

**World University Services Canada Queen's**

**Part A – Contact Information**

1. Name of Group as it should appear on the Ballot: **World University Services Canada Queen's**

2. Campaign Manager Information:

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Submission Prepared by:

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**Part B – Group Description**

World University Services of Canada (WUSC) and The Student Refugee Program (SRP) is the only program of its kind in the world. It assists refugee students to resettle in Canada and continue their studies on Canadian campuses. WUSC established the SRP in 1978 with the first student at Carlton University. Queen's has participated in the SRP since 1989. At Queen's University, the WUSC fees, collected through the AMS and SGPS, are used for the annual WUSC service fee, books/supplies, and basic living expenses for the refugee students studying at Queen's. The fund may also support tuition and student activity fees if other donor-funded accounts are not sufficient to meet those costs, which may occur where sponsored students are enrolled in higher cost programs of study. The program at Queen's is administered by the Student Awards Office.

**Part C - Budgetary Breakdown**

Amount of Fee: \$3.48

Previous Fiscal Year - 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021

Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Balance as at May 1, 2020			\$126,088
Initial SGPS Contribution - Nov 30, 2020		\$11,607	
WUSC Service Fee – Mar 29, 2021	\$5,000		
Final SGPS Contribution – Mar 31, 2021		\$4,483	
AMS Contribution – Apr 20, 2021		\$37,900	
Disbursements to Students	\$29,950		
Total Withdrawals and Deposits	\$34,950	\$53,990	
Balance as at April 30, 2021			\$145,128

There are contributing factors to the surplus currently in the fund. In the 2020-21 academic year we were unable to bring a sponsored student to Queen's due to COVID-19 travel restriction. There have been situations where sponsored students have decided to take a break from studies and therefore, we have paused sponsoring an additional future student until it is confirmed the direction of the current students – this pause has been pronounced as an indirect impact of COVID-19. Finally, the amounts collected from year to year through SGPS and AMS fees vary by thousands of dollars per year and given the significant commitment to fund the sponsored students over four years we need to ensure there will be sufficient funding prior to committing to an additional student. For the current 2021-22 academic year we have sponsored 2 students (the student delayed from 2020-21 due to the pandemic) and the planned sponsorship for 2021-22. For 2022-23 Queen's has committed to sponsor more than one refugee student as there is funding available to do so.

#### **Part D – Student Fee Questionnaire**

1. Why is your group seeking a fee?

The WUSC fee collected from the SGPS and AMS is used to cover the WUSC service fee, books and supplies and basic living expenses for the refugee students studying at Queen's. Sponsored students receive additional funding from the Principal Wallace Freedom of Opportunity Awards (established in January 2013 by Drs. Alfred and Isabel Bader), and supplement their funding with OSAP in their upper years of study. These sources combined make up the comprehensive funding package for refugee students. Queen's provides funding for tuition and fees for the student's degree program and living expenses for up to 4 years at the rate of 100% for year 1; 75% for year 2; 50% for year 3 and 25% for year 4. The sponsorship of refugee students continues to thrive as a well-established student, donor, and university partnership.

2. What direct benefit will SGPS members derive from granting your group a fee?

Bursaries

Sponsored refugee students at Queen's can and have been SGPS members. The program has sponsored students directly to complete graduate degrees and sponsored undergraduate students who proceeded to complete graduate degrees subsequently.

3. How is the dollar value of the fee related to the benefit you are proposing to provide?

The current funding provided by Queen's comes from the SGPS and AMS fees and the Principal Wallace Freedom of Opportunity Awards. The existing fees provide a level of funding that allows us to meet the commitment of funding at least one new sponsored student per year.

4. When was your group established?

World University Services of Canada (WUSC) established the SRP in 1978 with the first student at Carlton University. Queen's has participated in the SRP since 1989.

5. If you have collected a fee in the past, what initiatives and/or opportunities have you provided the Queen's Community with the collected funds?

All the fees collected through the SGPS go directly to supporting our sponsored students with books, supplies, and basic living costs while they complete their degrees or to paying the yearly WUSC service fee (to offset the WUSC costs associated with the selection and preparation of the refugee candidates overseas and coordination of the immigration process). This fee contributes to providing young refugees with life-changing opportunities to continue their education at Queen's and to build a better future for themselves and their families.