



Queen's University Task Force on Street Parties Terms of Reference

I. Definitions

Street Parties – Large, unsanctioned street gatherings and/or parties typically in or around the University District

The University – Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario

Students – Students attending Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario

AMS – Alma Mater Society of Queen's University

SGPS – Society of Graduate and Professional Students

II. Background

Situated in Kingston, Ontario, Queen's University is home to over 24,000 students. Apart from engaging with the University campus, students live in the broader Kingston community as residents and occupy collective spaces with community members.

Historically, Kingston has struggled with recurring unsanctioned street parties that often accompany unsafe and disruptive behaviour. Large, unsanctioned street parties draw students, community members and others living outside the city. The increased use of social media, particularly during the pandemic, has increased numbers at these gatherings and brought individuals from outside of the city travelling to the community for the sole purpose of taking part in these unsanctioned parties. Street parties put members of the Queen's and Kingston community at risk and are a burden on local enforcement and healthcare partners, as well as those who live in proximity to the University District.

Considering the complex nature of this problem, identification of best practices and innovative approaches is essential. As such, Principal and Vice-Chancellor Patrick Deane has struck a Task Force on Street Parties with community members and student leaders. The task force will also invite input and ideas from the broader Kingston community through a public consultation process.

III. Mandate

As formed by Principal and Vice-Chancellor Patrick Deane on February 15, 2022, the mandate of the Task Force on Street Parties shall be to:

- a) Create a report on the effectiveness of current approaches and best practices used in other jurisdictions and make recommendations outlining strategies to address large street parties;

- b) Consult with Queen's students, community members, and other interested and affected members of the Queen's and/or Kingston community regarding the issue of street parties and potential approaches to address the issue; and
- c) Report back to the Queen's and Kingston community in the fall of 2022 with recommendations and an implementation strategy.

IV. Principles

The Task Force on Street Parties shall keep in mind the following principles:

- a) Large, unsanctioned street parties are a safety detriment to the Queen's and Kingston community;
- b) Street parties place a disproportionate strain on local enforcement and healthcare partners;
- c) Street parties in the University District during Orientation Week, Homecoming, and St. Patrick's Day, are embedded in the Queen's student culture;
- d) Street parties are not solely a student issue but a social phenomenon reflective of group dynamics and social media culture;
- e) Safe alternatives for social gatherings for students and other community members must be addressed in any recommendations.

V. Reporting

The final report of the Task Force on Street Parties will articulate recommendations and an implementation strategy regarding the mandate above and will be publicly released in the fall of 2022.

VI. Task Force Membership

Principal and Vice-Chancellor – Chair
 Chief of Staff and Legal Advisor to the Principal
 Vice Principal, University Relations
 Queen's Senate/Orientation Review Member
 University Council Member
 University Rector
 AMS President, or designate
 SGPS President, or designate
 Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs
 Associate Vice Principal (Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion)
 Director Campus Security and Emergency Services
 City of Kingston Leadership Representative (Mayor's Designate)
 City of Kingston By-Law Representative
 City of Kingston Police Representative
 Frontenac Paramedics Representative
 KGH/Hotel Dieu Hospital Representative
 University Health Representative
 Public Health Representative
 St. Lawrence College Representative
 Royal Military College Representative
 Sydenham District (Neighbourhood) Association Representative
 Portsmouth District Community (Neighbourhood) Association Representative

Williamsville District Association Representative
KingsTown District Association Representative