

December 20, 2011

## First Men's Soccer Open House Attracts Local Talent



**METRO VANCOUVER, BC – (December 20, 2011)** – The Kwantlen Polytechnic University Eagles Men's Soccer Team held their inaugural Open House event at the KPU Surrey Campus on December 19<sup>th</sup> for prospective student-athletes. The event was an open invite for Grade 11 and 12 student-athletes throughout the metro Vancouver and lower mainland area providing an opportunity to visit Kwantlen and receive information on the institution and for a first-hand experience of the Eagles' soccer program. Throughout the morning session, the 29 athletes were given brief overviews of the Athletics Department, the Office of New Student Programs, Student Awards and Financial Assistance, the Learning Centre and Peer Coaching areas during the information session of the event. In addition, a number of the current student-athletes spoke about the men's soccer program and the positive impact it has had on their experience at KPU.

Following the information session and campus tour, the student-athletes participated in an on-field practice and scrimmage at Newton Athletic Park led by the Eagles' head coach Ajit Braich, assistant coach, Yaw Osei, and a number of current student-athletes. Head Coach Braich commented on the strong interest from this inaugural event, stating, "There was a fantastic response not only from local athletes but athletes from across the Metro Vancouver area. This created a great opportunity [for Kwantlen] to work with local area clubs and schools in the recruitment process. The standard and talent of the athletes' skills during the on-field session was very pleasing to the entire Eagles coaching staff."

The 29 athletes were well represented across the Metro Vancouver area with athletes attending from Richmond, Burnaby, Coquitlam, North Delta, and Surrey taking part with the majority being Grade 12 students (22) along with seven Grade 11 students making up the remainder.