1. Introduction

Over the past four summer months the Commissioners and VP Community have organized a total of 11 events, though 2 of these events (Rock Dunder and Thesis Therapy) had to be postponed for this fall due to extenuating circumstances, with a total of 128 participants. This year the VP Community has implemented a feedback system using Qualtrics through Queen’s in order to create a post-event feedback survey so we can get a sense of what the social and community needs of graduate and professional students, and use that input to shape the events we have for the rest of the year.

This summer we have been placing emphasis on holding a variety of events to appeal to students with varying interests (indoors and outdoors, casual mingling vs. more athletically rigorous), as well as holding some recurring events that you can count on throughout the year to help foster community. Over the summer that meant hosting a Beach Volleyball once a month where we supplied food, a volleyball and booked the outdoor court at The Mansion for SGPS members. We also invested in a number of board games for our now monthly Board Game Night at The Grad Club. We held this event in July and August, and have now confirmed days with The Grad Club for September, October and November. We’ll be putting out a survey to see what other games grad students would like to add to our collection. The events we organized include:

- Friday June 29th, Hump Day Beach Bump, Volleyball at The Mansion
- Thursday June 5th, Board Game Night at The Grad Club
- Tuesday June 10th, SGPS gets Bouldering!
- Saturday June 21st, Raspberry Picking at Fruition Farms
- Thursday June 26th, Hump Day Beach Bump, Volleyball at The Mansion
- Saturday June 28th, Rock Dunder (postponed to September due to weather)
- Thursday August 2nd, Board Game Night at The Grad Club
- Tuesday August 14th, Water Day with Trailhead
- Thursday August 16th, Thesis Therapy (postponed due to JDUC flood)
- Wednesday August 22nd, Hump Day Beach Bump, Volleyball at The Mansion
- Saturday August 25th, Frost Walks, Historic Walking Tour of Wolfe Island

2. Social Event Feedback Report (mean average feedback)

The following is the mean average feedback for our summer social events compiled from our Qualtrics surveys.

- Hump Day Beach Bump, Volleyball at The Mansion (3 events)
  - How entertaining was this event? 91.75%
  - Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 97.75%
  - Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 99.75%
  - What was your favourite part of this event?
The food and meeting new people
Welcoming and accepting environment
Nachos

What could make this event better in the future?
Get more people to join
Maybe pay for beer
Advertising! I know you already work hard but grad students are hard to reach
Bring more people or host closer to campus

Board Game Night at The Grad Club (2 events)
How entertaining was this event? 72.75%
Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 76.25%
Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 74.25%
What was your favourite part of this event?
Offering food was a nice surprise!
How relaxed the atmosphere was, and the selection of Board Games. Also the food!
Variety of games

What could make this event better in the future?
Drink Ticket(s)
Perhaps asking for dietary restrictions in advance (was allergic to some of the food) but otherwise really well done
Perhaps different location?

Raspberry Picking at Fruition Farms
How entertaining was this event? 79.25%
Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 76.75%
Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 80.50%
What was your favourite part of this event?
Raspberry picking (x2)
Timeliness, friendliness of the organizers
The raspberries and hearing people’s excitement while picking them

What could make this event better in the future?
Select a farm with better quality raspberry
I would have appreciated a more comfortable bus, but the ride was pretty short anyways
Make it earlier in the season? To catch blueberry season as well?

Frost Walks, Historic Walking Tour of Wolfe Island
How entertaining was this event? 98.33%
Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 92.33%
Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 92.33%
What was your favourite part of this event?
Walking around the island
The history tour

What could make this event better in the future? (no results yet)
Include lunch boxes
Add ghost stories
3. Athletic Event Feedback Report

The following is the mean average feedback for our summer athletic events compiled from our Qualtrics surveys.

SGPS gets Bouldering!
How entertaining was this event? 93%
Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 88%
Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 83%
What was your favourite part of this event?
- Meeting people
- Climbing
- Bouldering where experienced people showed us the ropes
- This was my first time experience and I learnt a lot and KBC were very helpful in teaching us
What could make this event better in the future?
- I thought it was good enough as it is
- Bigger bouldering rooms

Water Day with Trailhead
How entertaining was this event? 96%
Based on your experience at this event, how likely are you to attend another? 91%
Based on your experience at this event, would you recommend our events to others? 91.75%
What was your favourite part of this event?
- Learning how to paddle board (x2)
- All of it
- Getting outdoors
What could make this event better in the future?
- Provide food
- That is all good

4. Other Survey Results

The following questions were asked to all survey respondents who participated in an SGPS event this past summer.

What other SGPS events have you attended?
- Forest Therapy
- All Council Meetings
- Kayaking in 2016
- Board games night (x2)
- Hike
- Tons (x2)
- Canada’s Wonderland
- Basketball
- Speed Meeting
- Pool at the Grizz
- Cooking Socials
• Beach Hump Day
• Bouldering
• 4cats pottery

What other events would you like to see us run in the future?
• Euchre tournament
• The selection you have now is great!
• Hiking in surrounding provincial parks (x3)
• Having a beach day (x2)
• A BBQ in Victoria Park or Breakwater Park
• Kayaking in 2018 (x2)
• All kinds, indoor and outdoor with lots of free food! (x2)
• More bouldering and cheap outdoorsy stuff
• Sailing
• Paintball
• Laser tag
• Pottery classes
• Craft/arts circle
• Paint nights
• Cooking socials
• Going to the movies
• Escape rooms
• Theatre

Any final comments about SGPS events in general?
• Tons of fun, just always gonna be tricky to get grad students interested in anything. Advertising does work and it’s cumulative, so just keep it up!
• Good work, keep it up
• Try to bring people together harder!!!
• It was a fun event and I personally liked it (SGPS Bouldering)

How did you hear about this specific event?

- SGPS Social Media accounts
- Email / Newsletter
- Friend / Colleague
- Department Communication
- Other

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5. Summer Events Feedback Summary

From these surveys we can see that free food and a welcoming atmosphere where the greatest draws. Looking at the suggestions for improving events, we can see that it will be important to (1) continue to advertise and find new ways to reach out to our graduate and professional students in order to ensure robust attendance, (2) give students a chance to make dietary restrictions/accommodation needs known to event organizers, and (3) continue to have a wide variety of events to appeal to the variety of graduate and professional students’ interests.

(1) Advertising: The feedback does show that advertising on social media through facebook, twitter and instagram is working as that is how most students are hearing about our events. As one commenter mentioned, it is tricky getting grad students out for events but advertising is cumulative, so we’ll continue with our advertising strategies, and having recurring monthly events will also mean that events are more predictable allowing grad students can plan them into their schedules easier if they can anticipate them in advance, and also create a brand awareness (i.e. everyone knows that SGPS Board Game nights will happen once a month at The Grad Club, or that we have bi-weekly cooking classes).

(2) Accommodations: We will continue to stress on our event pages (website and facebook events) that should students have any accommodation needs, they should contact the event organizer. We’re committed to making events as accessible and pleasurable for our students as possible, so keeping dietary restrictions in mind will be essential at future events.

(3) Variety: The commissioners have a great range of events coming up for the new year, and they do cover a range of event types. We’ll be committed to keeping up with the variety throughout the year, and we’ll try to implement some of the event suggestions that were given to us through the feedback forms and shown earlier in this report.