

*The University of the Fraser Valley Student Union (UFV SUS) is a registered non-profit society representing and serving our UFV student members. The SUS facilitates a number of services such as the UFV Shuttle Bus, provides financial aid, and supports various on-campus student organizations. As the official representative body of UFV students, the mission of the SUS is 'to create a strong unified student voice and to provide innovative and valuable services to its members by advocating on behalf of and collaborating with the Student Body, UFV and the community.'*

## PRESS RELEASE

**October 23, 2014**

### **Student Union Invests over \$135,000 for Student Aid**

**ABBOTSFORD, BC** – With ever rising student education costs, the UFV Student Union Society (SUS) has contributed over \$135,000 to a variety of scholarships, bursaries, and grants to support students for years to come.

Much of the funding is invested to provide roughly \$7,500 annually in new funds that will be dedicated to different scholarships, bursaries, and emergency grants on an annual basis as deemed appropriate by the Board. The remainder of \$18,500 is endowed to provide annual awards of \$1,000 (leadership) and \$750 (scholarship).

“We are committed to giving our members financial support, which creates the opportunity for educational success” said SUS President Ryan Petersen. Indeed, SUS now has over \$360,000 invested in a variety of long-term and permanent funds that provide annual aid to students, in addition to over \$40,000 of annual funding from the operating budget.

According to SUS Vice President Internal Thomas Davies, the funding comes at a critical time. “Governments, institutions, and individuals are demonstrating fiscal restraint; we need to find ways to increase our support of students.” Creating political will for improved post-secondary education funding takes time, and SUS works on various student advocacy issues with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations where Davies was also elected to the Board of Directors. Meanwhile, “students need to stand by each other, and provide consistent support for our education.”

Further, SUS has re-purposed existing funds to create the UFV SUS Award for Study Abroad. Eight \$500 awards will be provided annually to students involved in the Study Abroad program. According to Petersen “the previous International Scholarship we offered was rarely awarded. When this idea arose, we thought it was an excellent opportunity to provide support to those students wanting international education experiences.”

For more information please contact:  
Thomas Davies, Vice President Internal  
E: [vpinternal@ufvsus.ca](mailto:vpinternal@ufvsus.ca)  
P: 604-864-4613 (local 4459)