



PRESS RELEASE

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Post-Secondary Students Say Yes to Transit Plebiscite

SURREY, BC – The Kwantlen Student Association has joined together with student associations from UBC, SFU, BCIT, Langara, Capilano, VCC and Emily Carr to voice their support for a Yes vote in the upcoming Transit and Transportation Plebiscite. Together, these student associations represent **200,000** post-secondary students in the Metro Vancouver region. **“Students and youth across Metro Vancouver know how badly we need improvements across the board to our transit system in order to create healthier, more accessible communities”**, said Jessica Lar-Son, president of the KSA.

Most students in the region rely on an effective transit system to get to class as well as work and recreation. Student groups will be organizing on campus and in the broader community to push for a Yes vote in the upcoming plebiscite.

As part of the launch event, the Kwantlen Student Association held a race on Wednesday between a cyclist, transit user, and driver from the Cloverdale campus to the Surrey campus, a distance of **12 kilometres**. The driver, Steven Button, VP Services at the KSA, took a leisurely **22 minutes**, while the cyclist, Alex McGowan of the KSA, took a much longer **67 minutes**. Even the cyclist, Eric Wirshing, VP Academic at the KSA, managed to arrive **30 minutes ahead of the transit rider**. Following the race, Alex McGowan underscored students' need for a yes vote, **“A yes vote will make transit a viable option south of the Fraser, if you cannot travel between campuses 12 kilometres apart in under an hour, there is a clear problem.”**

The students' campaign is just getting started as further events and registration drives are planned on campuses around the region. **“We have several students who commute to the North Shore from the South of the Fraser region to attend Capilano University.”** Brittany Barnes, President of the Capilano Student Union, who spoke at the event, said afterward, **“As students, we recognize how important transit is to our daily lives and to the communities that we live in. A reliable transportation system is essential in getting us to our place of work and study and that’s why it is so important that we fight for a yes vote.”**

For more information, visit www.kusa.ca/moveourcities or www.students4yes.ca.

For pictures or video from the race, email policy@kusa.ca.

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