

Kwantlen colleges student association

Aaron Takhar, Chairperson of KSA, talks about the association and his plans for the upcoming term

By Joseph Ng
Kwantlen Chronicle

Aaron Takhar is the Director of Finance and Chairperson of the Kwantlen Students' Association.

Takhar is a third-year Kwantlen student and would like to go on to SFU to finish his joint degree in commerce and political science.

Takhar believes in community involvement and does volunteer work to help the homeless, the blind and the elderly.

His hobbies include reading and playing basketball. Takhar, who is serving his final term and will not run for re-election next month, explains why he joined the KSA, why it is important and what is to be expected in the remainder of his term.

Why did you get involved with the KSA?

I got involved for experience. What you do later on in life is a reflection of what you do in your earlier years.

It's a good experience dealing with people and having the opportunity to socialize with various different kinds of people.

I was only here for a few months but overall the atmosphere was a positive one. I am very happy I did it and have no regrets.

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What is the purpose or function of a college having a student association?

It gives student a voice and representation.

Just like you have voices within the greater community...you'll have non-profit groups, you'll have Rotary clubs...you'll have organizations representing a specific group of people and we represent our membership members and our students.

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What goals do the KSA have for the upcoming semester?

We are working on bettering our relationship with the institution in order to improve and receive more student services.

We are working on making the café (Surrey Campus) more services to the fitness centre, more sports activities and more representation outside, in the community and doing more community events.

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Are there any upcoming events students should know about?

We have a formal dinner and dance on Jan. 27.

It's the biggest event we have planned for this year.

It's just to involve Kwantlen students and link them to the outside community.

We don't want our students to

just come to school and leave and not have any role to play in the greater community because when students are done with school they do have to integrate into the larger community.

We are trying to get students to get used to doing this earlier, while they are in school, as opposed to them leaving school and then having to get used to it.

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Why should students care about the KSA?

Students should care about the KSA because they are constituents and have elected a certain government to represent them, just like you would elect a civic, provincial, and federal government.

The reason to be involved with them is to know the decisions that are being made and to take part in those decisions.

This allows for greater transparency within the government and we consider ourselves a student government.

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Is there anything you would like students to know?

Students should know that we are available to them. We are here for many hours and there is always someone here.

Our numbers are posted on the website(www.yourksa.ca) and students are always welcome to come speak with us because that is what we are elected to do.

Students should be made aware of our accessibility and if they have any questions or concerns, they can come and speak with us.

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Students can contact Aaron Takhar by email at finance@myKSA.ca