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## **BOARD POLICY ON THE STUDENT UNION SOCIETY**

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AUTHORITY Board of Governors

PRIMARY CONTACT President

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### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Student Union Society (student society) plays an important and positive role in student life at the University of the Fraser Valley. The student society serves all students by creating a unified student voice and providing services important to students. The Board of Governors believes the student society provides unique student leadership opportunities, preparing students for responsibilities as engaged citizens and future community leaders.

Participation in student government gives students special opportunities to engage in political processes, governance opportunities, and decision making experiences. It also provides for development of critical thinking, practical leadership skills, and promotes an understanding of social and political responsibility.

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### **POLICY**

The Board recognizes the student society as the university's official student government organization, with responsibility for representing the collective interests of students enrolled and attending the university. The relationship between the university and the student society is one of independent entities, and as such a memorandum of agreement will be developed and maintained, outlining the relationship and responsibilities of the two parties.

The student society bears sole and complete responsibility for their employees, officers, governance decisions and actions, and for use of student fees remitted to them by the university.

The University Act charges the university with the responsibility of collecting fees on behalf of the student society, at a rate approved by a student referendum, and in remitting the collected fees to the student society, subject to the reporting and audit requirements in the Act. The university will use appropriate and generally accepted accounting methods in collecting, recording, and remitting these fees to the student society, in accordance with the provisions of the University Act.

The university will develop and maintain reporting structures for the Board's oversight of the university's actions in meeting its responsibilities to the student society. The Board will receive information confirming compliance of the student society with the reporting and audit requirements outlined in the Act.

Reference: This policy is guided by Board policy direction Student Services, Student Activities and Associations (BPD-230) and Section 27.1 of the University Act.