding to wealthier students and their families. In addition, the Education Tax Credits only provide 'back-end' relief (that is, relief provided many months after a student incurs expenses related to post-secondary education).

### **Education Tax Credits**

The federal *Income Tax Act* provides for a "tuition credit" (s. 118.5), an "education credit" (s. 118.6 [2]), and a "post-secondary textbook credit" (s. 118.6 [2.1]). Tuition credits consist of a tax credit equivalent to tuition fees paid to attend post-secondary institutions. Education credits consist of a static credit of \$400 per month for full time students and \$120 per month for part-time students. Post-secondary textbook credits consist of a static credit of \$65 per month for full-time students and \$20 per month for part-time students. These tax credits are granted after the student submits her tax return for the preceding year; they are of no value for a student who needs to pay the bills during her course of study. In her report on education tax credits, Dr. Christine Neill wrote that "it is the students and families who are most likely in need of assistance (those with lower incomes) who are least likely to be able to make use of the credits at the time they are earned."<sup>3</sup> These tax credits are universal, not targeted subsidies. Perhaps for these reasons, education tax credits are not listed as being amongst the sources of "student financial assistance" in publications of the Canadian or British Columbian governments.

Despite the inefficient nature of these tax credits, education tax credits are extremely expensive for the federal government. The Department of Finance Canada estimates that the "tax expenditures" for these credits for 2007 will amount to \$1.34 billion<sup>4</sup>. In contrast, the federal government's primary needs- and income-based grants amounted to \$470 million in 2007<sup>5</sup>.

### **Canada Education Savings Grant**

The Canada Education Savings Grant is a federal government grant that 'tops up' contributions to Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs) made by Canadian families who are wealthy enough to save for their children's education. Currently, the grant consists

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<sup>3</sup> Christine Neill, "Canada's Tuition and Education Tax Credits," May 2007, Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, p. 13, available from: [http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca/images/Publications/070529\\_Tax\\_Credit\\_En.pdf](http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca/images/Publications/070529_Tax_Credit_En.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Finance Canada, "Tax Expenditures and Evaluations 2007," p. 18, available from <http://www.fin.gc.ca/taxexp/2007/taxexp2007e.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, "2007 Annual Report," pp. 33 & 37, available from: [http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca/uploadfiles/documents/annual\\_reports/2007\\_ar\\_en.pdf](http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca/uploadfiles/documents/annual_reports/2007_ar_en.pdf) and Human Resources and Social Development Canada, "2007 - 2008 Estimates: A Report on Plans and Priorities," p. 101, available from: <http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rpp/0708/hrsdsc-rhdsc/hrsdsc-rhdsc-eng.pdf>.

of a top-up of between 20% and 40% of a deposit into an RESP (based on the family's income), to a lifetime maximum of \$7,200.<sup>6</sup>

Despite the modest reforms made in 2004 to provide an additional subsidy to low-income Canadians, the entire concept of the CESG is dramatically skewed towards the wealthy. The ability of students and their families to save for post-secondary education (or for any other cause) is dependent on their having money to save. A study conducted by UBC professor Kevin Sullivan found:

The evidence presented in this section indicates clearly that the RESP program is used mostly by high-income, high-wealth, and high-parental education households. Since the Canada Education Savings Grants are paid to RESP participants, it can also be concluded that the distributional impact of the CESG is skewed toward higher income Canadians.... High-income and high-wealth households are not likely to be credit constrained, suggesting that the credit constraint economic rationale for the programme is also dubious. Taken together, this evidence finds no justification for the RESP and CESG tax measures as a useful tool for government intervention in post-secondary education.<sup>7</sup>

### **A Better System: Up-Front, Targeted Grants**

We are not suggesting that the monies currently being spent by the federal government on these programs are *useless*, merely that the delivery mechanisms are inefficient and regressive. The Canada Student Grant Program, due to commence operations in 2010, is much superior vehicle for student financial assistance. Canada Student Grants will be delivered up-front, to low- and moderate-income students. However, the current value of these grants (\$250 per month for low-income students and \$100 per month for moderate-income students) is low. For these reasons, we submit that the federal government should dismantle, not expand, the Education Tax Credits and the Canada Education Savings Grant programs, and re-direct the funding towards building the Canada Student Grant Program. This simple solution, which will not cost the government a single dime, will likely have a substantial positive effect on participation in post-secondary education.

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<sup>6</sup> *Canada Education Savings Act*, s. 5. There are additional complexities involved in calculating the amount of the CESG that are not included in this document.

<sup>7</sup> Kevin Milligan, "Who Uses RESPs and Why," March 2004, University of British Columbia, pp. 13 – 14, available from: <http://www.econ.ubc.ca/discpapers/dp0403.pdf>.



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Director of Operations / Operations and Services Committee**  
(Nathan Griffiths)

**Current Operations and Services Update**

- BCBookWorm Facebook Ads are running
- Meet with the Kwantlen president to talk about
  - Liquor license for the grassroots cafe
  - Parking spots for the café
  - Student union building
  - Cram jam sponsorship
- Cram Jamming
  - Organizing sales network
  - Marketing/Promotion
  - Organizing sponsors

**Future Operations and Services under Consideration**

Earning ad revenue from BCBookWorm

**Other Business, Issues and Concerns**

Petitions for referendum

“Do you agree that the Kwantlen Student Association (KSA) shall adopt the following fee schedule (not including the fees for the Health and Dental Plan, the Canadian Federation of Students, and Canadian Federation of Students, and the Canadian Federation of Students – BC Component):

For credit courses (Academic Students):

- KSA Membership Fee: \$0.00 per student, per semester;

For continuous intake programs (Trade students):

- KSA Membership: \$0.00 per week”

“Do you agree with the creation of the Students Support Fee, with all funds to be distributed as written below, provided the referendum question to reduce the KSA Membership Fee to \$0.00 passes?

For Credit courses (Academic students):

- Student Support Fee: \$3.00 per credit;
  - \$1.50 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Foundation;
  - \$1.00 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Student Life & Development Department

- \$0.25 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Athletics Department
- \$0.25 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Learning Centres

For continuous intake students (Trade students);

- Student Support Fee: \$3.00 per week;
- \$1.50 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Foundation;
- \$1.00 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Student Life & Development Department
- \$0.25 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Athletics Department
- \$0.25 of the \$3.00 per credit fee shall be given to the Kwantlen Learning Centres

October by-election



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Langley Campus Director / Council**  
(Jennifer Mamchur)

Langley has been quite dead so far this summer as we have no classes at our campus; however there has been in the last few weeks a slow but steadier trickle of students coming through the lounge, a lot of them are friends (paying for classes), but a few of them are new students who we have been able to assist.

Besides that there have been few interesting things that have happened this summer so far at the Langley Campus, besides trying to keep one another entertained and trying not to get on one another's nerves.

Everything is "Blue" here in Langley ☺ and yes I mean the walls. The book store is open once again here in Langley so as students are beginning to trickle in to buy their text books some of them are popping into the Lounge and look around. Of late Langley has lost two of our Officers and we are trying to make due with out them, we still try to have some one in the office every day of the week, Wednesdays sometimes are a problem however Matt and I have been in on some Wednesdays. Sharon had an ice cream Sunday day, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, which I helped with. The event turned out to be quite a success, and we gave away several ice cream Sundays.

We at LCC have been looking at events and things that we are going to be doing in the fall when we finally have students at our campus again. We have been looking into renting or purchasing a massage chair for the Lounge, through a company Matt came in contact with. Although LCC is quite dead per say at the moment we are looking forward to the new semester in the fall when we will once again have students to fill our empty lounge, but hopefully not OVER CROWD... we do only have a small space after all... ☺

Since we have lost two officers we at LCC now have 3 open positions on our campus, thus when the by-election comes around we at LCC are going to advertise the fact that we have three open positions and hopefully create a new interest and enthusiasm in the students so that not only can the positions be filled but hopefully we can get some new people involved in the KSA.



**Kwantlen Student Association**  
**Reports of the Students With Disabilities Liaison / Commission**  
(Ken McIntyre)

**Current Projects and Activities**

I am still trying to set up a meeting with a contact I have been given for the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities. Due to conflicting schedules we have not yet been able to set up a meeting but hope to have one set sometime later this month. I have now completed a familiarization with the process students go through if they wish to register as a student with a disability. This information will assist me greatly in better understanding the services Kwantlen offers to assist students with a disability. I am still trying to get the other dates set up to talk to students in the ACCESS program, currently the only date set is a tour that I will be talking to of new ACCESS Students on August 18 2008 in the morning.

**Completed Projects and Activities**

All the leaflets I want to hand out at welcome week are now completed and are ready for fall welcome week. I will hand some leaflets to members of campus councils closer to the dates of welcome week.

**Projects and Activities under Consideration**

I have been looking into the changes that are to be made to Translink's Handy DART service in the future. After speaking to the Director of External Affairs it is my understanding that the KSA's current transit plan has no section for Handy DART. I may look at bringing forward something in the future to add this service to the plan if need be.

**Liaison Commission Update and Motions**

There is none at this time.

**Other Business, Issues and Concerns**

There is none at this time.