



The KSA today applauded the BC Liberal platform's commitment to expanding U-Pass.

KSA calls upon other BC political parties to follow suit.

Surrey BC - The Kwantlen Student Association (KSA) is about to launch a major election campaign, one component of which is to call upon BC political parties to make clear to the students of BC what they will do to help ensure access to the U-Pass.

A U-Pass Program is an integrated comprehensive transportation package that provides post-secondary students with universal, accessible, and affordable access to public transit and other sustainable transportation programs.

The KSA has been fighting for a U-Pass for Kwantlen students, and recently wrote to Premier Campbell proposing the implementation of the KSA designed Student Transportation Expansion Program ("STEP") [copy attached]. STEP is designed to dramatically increase the number of Post-Secondary Students in BC using public transportation by encouraging expanded use of the U-Pass program. The BC Liberal election platform has adopted portions of STEP and is the only platform to specifically mention U-Pass, and promises to introduce a common U-Pass program for all post-secondary students in BC. The KSA is concerned that the other major political parties haven't even mentioned this important issue, and hopes that they will make their position on U-Pass public in the coming days.

"It's great to see the BC Liberals are listening to students on the critical issue of U-Pass access", said Derek Robertson, KSA Director of External Affairs, "but Kwantlen students still have many questions about how such a program will develop at our university."

Of significant concern to Kwantlen students is the price of the plan, and what ancillary transportation services can be offered on campus. The KSA wants to ensure that any province wide plan guarantees the development of campus-specific transit improvements and programs.

"Our students want to know the details of any future U-pass program before they go to the polls on May 12th", said Mr. Robertson, "we hope to get more information from the BC Liberals as soon as possible, so we can let our membership know what this new U-Pass will mean for them."

The KSA is asking for a dialog with BC Liberal party officials, before the election, to discuss the U-Pass promise in more detail.

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*The Kwantlen Student Association represents over 18,000 students enrolled
at the four Metro Vancouver campuses of Kwantlen Polytechnic University and is
Local 26 of the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Federation of Students - Services
and the Canadian Federation of Students - BC.*

For more information on the KSA's plans for the provincial election, please contact:

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