

Free college money

Extra money in bursaries from new commitments give Kwantlen students extra room to succeed

By Kimi Nomura
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More money will be given to more students with financial needs at Kwantlen University College.

The extra money, which has yet to be added up for the year, comes from new commitments from a number of groups and funding programs.

Bursaries, listed in the Kwantlen's Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships Guide, range from \$500 to \$700 per semester.

Unlike student loans, bursaries do not have to be repaid. And unlike scholarships, which are based on student achievement, bursaries are usually awarded to recognize financial need.

This allows greater access to Kwantlen's degrees and diplomas.

"Students from low-income fam-

ilies will have access to a four-year bursary program," said Villa Pinto, director of financial awards and educational advising. "Students will receive these in the form of grants."

The new funding comes from such sources as a newly implemented \$1 a semester Student Association Bursary Fee that has been added to every student's tuition. As well, the college has promised \$300,000 towards bursary funding for low-income families for three years.

A third source is from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, which gave the college 82 awards and bursaries last year, totaling \$311,000, according to the Millennium Scholarship website.

Various companies also donate to help students with financial need. And there are specialized bursaries meeting different students' needs.

The Kwantlen Unmet Need Bur-

sary helps students when their B.C. Student Assistance

Program does not meet all their financial needs.

The Demonstrated Need Bursary is for part-time or full-time students upgrading at Kwantlen. And Kwantlen's Critical Need Bursary covers unexpected circumstances for immediate funds that could possibly prevent continuation of studies. Proof of unanticipated car repairs or dental costs need to be submitted.

To apply, students must fill out a Bursary Request form, located at any Kwantlen University College Financial Awards Office or online at www.kwantlen.ca/finawards. The forms must be submitted by the Sept. 30 deadline. Students are limited to a maximum bursary amount of \$3,000 a year.

Grants are also available.

Part-time students who can dem-

onstrate why they cannot study full-time or fund part-time studies through employment can apply for the High Need Part-Time Canada Study Grant Program (HNPT CSG).

It is a non-repayable fund with a limit each year of \$1200.

Despite scholarship and bursary inquiries keeping financial advisors busy, there are still many students who are unaware of what Kwantlen has to offer.

"I'm not well aware of the bursaries. But it's something I'll definitely look into," said Sharon Cooke, a first-year Associate of Sociology student. "It would be very helpful."

Besides bursaries, Kwantlen also gives direct awards and hundreds of scholarships.

For further information, see the nearest Financial Office at any campus or visit the website.