



E-NEWSLETTER

SGPS By-Election Results

20 percent of SGPS members voted in the by-election. Stephen Osterberg was acclaimed to VP Campaigns and Community Affairs. Andrew Stevens was acclaimed to Graduate Student Senator. The Athletics and Recreation fee increase question passed (78.6 percent voted in favour).

SGPS SEEKS VP FINANCE AND SERVICES

The VP Finance and Services is responsible for creating the SGPS budget, overseeing financial matters at the SGPS and helping deal with services provided by the SGPS. The VP Finance and Services is paid at a monthly rate of \$556.06. A \$1600 honorarium is given after successful completion of a 1 year term. An \$8000 honorarium is also split amongst the Executive at the end of their 1 year term. More details are available at this URL:

<http://www.sgps.ca/jobs/jobs.html>

SGPS SEEKS COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

The SGPS Committee Coordinator is responsible for recruiting SGPS members to sit on various University and SGPS Committees. The Committee Coordinator is paid monthly at a rate of \$128.12. More details are available at this URL:

<http://www.sgps.ca/jobs/jobs.html>

SGPS SEEKS EQUITY COORDINATOR

The purpose of this position is to assist the SGPS Equity Commissioner with work related to equity issues that are important to students at Queen's. The Equity Coordinator is paid monthly at a rate of \$125.00. More details are available at this URL:

<http://www.sgps.ca/jobs/jobs.html>

SGPS SEEKS ATHLETICS COORDINATOR

The purpose of this position is to ensure that the athletic needs of SGPS members are advanced in a social setting. The Athletics Coordinator is paid two \$500 honoraria. More details are available at this URL:

<http://www.sgps.ca/jobs/jobs.html>

SGPS HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN OPTIONS

We would like your feedback with respect to next year's SGPS Health and Dental Plan. We have the following 2 options:

Option 1:

Keep exactly the same coverage for approximately \$13 less per year.

Option 2:

Keep the **same cost** but increase coverage in the following areas:

- Upgrade paramedical coverage **from \$20 per visit to \$30 per visit** and increase the yearly maximum from \$300 to \$325.
- Upgrade vision care benefit from \$100 per 24 months on **lenses only** to \$115 per 24 months on **both frames and lenses**.

Please contact your SGPS Council rep with your preferred choice. If you are not sure who your SGPS Council rep is, please contact the SGPS Executive Director, Sean (info@sgps.ca). The deadline to submit your response is Tuesday April 28th, 2009 or you can come to the Special General Meeting to vote on your preferred option.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING CALLED

An SGPS General Meeting has been called for Wednesday, April 29th at 5:30 in the McLaughlin Room in the JDUC. All SGPS graduate and professional students have speaking and voting rights. There are three important items on the agenda:

1. SGPS Executive position: confirmation of the VP Finance and Services for 2009-10.
2. Health and Dental Plan: decision either to reduce the H&D fee by approximately \$13 next year, or to expand service coverage.
3. Student fee negotiations: the university administration is attempting to reduce the ability of SGPS members to set and approve our own non-tuition student fees (i.e., the various mandatory and optional fees approved by student referendum and billed to student accounts). The SGPS Executive will be providing information and seeking input from members regarding current negotiations.

For more information, please contact the SGPS President, Jeff (president@sgps.ca).

GOODLIFE CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

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

SGPS SPEED MEETING

SPRING SOCIAL EVENT

Meet a Friend ... or More!

Date: Tuesday May 5th

Place: Grizzly Grill

Time: 7 p.m.

Price: \$10 per person

Buy your tickets at the SGPS Office or you can get your ticket at the door.

Come meet other graduate students in a speed meeting fashion!

Ticket price includes food and an alcoholic beverage.

SGPS SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

From May 4th until mid-August, the SGPS Office will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday (we will be closed Tuesdays and Thursdays).

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



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

OHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA CHANGES TO REGULATION 552

On April 1, 2009, changes to the OHIP eligibility rules under Regulation 552 under the *Health Insurance Act* became effective.

Open work permit holders (including those in CIC's Post-Graduation Work Permit Program) and their spouses/dependants may be eligible for Ontario health insurance coverage provided they are employed full-time for an employer in Ontario for a minimum of six months, have a valid work permit during this time, and they:

- maintain their primary place of residence in Ontario; and are
- physically present in Ontario for at least 153 days in any 12-month period; and are
- physically present in Ontario for 153 of the first 183 days immediately after establishing residency in the province.

Further information on the changes concerning Temporary Foreign Workers can be found on a fact sheet entitled "[Temporary Foreign Workers](#)".

For more detailed information about OHIP eligibility and the changes to the OHIP eligibility rules:

- Refer to the fact sheet on [OHIP Eligibility](#)
- Refer to the [Questions & Answers](#) on OHIP
- Refer to Regulation 552 of Ontario's *Health Insurance Act* (can be viewed online at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca)

If you have questions about your eligibility for OHIP coverage under the new policies, please contact INFOLine at 1 800 268-1154 or visit your local [Service Ontario – Health Card Services – OHIP office](#).

CANADIAN DOCTORAL WRITING STUDY:

Dear doctoral students,

The pressure on you to complete your degree in less time and with a stronger publication and funding record is growing faster than ever before. Despite these growing pressures, doctoral students and their supervisors are often left without resources and support for writing, resulting in needless anxieties for students, false starts, and wasted time.

To understand these pressures and to improve policies and support for students, we (a research team at McGill and the U of Alberta) have begun a SSHRC-funded study of doctoral student writing at Canadian research-intensive universities (for more info, please see <http://www.mcgill.ca/writing/research/>). We would like to involve as many doctoral students as possible to learn from you about your experiences, insights, and ideas for writing support. If you'd like to join us in our efforts to improve support and policies for doctoral student writing, we invite you to complete a short 15-minute survey here:

<http://tinyurl.com/docstudents>

For more information, feel free to contact the principal investigator of the study, Doreen Starke-Meyerring, McGill University, at doreen.starke-meyerring@mcgill.ca

SUMMER INTRAMURALS

Registration is now open for the 2009 summer intramural season. We are again offering men's and women's soccer, co-ed rec or comp softball. We are also starting a NEW CO-ED ULTIMATE LEAGUE.

Registration will be the same as last season: \$550/soccer, \$300/softball. Ultimate will be \$300/team. All leagues also have a default/ball bond that is refundable. The leagues will all be 10 games (up from 8 last year), PLUS playoffs for soccer/ultimate. Softball teams (rec and comp) will have the option to enter into the year-end tournament as well. All soccer/ultimate will be played on the NEW ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELD!!!! Soccer has been expanded to a 2-hour timeslot, allowing for full games and warm-up time.

Days of play:

Men's Soccer: Sunday: 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, Monday: 5pm, 9pm. Space limited to 10 teams.

Women's Soccer: Tuesday: 5pm, 9pm. Space limited to 4 teams.

Co-Ed Ultimate: 5pm, 6pm, 9pm, 10pm Thursday's. Space limited to 16 teams

Softball: Sun >2pm, Mon-Thurs >5pm. Will attempt to standardize days of play based on requests.

Leagues will start right after the Victoria Day long weekend.

Entry forms are available from our website: www.gogaelsgo.com, under "Recreation" and "Intramurals". Entries should be brought Duane Parliament's office in the PEC. As in previous years, anyone is eligible to play.