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World University Services Canada (WUSC) Queen's - SGPS Fee Referendum Package

Part A – Contact Information

1. World University Services Canada

2. *Campaign Manager Information:*
 - a. Emma Lachance Linklater
 - b. [Redacted]
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 - e. *WUSC Queen's (preferred):* queenswusc@gmail.com
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 - f. School of Graduate Studies – Biology
 - g. Master's Degree Program

Part B – Group Description

World University Services Canada (WUSC) is a leading Canadian non-profit organization in international development, committed to building a more equitable and sustainable world. Since 1978, WUSC has sponsored over 1,500 young refugees through its Student Refugee Program. The only program of its kind in the world, it assists refugee students to resettle in Canada and continue their studies on Canadian campuses.

As the Queen's University Chapter of this organization, we aim to build a supportive environment for the refugee students who come to study at Queen's as permanent residents of Canada, as well as raise awareness for various other global development - centred initiatives through events held on campus.

Since 1989, funding from both the AMS and SGPS mandatory student fees have been used by Queen's University to fund a scholarship package for sponsored refugee students as well as the annual WUSC service fee. Through WUSC, Queen's uses these funds for residence, books and basic living expenses for sponsored refugee students at Queen's. This monetary support also covers tuition at the rate of 100% for year 1; 75% for year 2; 50% for year 3 and 25% for year 4. Beginning in 2007-2008 the University committed to assist with the funding of students until at least 2016. In 2013-14 the University presented to Drs. Alfred and Isabel Bader the opportunity to help support this initiative, at which time the Baders established a fund in recognition of Robert Charles Wallace. This funding is awarded based on academic achievement, to a refugee student who is part of the WUSC Student Refugee Program, and is entering their first year of any undergraduate degree. The award is renewable for three subsequent years provided the student remains in good academic standing in a full-time course load, and as outlined above, is structured to encourage the student to gradually become financially independent over the course of their degree. The University continues to contribute funds when there is funding gap between what is raised through the student activity fee and the Wallace fund.

Part C – Budgetary Breakdown

Below is an table which outlines how the SGPS student fee, in conjunction with the AMS student fee, is used to pay for the tuition and related expenses for the sponsored student, as well as the WUSC service fee. Please note that any gap between what is raised through the student fees and the amount that the

student needs to cover first year expenses is covered by the university. In addition, the amount given through the award and the budgeting process itself is carried out through the Queen's Student Awards office – our club functions primarily to support the student in a social and academic capacity and has no control over the value of the award or how money is dispersed to the refugee student.

CONSOLIDATED - Statement of Operations			
12 Months Ending April 2019			
		Budgeted 2018-19	Actuals 2018-19
Revenues			
AMS Student Activity Fees		\$34,676.00	\$34,676.00
SGPS Student Activity Fees		\$14,310.00	\$14,310.00
Club Membership Fees (IF APPLICABLE)		-	-
Total			
Revenues		\$48,986.00	\$48,986.00
Expenses			
Arrival Welcome Fund		\$98.00	\$98.00
WUSC Sponsorship Service Fee		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Award Provided to Refugee Student		\$48,375.00	\$48,375.00
Total			
Expenses		\$53,473.00	\$53,473.00
Grand Total		\$(4,487.00)	\$(4,487.00)
Notes:	The University continues to contribute funds when there is gap between what is raised through the student activity fees and the that which is needed by the student. In particular, since 2016-17 to 2018-19 the University committed additional funds towards supporting Syrian refugees attending Queen's.		

Part D – Student Fee Questionnaire

1. We are seeking to renew our current fee (\$3.48) as it is necessary for Queen's University to continue to support refugee students currently attending Queen's. In addition, it is a fee which is needed to continue Queen's ability to accept new students in the coming years. We feel that this program, which gives refugee students the opportunity to come to Canada and work towards a post-secondary degree, plays a very important role at Queen's. The continuation of this student fee makes it possible to bring these refugee students here, an expensive undertaking which would be unsustainable without the continued support of Queen's students in this capacity.
2. Members of the SPGS do not derive a *direct* benefit from the student fee, unless they themselves are one of the sponsored students (we have had refugee students sponsored in this manner in graduate programs before, but the majority are in undergrad programs). However, SGPS members can be sure that 100% of this fee is used to support a refugee student attending Queen's, allowing them to have the opportunity for education at an excellent post-secondary institution like ours. We all are greatly benefited from a diverse student body which contains students with unique perspectives. Refugee students are especially important to support since they would not have the means to attend Queen's without this funding – making the renewal of this fee critical to our ability to continue accepting refugee students.
3. This is a continuation of the fee we currently have, which provides enough money to support refugee students currently attending Queen's, as well as allow for the continuation of Queen's ability to accept new students in the coming years. There is still some carry over in money from previous years, so we have not sought to increase the fee in the past few years.
4. Queen's has been accepting WUSC-sponsored students since 1984 and collecting a student fee since 1989. The local committee itself has been ratified as a club with the AMS since 2013.
5. We provide the WUSC-sponsored students with the opportunity to attend school at a Canadian University, allowing them to become permanent residents of Canada. They also gain invaluable skills at Queen's which allow them to go forward with a diverse range of experiences. The benefit is that they have the choice to stay and work in Canada, or to pursue other opportunities, such as graduate studies in the future. Some students may also choose to return to their home country, and/or to rejoin family members. The AMS student fee, which partially funds the WUSC award, allows the sponsored student to slowly become financially independent, as the amount of funding it provides slowly decreases over their 4-year degree.

Part E – Signatures from SGPS Members

Please find attached.