



KPU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT **2020-2021**





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ABOUT THE KPU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The KPU Alumni Association (KPUAA) became a registered society in 2008. Founders and Directors are KPU alumni who volunteer and support the growth of KPU by creating engagement opportunities for our alumni. The board follows a governance model and is responsible for providing the strategic vision to achieve our mission and mandate of engaging a population of over 63,000 KPU Alumni.



KPU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020 – 2021

Back row (L-R): Mohammad Kallas, James Grange, Kelly Trainer

Middle row (L-R): Gabby Gill, Kathryn Landrigan, Duncan Keist, Amanda Smith-Weston, Michael Chang, Corinne Taliunas, Hayley Woodin

Front Row (L-R): Fatima Zaidi, David Dryden, Kathie-Lee Olsen, Nancy Armitage, Henry Flowers, Jaqueline Tarantino

MISSION

The Kwantlen Polytechnic University Alumni Association will bring together KPU alumni and help them build lifelong relationships with the university and the community, increasing the institution’s reputation and the impact that graduates have on KPU and the world.

STRATEGIC VISION 2019 – 2021

1. Enhance engagement within our alumni community
2. Enhance the value of being KPU alumni
3. Enhance KPU’s reputation by fully integrating the Alumni Association into the life of KPU, and elevating KPU’s public profile

More about the board of directors can be viewed on our website at alumni.kpu.ca/kpuaa

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I'm pleased to report that your Alumni Association made excellent progress this past year, despite the challenges that the global pandemic presented us.

Perhaps most notable this year is the establishment of an endowment that will be used to create annual monetary awards. The initial donation of \$25,000 gifted in 2020, plus an additional pledge of \$5,000 annually for the next 5 years will support annual scholarships and bursaries for KPU students.

This year we conferred our annual Distinguished Alumni Awards and brought on several new Affinity programs. Benefits and privileges for alumni have been moved to a seamless, accessible mobile app and microsite called Alumni Perks and we grew our offerings exponentially. We produced the 4th issue of the Alumni Magazine in celebration of KPU's 40th Anniversary, which features 40 alumni who are 'ones to watch'. We launched an online mentorship and career networking platform called KPU Connects, powered by Ten Thousand Coffees, bringing students and alumni together for career conversations. We also began dialogue with KPU International to explore ways to engage our international alumni. I invite you to read more about all our activities and programs in this full report.

The Board of Directors were pleased to welcome Henry Flowers and Hayley Woodin, our newest directors. Hayley is our first appointed remote position.

We said farewell to long term director Vikram Bubber and Ryan Keigher, who completed his term as past chair. We are grateful to Vikram for his long service and to Ryan for his legacy of starting discussion toward establishing the KPUAA Endowment.

The KPUAA three-year strategic vision which began in 2019 is in its final year this year. With support from the Alumni Affairs office which functionally operationalized the KPUAA Strategic Vision through a board approved three-year business plan, we are pleased to report that we achieved and exceeded all of our objectives.

David Dryden



David Dryden
Chair, KPUAA

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE KPU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear friends,

It has been such a pleasure to support the Strategic Vision of the KPU Alumni Association this past year. Through our three-year business plan, we exceeded our goals of moving our programming of alumni engagement forward while navigating a myriad of challenges due to COVID-19.

We made remarkable progress on achieving our goals by responding to the new protocols and finding creative solutions to engaging our alumni. The Alumni Affairs office was able to be nimble and pivot where needed to implement online and digital methods of engagement through our online mentorship program, KPU Connects; powered by Ten Thousand Coffees and with our new mobile app, Alumni Perks. We took advantage of our social media channels, as well, finding creative and engaging content and through our monthly newsletter to over 32,000 KPU Alumni. More details of these initiatives and more are forthcoming in our inaugural Annual Report.

I hope you enjoy!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Armitage'.



Nancy Armitage
Executive Director, KPU
Alumni Association and
Manager, Alumni Affairs

**KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

(Unaudited)

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash held in Trust with KPU (note 3)	73,284	\$ 91,729
	73,284	91,729
Capital assets (note 4)	3,944	4,931
	77,228	\$ 96,660
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	-	\$ -
Deferred revenue	-	2,500
	-	2,500
Deferred capital contributions	1,973	2,466
	1,973	4,966
Net Assets		
Invested in capital assets (note 5)	1,971	2,465
Unrestricted	73,284	89,229
	75,255	91,694
	77,228	96,660

See accompanying notes to financial statements

Approved on behalf of the Board:

**KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

(Unaudited)

	2021	2020
Revenues:		
Sponsorship revenue (note 6)	\$ 18,530	\$ 14,969
Revenue recognized from deferred capital contributions	493	616
Event revenue	-	(76)
	19,023	15,509
Expenses:		
Event expense	-	1,709
Donations (Note 7)	27,500	3,500
Amortization expense	987	1,233
Meeting expenses	755	1,455
Insurance	1,173	1,075
License and membership fees	40	-
Promotional supplies	5,007	277
Professional fees	-	900
	35,462	10,149
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	\$ (16,439)	\$ 5,360

See accompanying notes to financial statements

**KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Year ended March 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020
(Unaudited)

	Investment in capital assets 2021 (note 5)	Unrestricted 2021	Total 2021	2020
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,465	\$ 89,229	\$ 91,694	\$ 86,334
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	(494)	(15,945)	(16,439)	5,360
Balance, end of year	\$ 1,971	\$ 73,284	\$ 75,255	\$ 91,694

See accompanying notes to financial statements

**KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Statement of Cash Flows
Year ended March 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020
(Unaudited)

	2021	2020
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operations:		
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	\$ (16,439)	\$ 5,360
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	987	1,233
Revenue recognized from deferred capital contributions	(493)	(616)
Revenue recognized from deferred revenues (Affinity Agreement)	(2,500)	
Change in non-cash operating working capital:		
Cash held in Trust with KPU	18,445	(1,689)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	-	(4,288)
Increase (Decrease) in cash	-	-
Cash, beginning of year	-	-
Cash, end of year	-	-

See accompanying notes to financial statements

ESTABLISHING THE KPUAA ENDOWMENT FOR STUDENTS IN NEED

The KPU Alumni Association played a lead role in the inaugural KPU Foundation Giving Tuesday campaign to raise much-needed funds to support students at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU).

The KPUAA committed to match donations from KPU alumni during Giving Tuesday on December 1st and embraced this opportunity to establish the KPU Alumni Association Endowment for bursaries, community-service awards and scholarships.

The board of directors has pledged an additional \$25,000 over the next five years to continue to build the endowment, introducing a growing number of annual student awards at KPU. With KPU alumni also

personally contributing to the fund, the endowment will quickly become one of the largest student award endowments held by the KPU Foundation.

As Challenge Champion, the association contributed \$25,000 in matching dollars on Giving Tuesday, and with alumni matching this commitment, launched their signature fund pledging an additional \$5,000 annually for five years for a total gift of \$50,000.

In 2020 at the start of the global pandemic the KPUAA wanted to give back to students in need. They donated \$2,500 to the student emergency bursary fund.



ANDREA WOO

2020 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENT



DISTINGUISHED Alumni AWARDS

Since 2007 the KPU Alumni Association has been recognizing exceptional KPU alumni who have demonstrated excellence through their achievements.

Consideration for these awards is given to individuals who have enhanced the reputation of the university through their outstanding professional, business or industry endeavours; public, community and/or volunteer service.

Past recipients can be seen at alumni.kpu.ca/awards

After learning her craft at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, journalist Andrea Woo has reported on some of the most important issues in Canada in recent years. Now the award-winning journalist has been awarded the 2020 KPU Distinguished Alumni Award.

"I'm incredibly grateful for this acknowledgment from my alma mater," says Woo. "It also served as a lovely reminder of how I got my start, and the very first days of what would eventually become a dream career."

Woo was 17 when she started at KPU in the journalism program. She says she didn't know what she wanted to do other than something that involved writing.

"It was KPU that taught me what journalism was, what it could do, and that there was a space in it for me. I learned not just journalism basics but critical thinking and analysis, all while being supported by warm and friendly instructors who were generous with their time."

In 2003, while she was writing for KPU's former student newspaper, the Chronicle, she wrote a story on the opening of North America's first legal supervised injection site, Insite.

"People sat with me on the stoop, telling me about their lives. Some of their stories were heartbreaking,"

says Woo. "I remember being fascinated with everything that I learned that day and feeling excited to put that story together."

Today, Woo has won several journalism awards and is known for her reporting on Canada's fentanyl crisis, which won her a 2017 Canadian Association of Journalists award. As a reporter for the Globe and Mail, she focuses mainly on substance abuse, mental health, and drug policy.

Woo graduated from KPU in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Journalism. She went on to write for Canadian and America music publications about hip-hop. In 2012, she was hired by the Globe and Mail.

Journalism instructor Beverly Wake nominated Woo for the Distinguished Alumni Award.

"Andrea is an extremely talented journalist. She's an exceptional reporter, not only in her ability to dig through material but in her ability to relate to people from all walks of life and to get them to trust her enough to share their stories," she says.

"Andrea Woo has made KPU proud as she started her amazing journey into the world of journalism here," says Dr. Alan Davis, KPU president and vice-chancellor.



AYESHA KHAN

2020 OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENT

The Outstanding Young Alumni award recognizes a KPU alumni who is under 30 years of age at the time of nomination and who has demonstrated excellence professionally or through community service, while maintaining continued involvement with KPU. We are very pleased to be recognizing Ayesha Khan as the recipient of the 2020 award.

In the words of her nominator Deanna Fasciani “One can judge a leader not by how many they lead but by how they make leaders of others. Ayesha has never put herself before the cause, the cause of making her world, our world, more just and more compassionate than the state in which she inherited it.”

To this end Ayesha has embarked on relentless study, and is embedded in community participation, personal sacrifice, tireless public service, and compassion towards society’s most vulnerable and marginalized groups and individuals.

While still a university student, Ayesha has committed herself to non-profit leadership and then to formal labour organizing in one of North America’s largest trade unions, SEIU, and is currently with the BC General Employees’ Union. All while throwing herself into community service including Human Concern International, the Syrian Kids Foundation, the United Nations Association in Canada and the Kwantlen Public Interest Research Group to name a few. Ayesha was also recognized by The World Economic Forum as a Global Shaper, and as a delegate for the 2020 Banff Forum - which brings together leaders across sectors and regions that enhance life for all who live in Canada.

The KPU Alumni Association was thrilled to confer the 2020 Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ayesha Khan. Ayesha is an inspiration to all who, by circumstance, face incredible odds; demonstrating the hard work that goes into building a better future.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Convocation

The KPUAA has been integral to the annual convocation celebrations. This past year looked quite different due to COVID. The traditional gift of an Alumni branded fountain pen usually given to each graduate as they cross the stage was this year placed lovingly in the memorabilia boxes by Alumni Affairs staff, along with the Alumni Magazine and were mailed to all our graduates.

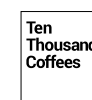


The virtual convocation ceremony featured Board Director Fatima Zaidi who provided a message on behalf of the KPU Alumni Association.



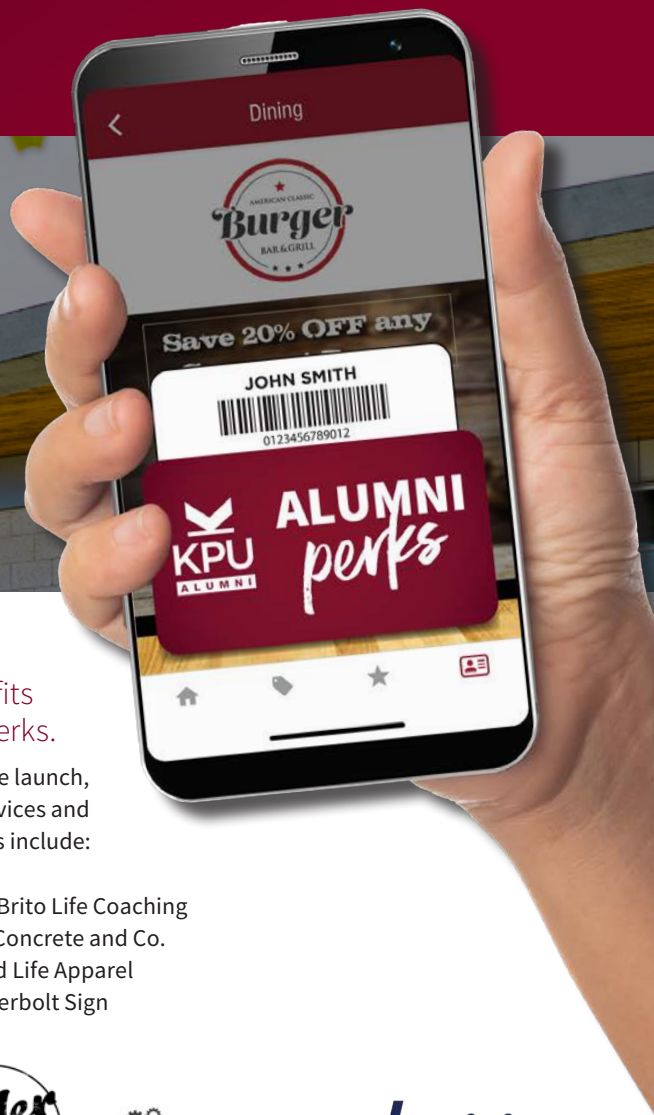
Mentorship and Networking

This year the KPUAA launched a virtual platform that offers alumni and students meaningful opportunities to connect and have conversations on how to advance in their careers. KPU Connects mentoring and networking platform is powered by Ten Thousand Coffees!



Future Launch

ALUMNI BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES



The KPU Alumni Association was pleased to move our alumni benefits and privileges program into the 21st century by launching Alumni Perks.

This new mobile app and microsite replaces the plastic benefits card. To celebrate the launch, the Alumni Affairs office signed on over a dozen new alumni owned and operated services and products customized for KPU alumni, at discounted rates. New products and services include:

- Arafat Kalam Notary Public
- Best Coast Bonsai Inc.
- Black Bird Holistic
- Conscious Works
- Dominion Blue Reprographics
- Broadway Across Canada
- Eyetician
- Fresh Prep
- Ingrid Brito Life Coaching
- Miller Concrete and Co.
- Second Life Apparel
- Thunderbolt Sign



In addition, to our existing offerings, this past year we collaborated with several new Affinity Partners, who provide discounted services to alumni while also generating revenue for the Alumni Association. Our partners include:

- Artona Group
- Canucks Sport and Entertainment
- Convocation Flowers
- TD Home Insurance



New in 2020:

- All Purpose Realty
- KPU Bookstore
- LEAD Benefits (Legal Extended Assistance Discount)
- TD Life & Health Insurance



Alumni Magazine

This year the magazine was dedicated to celebrating KPU's 40th Anniversary. Forty alumni who are considered 'ones to watch' were featured in this special edition.

The digital version can be viewed at alumni.kpu.ca/magazine

Communications

The KPU Alumni Affairs office coordinates our engagement communications through email messaging and on our social media platforms including Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook.

[Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Facebook](#) KPU Alumni

As well our newsletter is sent to over 32,000 alumni every month.

All our activities and initiatives can be found on our website at alumni.kpu.ca



KPU ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021



Kwantlen Polytechnic University
12666 72 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3W 2M8

Keep in touch with what's
happening at KPU and with our
active alumni community:

 alumni.kpu.ca
  [KPUalumni](#)
 [KPU Alumni](#)

Interested in KPU programs and courses?
Contact the Future Students' Office:
604.599.3030 or study@kpu.ca