



**KWANTLEN  
POLYTECHNIC  
UNIVERSITY**

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## 2011 Candidates for Election



### Stuart Chase

Stuart Chase graduated from Kwantlen in 2006 with a B.A. in Journalism, minor Public Relations.

Stuart is pleased to stand for re-election to the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Alumni Association board. As an incumbent, Stuart has held the position of Vice-Chair of the board and has served on a number of committees and task forces related to board work. He is the most recent chair of the engagement committee, a group committed to finding ways of engaging with Kwantlen's ever-growing alumni through exploration of social media and new types of alumni events and programs.

This is more than just a resume item for Stuart. He has been a very consistent participant at the meeting level with the board and as well has made a number of commitments over the past two years to attend alumni functions and events in the community to which the alumni association is invited, in order to help increase the visibility of our board and take the chance to talk to the broader community about what we do and who we are. Some of you may have also seen Stuart at some of the graduation ceremonies in the past two years, where he's had the pleasure of greeting grads once they've crossed the stage, to welcome them to the alumni association.

Stuart believes that his level of commitment paired with his educational background of journalism and work experience in the public relations field makes him well suited to the work of the board, and he hopes you'll give him the chance to continue serving Kwantlen alumni for another two years.



### Baltej Dhillon

Baltej Dhillon, a sergeant with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), received his Associate Degree in Criminology from Kwantlen in 1988. That same year, Sgt. Dhillon found himself fighting for his religious right to wear his turban in place of the Stetson. The debate became a national issue but Sgt. Dhillon was victorious and today proudly wears his turban while serving and protecting Canadians. A Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal recipient, he has volunteered as a counsellor and motivational speaker at youth camps for over 10 years. He has also served as a committee member for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Quesnel, as vice president and secretary at the Cariboo Gur Sikh Temple and committee member and co-chair on South Asian Advisory Committee and Consortiums for United Way. Dhillon is a member of the guild of speakers with Passages to Canada and director of 3HO Organization in Vancouver.



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### Tom Hall

I was part of the graduating class of 2011, earning my Bachelor of Arts in Criminology this last May.

Choosing Kwantlen has been a very rewarding decision for me since I first attended classes back in 2003. I stay connected with some of my peers, and the University, as much as I can. As part of my giving back for the wonderful friends and experiences that I have had as a student at Kwantlen, joining groups and student organizations are important to me as part of that process, e.g., the alumni.

This was my second time returning to college/university life. I first studied graphic design, and then started my first year as a science major, when I shifted into a totally different career path that lead me into retail for a large big box retail company. I came to Kwantlen seeking to broaden my horizon, and to branch out into another career path, my third career change in my life that I wanted to embark upon. I like to point out that during my third and fourth years at Kwantlen, I attended classes while working full time.

Currently, I am working in the telecommunication industry. I work for Intranet and satellite service company, both in a technical and knowledge base capacity at a management level. Working on security, communication and data storage systems, plus managing the acquisitions and logistics department, most of my time is now spent managing these departments. Also in my employment repertoire, I am part of an I.T. and server management team, handling security systems for web based servers, and the installation of this hardware for industrial and residential customers. I am very fortunate to be part of a management team that allows me to keep expanding my academic skills, and working on the leading edge of technology in today's market.

I volunteer part of my time teaching basic computer skills, both privately and in the community, working with adults and seniors alike. I like teaching people open source Operating Systems, as a free and alternative software over other mainstream proprietary vendors. I coordinate and organize seminars and programs that help people who are still discovering this technology. Also, I dedicate myself to volunteering at various programs with Corrections Canada such as Restorative Justice and mentoring programs within the community. My passion as a Criminologist is helping people who are within the criminal justices system, helping them with preventing recidivism, preparation for reentering the community from prison, and occasionally counseling. Perhaps one of the most rewarding experiences of my life came from when I was part of a sentencing circle that united both the victim and the perpetrator, including their families and members of the community, together.



### Sandra Hoffman



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### Sarb Lalli

Having the opportunity to attend Kwantlen Polytechnic University and graduating with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Entrepreneurial Leadership in June 2003, was the single largest turning point in my life. Attaining that degree gave me the confidence and knowledge to not only further my business and career as a firefighter, but it enabled me to get a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

The Bachelors Degree from Kwantlen has provided me with a strong foundation that has enabled me to pursue career advancements within the fire services. Recently, I just completed my Bachelors Degree in Fire administration from the Justice Institution of BC, which with some luck and hard work equates to job advancements.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University gave me the tools to implement an idea into a business plan and provide me with the skills to start my own holding company that holds real estate in various countries. The marketing, accounting, legal, sales and networking skills from Mr. Chamkaur Cheema's class were priceless experiences that only Kwantlen grads can get.

At this time in my career I strongly feel that I would like to give back to the institution that has afforded me all the luxuries in life. To be able to give back to the students, faculty and all people directly and indirectly affected by Kwantlen is a privilege and an honour. Helping our younger generation of future leaders is both fulfilling and rewarding.

By becoming a Kwantlen Alumni Board of Director, I will be able to not only give back to the students but can be a positive role model to students who seek guidance and direction. I believe in leading by example, and feel that we need to give back to companies, people or institutions that believed in us. We as graduates of the University need to give back to the institution that has given us so much.

I feel that I would be an ideal member of the board because I bring a variety of diverse experiences. My primary work experience is unique from others because it is an essential service and not a "business". However, I have the unique ability to converse with students who wish to pursue international business, as I have a successful company that does exactly that.

In closing, I feel that I understand what our students are going through as they try to juggle work while attending school to better themselves. I would be doing myself a disservice if I knowingly did not help the school become a leader in providing the highest quality of graduates, who would be proud to say they are "Kwantlen Alumni".



### Nicholas Pavlich

Mr. Pavlich is a business-minded strategic thinker who truly believes in the power of targeted and mutually beneficial communications for building a strong brand or managing a corporate or social issue. His expertise in business and corporate communications helps provide organizations with creative solutions that impact the marketplace. Mr. Pavlich graduated from Kwantlen with a Diploma in Public Relations, a Diploma in General Studies and a Certificate in Marketing Management. He also graduated from Royal Roads University with a Bachelors of Commerce focusing in Entrepreneurial Management. Nicholas is excited to be on the Kwantlen University Alumni Board and believes that a strong alumni board will only serve to increase the reputation of Kwantlen within community.



## 2011 Candidates for Election



### Ayanthi Samarasinghe

Ayanthi attended Kwantlen as an international student and graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurial Leadership. After graduating, Ayanthi returned to Sri Lanka where she continued her banking career at Citibank, before joining HSBC in 2007. With her transfer to Canada in August this year, she works in the capacity of a Business Development Manager at HSBC. Ayanthi has been in the banking industry for over ten years.

Ayanthi has been active in a number of community and volunteer organizations, in Sri Lanka, and in Richmond during her undergraduate years.

She is the immediate past Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee advising to the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka, on matters escalated by the departments including Finance, Human Resources, and Marketing. She was also a National Council member with responsibilities on matters such as policy, governance and strategic direction of the Family Planning Association.

She is a Charter Member of Zonta Club III of Colombo which is a member of the Zonta International dedicated to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. Ayanthi is the founder and immediate past Chairperson of the successful mentorship program, Zonta Women of Tomorrow.

She had volunteered at the Richmond Multicultural Concern Society as a special event coordinator and a teacher of English to new immigrants, and at Richmond Alcohol and Drug Action Team as a marketing coordinator. Currently she is the co-Treasurer of MacNeill Secondary Parents Advisory Council.

Ayanthi looks forward to serving her University.