

- About the Kwantlen Student Association -

For those of you who may not know, the KSA is a non-profit Society registered under the BC Society Act, a piece of Provincial law governing how non-profit organizations like the KSA are run.

The members of the Society are the students of Kwantlen University College. In August 1981, students came together and agreed to start the KSA. *The KSA's philosophy is simple - students serving students - working to bring a balanced mix of advocacy, services and events to the Kwantlen Community.*

As such, the KSA is a separate entity from Kwantlen University College. In fact, the only thing the KSA shares with Kwantlen University College is the name "Kwantlen," and perhaps the wish and ideal of trying to make life at Kwantlen a little easier for all students. The only other thing the KSA shares with Kwantlen is space. The KSA has a formal lease agreement with Kwantlen University College that gives the KSA access to space on some of the Kwantlen Campuses.

- The KSA Constitution -

A relatively short document, the Constitution aptly defines the KSA's mandate.

1. The name of the society is Kwantlen University College Student Association.

A. To promote, direct and administer the affairs of the Student Body of Kwantlen University College for the benefit of the Student Body.

B. To promote public awareness and understanding of Kwantlen University College and its student activities.

C. To promote and advance the cause of Universal Accessibility to all forms of post-secondary education in the province of British Columbia.

D. To promote the principle and practice of student representation at all levels of decision-making at the college and all agencies or other bodies which deliberate on the affairs of the society's members.

E. To provide and co-ordinate a balanced program of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

F. To advance and defend student rights and interests within Kwantlen University College and other post-secondary educational institutions where Kwantlen University College students may transfer.

G. To erect on such lands any buildings or improvements necessary for the proper use and occupation of same by the Association.

H. Subject to the provision contained under Section 35 of the Society Act to borrow, raise and secure the payment of money in such a manner as the Association sees fit.

I. To take or otherwise acquire and hold shares or stock debentures, debenture stock bonds, obligations and securities issued by any association or company within the province of British Columbia or elsewhere.

J. To promote the cause of supplying services to the members of the Kwantlen University College Student Association, due to deficiencies or non-existence, which the Student Multi-Campus government may deem necessary or beneficial as a student representative organization.

K. To preserve, protect, and enhance the concept of a multi-campus institution.

- The KSA Bylaws -

What are Bylaws?

A Formal Definition: Bylaws are the written rules for conduct of a corporation, association, partnership or any organization. Bylaws generally provide for meetings, elections of a board of directors and officers, filling vacancies, notices, types and duties of officers, committees, assessments and other routine conduct.

Bylaws are, in effect a contract among members, and must be formally adopted and/or amended.

A Short History of the KSA Bylaws...

The KSA Constitution and Bylaws provide the definition and structure for how the KSA operates.

Before 1999, the KSA was literally falling apart - the Bylaws that were in place were very poorly written and had no safeguards, checks or balances to protect Society assets, funds and structures. Internal fighting was rampant and people were literally being impeached left and right. Nothing got done.

The KSA Bylaws were amended in 1999 to completely overhaul the structure of the KSA, bringing in checks and balances and a system that ensured that the KSA would be run in a relatively accountable and morally responsible manner.

In 2005, members who were elected under the Reduce All Fees party spent more than \$15,000 to get people to attend a General Meeting on September 29, 2005 to change the Bylaws.

The meeting was not in order on a number of levels - and the new Bylaws that were "approved" removed all checks and balances, creating a structure that can only be described as anti-democratic and even anti-student.

This document serves to outline the changes we are proposing to restore a democratic system to your KSA.

