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• Richmond • Surrey



Controversial KSA meeting

Last Tuesday, students voted to pass four proposals. KSA board of directors deems them illegitimate

By Jason Rako
Kwantlen Chronicle

Students attending a Special General Meeting at the Richmond Kwantlen campus last Tuesday elected a new KSA board of directors but the existing board says it's still in power and the meeting wasn't legitimate.

The meeting, organized by student activist Christine McLellan, addressed the four proposals of changing the current KSA bylaws, restoring the membership rights of students banned from the association, the removal of directors from office and the proposal to elect new directors.

The proposal for electing new directors was aimed at returning former KSA directors back to power.

The proposals passed with majority support but whether the new decisions are valid is still at issue.

In an official release given to the Kwantlen Chronicle, the KSA contests the validity of the meeting results.

"The attempt at holding a special general meeting on November 29 at the Richmond campus as required by the KSA bylaws was not successful," wrote Jaivin Khatri, the board member in charge of the KSA external affairs.

Alisha Langley/Kwantlen Chronicle

at with kids at Richmond Centre. He
:mas story see page seven.

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Controversial KSA meeting

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"A petition duly signed by 250 students and submitted to the vice-president [of] external affairs is required. No petition was ever received by the KSA offices."

Khatri also wrote that members that took part in this meeting will be dealt with by the board at the December 2, 2005 meeting.

In a previous interview with the Kwantlen Chronicle, Christine McLellan stated that she submitted her petition to have the meeting.

"My petition was submitted to Matt Huff, director of operations for the KSA and, at last week's council meeting, Aaron Takhar threw the petition out claiming it was out of order," claims McLellan. "Under the new bylaws [passed by the board at the September meeting], we were supposed to submit it to the VP of external but we had no idea who that was."

The Kwantlen Chronicle attempted to contact Khatri via e-mail about the submission of McLellan's petition but did not receive a reply before press time.

The meeting, chaired by Kwantlen student Titus Gregory, was originally planned to take place in the conference centre at the Richmond campus but was instead held in the KSA lounge.



Jason Rako/Kwantlen Chronicle

Students vote 67 in favour of removing the current KSA board of directors. Only two voted against the motion.

The booking of the conference centre was cancelled with no clarity to who cancelled the booking or why. Before the proposals were put to motion by those attending,

Gregory gave Kulvir Gill, a member of the Reduce All Fees party and the only representative of the KSA executive board at the meeting, a chance to speak.

There were no other board members present at the meeting and Khatri wrote that the meeting could not be ratified as a result. Why the rest of the KSA executive board did

not attend is still unanswered.

Gill's written speech was quickly deemed irrelevant to the meeting by those attending and students quickly pressed Gill to get to the point of his speech.

"I have background information right here in the third or fourth chapter," explained Gill as the crowd in the lounge erupted in conversation.

Gregory then asked Gill what his statement pertained to the motion of adopting the agenda.

Gill argued that what he had to say did have bearing on the meeting and this argument was seen as contesting the chair and was put to a motion. Those attending voted down the motion.

When it came to the proposal of removing the directors of the board, Gill was again given the chance to speak.

"I don't care," said Gill in response. "You do what you do."

Laura Anderson, also at the meeting, asked Gill whether he had anything to say about the actions of the KSA

The motion was passed and, according to the results of the meeting that are still in question, the board was dissolved and new board members were appointed shortly after in the final proposal of the meeting.

It's a holiday election

campaign for Canada

But do Kwantlen students really even care about it?

By Jessica Preston
Kwantlen Chronicle

Governor General Michelle Jean dissolved the Liberal government last Tuesday, allowing for a winter campaign and an election on January 23.

Paul Martin's Liberal minority government was voted out of parliament on November 28 by a united opposition. It was a quiet ending to what had been a volatile and angry few months leading up to the Gomery report in which Jean Chrétien was criticized.

Many experts speculate that because of the cold weather and serious nature of this election, many people (especially seniors) will not come out to vote.

According to polls, the last election had a record break-

ingly low turnout of voters.

Many Kwantlen students don't plan to vote in the January 23 election, either because they don't care, or they didn't even know there was one.

"I don't vote, so I don't support anyone," said Kwantlen student Rob Oleskiew.

"I didn't even know there was an election!" laughed fellow student Harminder Rai.

The few students that were planning to vote, still had a negative attitude towards the candidates.

Tyler Lang, a psychology student admitted that he didn't vote because he hadn't felt the need to, until now.

"I am going to vote this time, because we need to get the Liberals out," he said. "Now that I'm getting older, I think I should probably start voting."



Jason Rako/Kwantlen Chronicle

Laura Anderson delivers a speech at Tuesday's KSA meeting.

Proposed KSA directors:

- Christine McLellan as director of finance
- Laura Anderson as director of external affairs
- Lisa Cohen as director of events and student life
- Ryan Scott as director of academic affairs
- Steven Lee as Richmond campus director

Questions? Comments? Story Ideas?

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you!

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