

# Protection of Trades, Technology & Apprenticeship Programs at Kwantlen

**Date of Adoption:** July 26, 2002

**Date of Expiration:** July 26, 2005

**Preamble:** Whereas Kwantlen University College faculty, staff and students fear the possible elimination of trades and technology programs at Kwantlen as a result of the Newton Campus closure; *and*

Whereas under the Ministry of Advanced Education, the BC Liberal Government has defeated the traditional definition of an apprentice, by phasing out the Training and Apprenticeship Commission, and transferring the tuition costs for apprentices to the apprentices themselves; *and*

Whereas apprentice training generally lasts one (1) to eight (8) weeks, and as such apprentices do not qualify for student loans due to eligibility rules as set by the federal government requiring a course to be a minimum of twelve (12) weeks in order to qualify for a student loan; *and*

Whereas the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum has estimated that there will be a major skills shortage of more than one million workers by the year 2020; *and*

Whereas the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum recognizes that apprenticeship training is a vital, long-standing part of the training education system in Canada and around the world, and is working to access and remove the barriers that prevent or reduce access to apprenticeship training opportunities; *and*

Whereas the Association of Canadian Community Colleges has called for a National Skills Agenda to tackle these serious issues and seek solutions to the skills and innovation demands imposed by globalization as well as traditional and knowledge-based economies; including upgrading the current work force, accelerating the provision of skilled trades training, facilitating the application of new technologies and the skills inclusion of those without secondary education.

**Resolution:** Therefore, be it resolved that the Kwantlen University College Student Association support the protection and improvement of trades and technology at Kwantlen University College; *and*

Be it further resolved that the Kwantlen University College Student Association encourage the Kwantlen University College Board of Governors and Foundation Board to raise funding to provide more awards and scholarships for students in trades and apprenticeship programs.

