



# E-NEWSLETTER

## SGPS By-Election: March 31 and April 1, 2009

Polling stations will be open Tuesday March 31, 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday April 1 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Stations will be located in Mac-Corry, MacDonald, JDUC, BioSci and Duncan McArthur. For more information, please visit the election part of our website at: [www.sgps.ca/jobs/election.html](http://www.sgps.ca/jobs/election.html)

## A&R REFERENDUM QUESTION

Do you agree to an increase in the Athletics and Recreation Class-B mandatory fee portion of the student activity fee, which was last adjusted by referendum in 1997, from \$81.90 per year to a maximum of \$156.90 per year in the following increments, to be indexed to inflation:

\$101.90 for the 2009/2010 academic year (an increase of \$20)

\$126.90 for the 2010/2011 academic year (an increase of \$25)

\$156.90 for the 2011/2012 academic year (an increase of \$30)

### WHAT IF I VOTE YES?

If you vote **yes** to this question, you will have full access to:

**"Core Services"** - gym, pool, squash/racquetball courts, fitness and weight rooms, fall/winter intramurals, access to inter-university teams, preferred pricing on other services (instructional programs, lockers, laundry, facility rentals, kids "Q" camps etc).

**"Extended Services"** - Access to regular season ticketed inter-university sports games, access to summer intramural sports leagues (softball, soccer, ultimate frisbee), access to off-campus intramurals & BEWIC Sports Days (off-campus intramurals and BEWIC subject to additional fee).

Voting **yes** will cause the mandatory fee for Athletics and Recreation to be:

\$101.90 for the 2009/2010 academic year (an increase of \$20).

\$126.90 for the 2010/2011 academic year (an increase of \$25).

\$156.90 for the 2011/2012 academic year (an increase of \$30).

### WHAT IF I VOTE NO?

If you vote **no** to this question, you will have:

- Access to the gymnasiums (50 hours per week approx.) only during casual recreation times.
- Access to the pool (35 hours per week approx.) only during casual recreation times.
- Access to locker room facilities only during casual recreation periods.
- This access does not include weight, fitness or cardio rooms.
- A schedule of preferred student pricing rates for programs and services offered by Athletics and Recreation including but not limited to intramurals, access to fitness, cardio and weight rooms, squash/racquetball courts, equipment rentals.

Voting **no** will cause the mandatory fee for Athletics and Recreation to be:

\$81.90 for the 2009/2010 academic year.



**Building  
Healthier  
Communities**

Join us to build awareness of LGBTQ health issues and to build more positive relationships with each other.

The Second Annual LGBTQ Health Matters Week  
April 13 – 19, 2009

A week of celebrating the health and well being of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, 2-spirited, genderqueer, intersex, queer and questioning communities across Ontario. The theme this year is "Building Healthier Communities". The week aims to build awareness of LGBTQ health issues and to facilitate more positive relationships in our communities. For more information, see [www.lgbtqhealthmatters.com](http://www.lgbtqhealthmatters.com)

## **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](mailto:sgps.goodlife@gmail.com)

## **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: [vpex@sgps.ca](mailto:vpex@sgps.ca)

## QUEEN'S MINI U

Staying in town for the Spring? Feel like taking part in something special at Queen's? Then come on out and volunteer for the inaugural Spring Reunion and MiniU weekend, May 22-24, 2009!

Spring Reunion will be a lively and social time for returning alumni looking to reconnect with old friends and the University. Both undergraduate and graduate/professional alumni are returning to celebrate reunions. MiniU is a weekend full of learning for fun, featuring members of Queen's world-class faculty. As always, alumni attending both of these events this spring would love the opportunity to interact with students. We invite you to join us.

- o Networking opportunities
- o Gourmet meals
- o Opportunity to attend some great education and social sessions for free
- o A great reason to put on your Queen's colours and come out and celebrate with alumni
- o Lots of fun!

Many volunteer positions are available including roles within our Education Crew, Hospitality Crew and Social Crew. We invite you to visit <http://adv.queensu.ca/surveys/SpringReunionWeekendandMiniU2009> to review the volunteer positions available and indicate those areas in which you are interested.

For more information on Spring Reunion and MiniU, please visit these websites:

<http://queensu.ca/alumni/programs/events/springreunions.html>

or

<http://queensu.ca/alumni/programs/events/miniu.html>

Please contact Carey Morrison ([carey.morrison@queensu.ca](mailto:carey.morrison@queensu.ca) or 533.6000, ext. 74599), in Alumni Relations with any questions, and to receive full role descriptions.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILES AT QUIC!

Are you an international student at Queen's University? Would you be interested in sharing your experiences? The Queen's University International Centre (QUIC) is inviting international students, both graduate and undergraduate to participate in a SHORT interview to share your experiences about campus and academic life at Queen's. If you are interested, please contact [ekta.singh@queensu.ca](mailto:ekta.singh@queensu.ca)

## SGPS OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The SGPS Office will be closed Friday April 10th, 2009 for Good Friday and will also be closed Monday April 13th, 2009 for Easter Monday.

## OPEN LETTER FROM STUDENTS IN FRANCOPHONIE

Dear Principal Williams,

We, the Students in Francophonie and our colleagues, are very concerned about the decision not to renew the contract of Eugène Nshimiyimana and also to eliminate the existing tenure position in Francophonie. This will result in nine current graduate students having no one able to supervise them in the completion of their programs. To date, we are not aware of any measures that have been taken to provide proper supervision for these students.

Furthermore, the Administration has forbidden the Department from recruiting students in the area of Francophonie. This decision is unethical, as it dictates to the Department what students may and may not study. Moreover, it will have the effect of greatly reducing the number of graduate students in the Department. Given that finances are allocated based on enrolment, this puts the Department at risk of undergoing further program and position cuts. Is that the Administration's intention?

Eliminating Francophonie as a discipline would also go against the university's stated goals in its Strategic Plan ("Engaging the World") and therefore demonstrates that there is a bias in the way it is implemented: How can you justify on the one hand claiming not to have sufficient funds to maintain a tenure position in an existing program while on the other hand creating a new tenure-track appointment in anti-racism/critical race studies in the Department of Women's Studies? This amounts to robbing one marginalized group to pay another, as all nine of the graduate students in Francophonie are either students of colour or religious minorities, or both.

Times of economic hardship cause us to reflect on our priorities and ultimately we preserve the things we value and let the rest go. The issue at hand is fundamentally a priority problem and not a financial one. The Administration claims to want to further diversity, yet it chooses not to invest in existing, successful programs which address this issue in the classroom.

It is worth noting that on Tuesday, March 24th, the SGPS members at the SGPS A.G.M., voted unanimously to pass a motion in support of maintaining the tenure position in Francophonie. This demonstrates that, despite budget cuts throughout the university, graduate and professional students representing every program believe that this particular decision should be reconsidered.

## SGPS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS

The reports from SGPS Executive and Staff members are available on the SGPS website. To see the reports (and other documents from the AGM), please follow this link:

<http://www.sgps.ca/council/documents.html>

## 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](http://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>