



Founded 1876

VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

1260 Grant Street
Victoria, BC V8T 1C2
www.vichigh.com

November 2017

Dear Alumni,

As the calendar year comes to an end, I want to let you know about some of the things that your Vic High Alumni Association is focused on. This year we reached our fundraising goal for Phase 1 of the Stadium Revitalization Project. We also provided almost \$13,000 in scholarships and bursaries to graduating students. Our website (vichigh.com) and Facebook page continue to help Alumni to contact each other and reunion groups to plan their events. (A special shout-out to the classes of '57, '67, '77 and '97 for their successful reunions!) Finally, the Association supports the award-winning Vic High Archives, with our Alumni volunteers serving our grads and the public on Tuesday mornings throughout the school year.

The sustainability of your Alumni Association depends on your continuing donations. Thank you to all past donors for your generosity and support.

Some details of our current activities:

Stadium Revitalization Project

Congratulations! In partnership with Bays United, the Alumni Association reached our fundraising target of \$250,000 for Stadium Revitalization. The City of Victoria is committed to a matching contribution, which increases the aggregate total to **\$500,000**.

In September, Alumni reps and Vic High's Principal met with School District personnel and BC's Minister of Education to explore how to advance the project. There is widespread enthusiasm and cautious optimism that it will move forward soon, perhaps in tandem with the seismic upgrading of the school. We will keep you posted on developments.

Many thanks to those who have donated. We are particularly indebted to Alumni Association members Keith McCallion and Roger Skillings who have poured their hearts and souls and untold hours, over many years, to bring this initiative closer to reality.

Annual Operating Expenses

In recent years, in part due to other fundraising priorities, the Association has experienced challenges in meeting routine expenses, which total about \$25,000 annually. The major components are:

- Student Support including scholarships and bursaries (\$12,800);
- Alumni Support including newsletter production and website maintenance (\$7,900);
- Liability insurance, Accounting and Bookkeeping (\$4,300).

While the bulk of Student Support is funded by our endowments managed by the Victoria and Vancouver Foundations, most of our activities are funded by annual donations. As the end of the income tax year approaches, **please consider a donation toward our annual expenses.** We issue tax receipts for donations of \$25 or more.

Black and Gold Dinner 2018

Every other year, we hold a spectacular Black and Gold Dinner to honour Illustrious Alumni and to raise funds to support the Association. The next dinner will be on Saturday June 2, 2018, at the Wardroom in Esquimalt. The 2018 honorees are:

- Dr. Wallace Chung (VHS 1945), former UBC Director of Surgery and medical researcher;
- David Anderson (VHS 1955), former federal Environment Minister and Olympic medalist;
- Carole Sabiston (VHS 1957), internationally known artist and Order of Canada recipient;
- David Day (VHS 1966), author of some 40 books and a leading expert on J.R.R. Tolkien;
- Sam Dunn (VHS 1994), award-winning filmmaker and authority on heavy metal music.

Tickets are \$125 with a tax receipt for \$55 – order forms are posted on our website (vichigh.com). This popular event sold out in 2016, so get your tickets early!

Lawrie Wallace Auditorium Seat Sale

Do you remember those morning assemblies featuring the Vic High Band or Orchestra or Tommy Mayne's Calamity Players? Now you can "purchase a seat" in the Auditorium for \$200, with a permanent brass plaque applied to the seat. Order forms are posted on our website – go to vichigh.com and click on Support Us then Seat Sale. Proceeds are directed toward projects identified by the Alumni Board.

As the holiday season approaches, we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We also thank you for any and all consideration you may give to supporting the fundraising efforts of your Alumni Association.

Come give a cheer!



Ken Gower, Chair
(VHS 1968)