



E-NEWSLETTER

SGPS Election & Referendum Results

Jeff Welsh was acclaimed to SGPS President. Joellen Lin was acclaimed to SGPS VP Internal (Graduate). Catherine Kahn was acclaimed to SGPS VP Internal (Professional). Queen's Daycare optional fee was passed. Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre optional fee was passed. Athletics and Recreation fee increase was denied.

RALLY FOR QUALITY @ QUEEN'S

On **Thursday March 5th @ 1 p.m.** come make your voice heard! Join students, students, faculty and staff in calling upon the Provincial Govt. to properly fund our universities. Tuition hikes and budget cuts squeeze students at both ends. Enough is enough! Come to a rally outside Richardson Hall to raise our voice in demanding better for our universities. For more info contact : vpex@sgps.ca

CFS TASK FORCE ON CAMPUS RACISM @ QUEEN'S

If you're a racialised student, faculty or staff member, on **March 3rd** come make a statement at the Queen's hearing of the Task Force on Campus Racism, from **5pm to 7:30pm in Policy Studies 202.**

The Task Force, an initiative of the Canadian Federation of Students, is traveling to campuses across Ontario to document individual incidents of racism, systematic racism in the post-secondary education system, and how racism impacts campus life. A report will be issued once the hearings are completed.

For more information visit noracism.ca ; contact M. Rosner: vpex@sgps.ca or join the facebook group: CFS Task Force on Campus Racism @ Queen's

COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

On **Monday March 9th @ 5 p.m.** come to Stirling Hall Auditorium C for a free screening of the NFB documentary "RIP: A Remix Manifesto" followed by a discussion of copyright and intellectual property rights in universities led by Queen's Prof. Laura Murray. There will be free munchies and drinks for the movie and discussion. Everyone is welcome!

For more information contact Mark Rosner, SGPS VP External: vpex@sgps.ca

ANTI-RACISM RALLY AND MARCH

On Wednesday, March 4 the Queen's and Kingston communities will come together in a march against racism.

Organized by an ad hoc community group in response to recent racist incidents on campus and in the city, the march will start at 5 pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 130 Clergy Street and will move around the neighbourhood, finishing at Queen Street United Church at Queen and Clergy Streets.

Before marching, speakers including city councilor Vicki Schmolka will address the group from the church steps. Following the march, refreshments (provided by Food Not Bombs) will be served at Queen St United Church.

For details, email antiracismkingston@gmail.com

FILE YOUR TAXES FOR FREE!

All SGPS members, through our membership in the Canadian Federation of Students, have free access to U-File tax software preparation and filing. The on-line software is quick, easy to use, safe and secure.

To access your 2009 copy of U-File, students require the promotional code available on CFS's web site (www.cfs-fcee.ca), and a T2202A form for the tax year from the University. To access the software and for more information see: <http://ufile.ca/home/cfs.asp>

T2202A FOR 2008 NOW AVAILABLE ON QCARD

Your Tuition, Education, and Textbook Amounts Certificate (T2202A) for 2008 is available on QCARD. T2202As from prior years are also available on QCARD. T2202A forms are not mailed. Residence Fees are NOT included in T2202A receipts in accordance with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) guidelines.

Further details about your T2202A are available on our web site at:

<http://www.queensu.ca/registrar/T2202A.html>

PETITION AGAINST CHANGES TO SSHRC IN FEDERAL BUDGET

Follow the link below for a petition in support of SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) currently being circulated by Niki Ashton (NDP MP). The Federal Conservative 2009 Budget has decreed that new funding for SSHRC will only be distributed to research and degrees that are "business-related". This directive has the potential to reduce significantly the support for university students and faculty engaged in scholarship in the social sciences and humanities, education, environmental studies, fine arts and other areas not directly pertinent to business. The text of the petition can be found here:

<http://nikiashton.ndp.ca/sshrc>

GOODLIFE CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

6 month corporate memberships with GoodLife and the SGPS are now available for \$200. Registration and payment deadline: Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 4:30pm (for memberships starting April 15, 2009). For more information please contact the Athletics Coordinator at sgps.goodlife@gmail.com

SALSA NIGHT

Live.Music.Kingston in conjunction with Queen's S.A.L.S.A presents Salsa Night. This event features a live salsa band, salsa lessons, dj , and dance competition.

Date: March 21st, 2009

Time: 9pm Salsa lessons, 10pm Live Salsa Band +DJ

Venue: BarNone

Tickets: available @ Door \$12, \$10 w/ student ID

Join facebook group 'Salsa Night @ BarNone' for more information. Hope to see you there.

SGPS EQUITY COMMITTEE SEEKS MEMBERS

SGPS is looking for your input regarding issues of equity and diversity on campus! There will be an Equity committee within SGPS starting up soon. If you would like to sit on the committee or offer your suggestions as to what SGPS should do regarding equity, email Usman at equityinternal@sgps.ca

TRICOLOUR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are now open for the Agnes Benedickson Tricolour Award, which is the highest tribute that can be paid to students at Queen's for distinguished service to the University in non-athletic, extra-curricular activities. The service may have been confined to a single field, or it may have taken the form of a significant contribution over a wide range of activities. Forms and more information are available online at www.queensu.ca/rector/tricolour.htm or at the SGPS office. Any student may submit a nomination, and nominations are due **March 16 by 4:00 pm.**

ELORIN SPRING TRAINING FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Where: Innovation Park, 945 Princess St. Kingston, ON

When: 5-9 April 2009

March is Innovation Month! Workshops start March 5, 2009

The cost to attend the whole series \$100 - this includes lunches and materials. You can also register for workshops separately at a cost of \$25 each (register individually on each workshop's page). For complete workshop and registration details, please visit:

http://www.elorin.ca/site/index.php?method=public.eventDetail&event_id=122

KINGSTON GREEN BIN

Green Bins come to Kingston households this year to collect residential organic waste for composting. Green Bins will help the City reach its goal of diverting 65 per cent of its waste from landfill by 2012. For most areas of the City, weekly Green Bin collection will start the week of Monday, April 6, with the bins being delivered in March.

At the request of the Queen's University Alma Mater Society, Green Bins will be delivered to the student village area around campus starting in mid-September - when students are moving in at the beginning of the school year.

A map of the area designated for September delivery can be found here:

<http://www.cityofkingston.ca/residents/waste/greenbin/delivery.asp>

If you live in this area and you want to start using the Green Bin this season, please call 613-546-0000.

For more information contact M. Rosner: vpex@sgps.ca

JOURNAL'S OPEN EDITORIAL BOARD

Come to the Journal's open editorial board **Tuesday March 3, 5:30 p.m. @ The Grad Club**. For more information, please call Erin or Angela (613.533.2800) or e-mail journal_editors@ams.queensu.ca

March 2, 2009



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Dear SGPS member,

It is with great disappointment that I write to inform you that the proposed increase to the mandatory athletics and recreation fee for graduate and professional students did not pass during the recent SGPS referendum. Although the total voter turn-out did not meet the required quorum, these results will stand unless students petition to invalidate the results and hold a by-election. A successful petition must be filed by March 10th and must include the names, signatures and student numbers of 10% of the SGPS membership (approximately 300 students).

While we fully respect and will abide by the outcome of the referendum we felt it was important to bring to your attention that based on current SGPS policies there are two possible situations that are unfolding that will affect the sport and recreation programs and services that you will be able to access effective September 2009.

In the first situation, according to current SGPS policies, the failed vote results in the SGPS athletics and recreation fee being reset to zero. This result takes effect September 1, 2009, and unfortunately means that graduate and professional students will have no access to our programs and services without the purchase of a facility membership and/or program fees. We understand that this policy is currently under review by the SGPS Executive.

A second possibility is that the policy review may result in the resetting of the athletics and recreation fee to the current fee level (\$81.90). In this situation, graduate and professional students will not enjoy the same benefits as they currently do. At this fee level, we will be required to implement extra charges and reduced services including:

- Access to the gym only for casual recreation
- Reduced building hours
- A decrease in programs and services
- Team/individual fees for Graduate and Professional students participating in intramural programs
- Increased costs related to the Grad Summer Leagues
- A fee for the use of weight and fitness facilities
- A fee for pool, squash and racquet ball courts, equipment rentals
- No preferred pricing on any programs and/or services (fitness, instructional programs, facility rentals, etc)
- A joining fee for Graduate and Professional students who participate on inter-university clubs and teams.

Our primary purpose in writing is to communicate the changes in your sport and recreation programs and services as a result of the referendum should the results stand. We would, however very much like to provide the programs and services that we offered with the proposed increase and we would be prepared to work with the SGPS members, if there was interest in doing so, to launch a petition to contest the result of the referendum and hold a by-election.

We have communicated with the SGPS Executive to discuss options, and suggest that you contact them directly with any questions or concerns regarding your access to sport and recreation programs in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Leslie Dal Cin
Director, Athletics and Recreation

