



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

2 Oct 2015

KSA Applauds End of University Pipeline Agreement

SURREY, BC – The Kwantlen Student Association (KSA) would like to congratulate Kwantlen Polytechnic University for reversing its Memorandum of Understanding with the Kinder Morgan pipeline. The decision by the University, respecting aboriginal land rights and the land claims that exist in the right of way of the pipeline, is the right decision for First Nations and the students of Kwantlen.

“We are thrilled that KPU has made the decision to rescind the MOU with Kinder Morgan” said Allison Gonzalez, president of the Kwantlen Student Association. **“We are proud of the University for respecting and listening to the concerns of the Kwantlen First Nation.”** In addition, many campus organizations came together to be heard, **“the hard work put in by each organization involved, and all of their individual members was overwhelming”** explained Gonzalez.

A number of organizations worked hard to raise awareness on campus and make their voices heard. The University was open to those voices, including University President Dr. Davis taking questions for over two hours at an open house organized by the KSA. Recently, members of the No Dirty Money Alliance, comprised of the Kwantlen First Nation, the Kwantlen Public Interest Research Group, KSA, and KPU faculty members, and Pipe Up, a local environmental organization, were each allowed to present to the Kwantlen Board of Governors to outline their concerns. The KSA would like to congratulate each of these organizations for their hard work and determination to be heard.

The KSA applauds the decision as, in addition to respect to first nations, it is in keeping with the University’s sustainability mandate. The environmental impacts of pipelines and oil sands expansion are damaging to our environment and contribute to the harmful effects of climate change. The KSA will continue to work with KPU in an ongoing review of University policies around corporate agreements.

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The Kwantlen Student Association represents over 18,000 students enrolled at the four Metro Vancouver campuses of Kwantlen Polytechnic University.