

# 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

### WALK FOR ALS

#### KPU's Accounting Society Raises Funds To Fight Lou Gehrig's Disease

Accounting Society of Kwantlen (ASK) students volunteered at, and participated in, this year's Walk for ALS in Steveston Village.

The group also hosted an event to raise money for the ALS Society of BC, which supports those suffering from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease. Over 80 people attended the fundraiser, which was part of a new ASK initiative to contribute more to KPU's communities. Twenty-five students also showed their support by volunteering for the Walk for ALS in Richmond.

## THE EXCHANGE

### Design Students Organize And Host Three Days Of Design, Discussion And Dress

Over 2,300 people attended The Exchange – a three-day fashion extravaganza – hosted by students of KPU's Chip and Shannon Wilson School of Design. Graduating students from all design disciplines came together to showcase their work to industry partners, media, community, parents and alumni, in The Exhibit. They also hosted a panel discussion on design at The Event, and capped off the entire affair with The Show: An impressive fashion show that highlights the collections of fourth-year fashion students.

## GDMA CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

### KPU Students Get Work Experience Using Their Design Skills

KPU Graphic Design students helped the Minoru Seniors Society and the Minoru Place Activity Centre rebrand their services to better reflect the global shift towards positive and active aging. The students had the exciting opportunity to present their findings to nine members of the society's board of governors. The impact of their project could reach over 4,800 members and registered users of the centre.

## SCHOOL OF DESIGN – NEW FACILITY

### Something Spectacular Is Happening At KPU Richmond

Lululemon athletica founders Chip and Shannon Wilson have partnered with KPU and the Province of BC to create a \$36-million facility that, once complete, will be Metro Vancouver's hub for fashion and design. Expected to be open in two years' time, the state-of-the-art Chip and Shannon Wilson School of Design will boast cutting-edge technology, classrooms, work stations and multi-purpose spaces. KPU recently hosted a public preview of the four-storey facility, designed by world-renowned architects, KPMB. Guests – including Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie, and Chip and Shannon Wilson – had the opportunity to view the plans that will increase academic space on campus by 124 per cent, and turn KPU Richmond into a destination for fashion and design students around the world.

## RICHMOND FARM SCHOOL

### Teaching and Learning About Sustainable Agriculture Practices

The Richmond Farm School, overseen by KPU's Institute for Sustainable Food Systems, is an annual 10-month program focused on training anyone looking to learn about – and engage in – local agriculture. The Farm School prepares people from all walks of life to work in sustainable, urban-focused agriculture enterprises, including production, processing, distribution, marketing and sales. The goal of the project is to build regional agri-food systems in, around and for municipalities.

## KPU SCIENCE CHALLENGE

### High School Students Challenge Themselves in Science

KPU Richmond hosted the Science Challenge for over 300 high school students from the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island. It was an intense day of head-to-head competition testing science know-how and ingenuity. The KPU Science Challenge was originally developed to teach young science students about how science works, who scientists are, the kind of work they do and why science matters in everyday life.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### Community Partnerships Provide Adult Education

KPU Richmond's Community Adult Literacy Program is collaborating with the Richmond Public Library and Literacy Richmond to offer 'Learning Together'. The program provides one-on-one vocational literacy tutoring with onsite child-minding through weekly family literacy programs at the Cambie and Brighthouse libraries. Both adults and parents have benefited from the vocational literacy programs offered by 'Learning Together'. All participants are adults based in the local community who are given an opportunity to continue to learn and build on their knowledge and education at no cost.

## LIBRARY OUTREACH

### Libraries Partner Together And Teach Students About Academia

KPU librarians partnered with the Richmond Public Library to bring Richmond high school students a three-part series on post-secondary life. Over 125 students participated in five sessions that focused on life as a university student, academic research and general academic responsibilities.

# 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](http://kpu.ca/opinion).

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