

## Persistent Organic Pollutants

**Date of Adoption:** April 15, 2005

**Date of Expiration:** April 15, 2008

**Preamble:** Whereas Persistent Organic Pollutants are chemical substances, including furans, dioxins, PCBs, and PBDEs and others; that persist in the environment, bioaccumulate through the food web, and pose a risk of causing adverse effects to human health and the environment; and

Whereas dioxins are not naturally occurring substances. They formed as a result of combustion processes such as commercial or municipal waste incineration and from burning fuels (like wood, coal or oil). Dioxins can also be formed when household trash is burned, by cigarette smoking, as a result of natural processes such as forest fires, from chlorine bleaching of pulp and paper, certain types of chemical manufacturing (like plastic) and processing, and other industrial processes all can create small quantities of dioxins; and

Whereas dioxins are also components of some herbicides (glyphosphate) etc.; and

Whereas studies have shown that exposure to dioxins at high enough doses may cause a number of adverse health effects including cancer, death and birth defects in all life forms; and

Whereas with the evidence of long-range transport of these substances to regions where they have never been used or produced and the consequent threats they pose to the environment of the whole globe, the international community has now, at several occasions called for urgent global actions to reduce and eliminate releases of these chemicals.

**Resolution:** Therefore be it resolved that the Kwantlen Student Association oppose the creation and use of all dioxins and other Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Be it further resolved that the Kwantlen Student Association not support any company or organization that creates, uses or supports the use of dioxins or other Persistent Organic Pollutants.

