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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The King's University College Reiterates Stance on Omar Khadr

Edmonton – The King's University College wishes to reiterate its stance as it pertains to Omar Khadr and the possibility of him taking university studies at King's at some point in the future.

While the Board of Governors has been kept informed of developments in the Khadr case, any reference stating the Board has taken an official position on the matter is incorrect.

The King's University College has well established policies and procedures in place for considering "mature student" applicants. Students who have not completed suitable high school courses, but who are at least 21 years of age by September 1 of the year of admission, and who possess a standard of English proficiency, are eligible to apply for admission. If the specific program has high school pre-requisites, these would still need to be met.

If Omar Khadr were to apply for admission his application would be considered in terms of these criteria as outlined in our *Academic Calendar*. If admitted his specific learning needs would be assessed and addressed. However, media reports stating that a customized educational curriculum is being designed for Khadr by the institution are incorrect.

King's has not formally offered free tuition as part of a plan to reintegrate Khadr into society if he is repatriated. King's has, however, received offers of tuition support from individuals committed to such a plan, should it come to fruition. Any assertion that scholarships have been promised to Khadr is also in error. Current and potential students apply for scholarships and must meet specific criteria to be granted an award.

In regards to Khadr's Muslim faith, King's has an open student admission policy. Students of other faiths are welcome to participate in academic programs and community life. While the Christian nature of the King's community is evident, and faculty and staff are required to subscribe to the institution's Statement of Faith and Mission Statement, students of other faiths are not proselytized, but are challenged to address significant academic and life issues in terms of their religious or secular commitments.

Like any university, there is a diversity of opinion at King's on an issue of this kind. As a university we don't take institutional positions on issues of this nature, but encourage freedom of inquiry among our faculty and students. While we expect that the views expressed by our faculty will be well-articulated and rooted in the principles and values that are central to the Christian message of reconciliation and restoration which animates our institution, we maintain that debate and contention are signs of health in an academic environment.

The King's University College of Edmonton, Alberta Canada offers fully accredited Bachelor degrees in the arts, humanities, music, social sciences, natural sciences and commerce/management, as well as an education after degree. King's currently serves almost 700 students from across Canada and abroad, representing more than 16 nations. Faculty are highly qualified, dedicated Christians committed to academic excellence and communicating a Christian perspective in their teaching. Students are challenged both inside and outside the classroom to apply what they learn to their life and their future career.

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