

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY REPORT

KPU has served Metro Vancouver for more than 30 years, helping over a quarter-million people start their timeline to success. We are proud of our community engagement, and excited to share some of this past year's projects with you.

This issue highlights:

- Exciting community initiatives KPU has supported
- KPU's vision for 2018 and our goals from our new strategic plan
- The exemplary individuals we've awarded Honorary Degrees to this year
- A look ahead to new KPU programs and a sneak preview into the 2013 CCAA Women's Soccer National Championship



KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

KPU In Your Community

PARTNERS IN MARKETING PROGRAM

Business Students Help Small Business

Every semester, Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing Management students produce team projects for clients in the community. Working with local business organizations, groups of students are connected with small and medium-sized businesses that lack the resources or expertise to analyze and develop their own marketing programs. The initiative benefits local companies as well as marketing students, who have the opportunity to apply the business skills they learn at KPU.

ADULT EDUCATION

Establishing Community Partnerships

KPU Langley's Community Adult Literacy Program has partnered with local Langley organizations to offer 'Community One-on-One Learning'. The program gives adults the opportunity to continue to enhance their education, tuition-free. The program is run with the support of volunteer tutors who receive extended training and support to serve a broader Langley community. The 'On-Site' program also trains staff from various community service societies so that they are better prepared to address client needs at their own locations. Organizations that have used this service include Langley Community Services, Ishtar Transition Housing and Stepping Stone Community Services.

GROW LOCAL

Seed Swap Promotes Sustainable Food Security

KPU Langley has developed a 'Seed Library', located in its Langley campus library, where any member of the public can donate and borrow seeds. The student-led initiative is run through the Kwantlen Sustainable Greenhouse Club. The group's mission is to work with community partners to promote the importance of seed diversity in establishing local food security. Only in its infancy, the program has already served 50 borrowers and currently contains more than 200 different varieties of seeds. Students also held an event earlier this year to collect seed donations, and demonstrate seed cleaning techniques. Speakers specialized in native seed species, plant selection and seed preservation were featured.

ZIPPORAH'S DREAM PROJECT

Exploratory Study To Highlight Educational Needs Of Young Refugees

Two KPU instructors have set out to identify the educational challenges faced by Burmese youth living in Surrey and Langley – cities that are home to communities of Burmese refugees. The needs assessment study involves an extensive research process that will eventually provide recommendations to KPU service providers on how best to transition the youth into post-secondary education. The goal is that the study will lead to new initiatives within KPU, as well as provide on-going community partnerships with settlement agencies and the public school system. While the project is focused on the local community, its impact could be global if it enables Burmese youth to eventually make a difference in their home country, Myanmar.

BSN STUDENTS ASSIST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Nursing Students Help Seniors

KPU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing students spent over three months working with residents and staff at the Harrison Pointe and Harrison Landing retirement communities. As part of their Community Development Nursing course, students gained practical learning experience helping seniors help themselves. Students engaged seniors in health promotion activities to help them as they transition to a higher level of care. Students witnessed firsthand how community participation, involvement and empowerment builds capacity in both individuals and communities. In partnership with Harrison Landing staff, KPU students created an anthology of stories about residents' lives. This memoir was printed and presented by KPU for Harrison residents and staff.

VISION 2018

In 2018, KPU is Canada's leading polytechnic university, with:

- Inspiring educators
- All learners engaging in campus and community life
- Open and creative learning environments
- Relevant scholarship and research
- Authentic external and internal relationships

Goals And Strategies

QUALITY

- **Successful global citizens:** All KPU graduates are prepared for global citizenship and rewarding careers.
- **Engaged learners:** Learner engagement and retention at KPU show continuous improvement.
- **Effective organization:** KPU is a well-managed, integrated, and transparent organization that supports learning.

REPUTATION

- **Recognized teaching and scholarship:** KPU is widely recognized for its teaching and its scholarship.
- **Unique identity:** KPU's unique identity is clearly articulated and well understood across the University and beyond.
- **Continuing and professional education:** KPU is the foremost provider of continuing and professional education in its region.

RELEVANCE

- **Community engagement:** The impact of KPU's community engagement has doubled by 2018.
- **Expanded educational access:** KPU's operations support purposeful learner growth of at least 5% annually to meet the educational needs of its region's diverse population.
- **Blending theory and practice:** Experiential learning is integrated into every KPU program, connecting theory to application and the classroom to the community.

KPU selected four outstanding British Columbians to receive honorary doctor of laws at Spring Convocation this year. These individuals are recognized *honoris causa* (for the sake of honour) for their significant contributions and accomplishments.

HONORARY DEGREES



Janet Austin

As CEO of the Vancouver YWCA, Janet is committed to achieving women's equality and improving the lives of women and their families. Her work promotes social and community development in early learning and care for children, social housing and advocacy for mothers without legal status.



Susan Davidson

Susan has been at the forefront of the Lower Mainland's organic agriculture sector for over 20 years. An entrepreneur, fundraiser, community leader and founder of Glorious Organics Cooperative, her priority has been to support small-scale organic farms that use sustainable practices.



Charan Gill

Social activist, rights advocate, author, entrepreneur and founder of Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS), Charan has initiated and successfully run a variety of programs for immigrant youth, women, seniors, farm workers and the homeless.



George Melville

Chairman and owner of Boston Pizza International (BPI), George is a successful and award-winning restaurateur with more than \$1 billion in sales. He consistently exemplifies the values of hard work, determination and genuine compassion for others, both as a member of KPU's Board of Governors and in his philanthropy work.

A LOOK AHEAD

New Programs

KPU offers all learners opportunities to achieve success in a diverse range of disciplines. The following new degrees join the university's roster of over 145 programs:

- B.Sc Biology – September 2013
- B.Sc Health Science – September 2013
- BA Political Science – January 2014
- B.Sc Applications of Mathematics – September 2014
- B.Sc Physics for Modern Technology – September 2014

Sports

KPU will host the 2013 CCAA Women's Soccer National Championship. The four-day Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) tournament will be held at Newton Athletic Park November 6 – 9. The KPU Eagles women's soccer team – who won bronze at the 2009 Championship – will compete as one of the eight participating teams.

Your opinion is valuable to us. Please submit comments on this community report to: kpu.ca/opinion.

kpu.ca

