



Founded 1876

## VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

1260 Grant Street  
Victoria, BC V8T 1C2  
[www.vichigh.com](http://www.vichigh.com)

November 2018

Dear Alumni,

2018 has been a particularly busy and successful year for the Association, so it's a particular treat for us to share this information with our supporters.

**Seismic upgrading** of our splendid old school was front-page news for much of the Spring. Following a public consultation process in which the Association played a major role, it became clear that most local citizens wanted to preserve and enhance the current Vic High structure to provide a safe, contemporary learning environment for both students and the community. In June, the School Board voted to advance a submission to the Minister of Education that will achieve these goals. A formal response from the Ministry is expected in the coming months, once the Province has approved its budget for next year. The Alumni Association has also requested that the **Stadium Revitalization Project** be incorporated into the seismic upgrade.

In June, our third biennial **Black & Gold Dinner** honoured five illustrious alumni, while raising over \$9000 at this popular event attended by 160 alumni and guests. Bringing acclaim to themselves and VHS were 2018 honourees David Anderson, Dr Wallace Chung, David Day, Sam Dunn, and Carole Sabiston. You can view the video tributes created by grads Alan Perry and Anne McKeachie by searching youtube for "Vic High Black & Gold Dinner". The next one is scheduled for Spring 2020.

In September, our first annual **Alumni Golf Tournament**, a new initiative in partnership with Victoria's Union Club, featured a fun day of golf in perfect weather. It also raised almost \$4000 for the Association.

**Three new scholarships** have been created this year: a Leadership award honouring former Vic High teacher and Vice Principal Reg Reid; a new scholarship in memory of legendary teacher Tommy Mayne; and another created by the very dedicated Class of 1968, whose 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion resulted in a substantial contribution to the Association. To date these three funds, through direct solicitation only, have achieved more than 40% of their goal of \$25,000 each, which will provide three annual awards of \$1000 each. Our Spring newsletter will have more details about these awards, and will tell you how you can support them as well.

The Association's **Endowment Funds**, held and managed by the Vancouver and Victoria Foundations, continue to generate revenue, mainly for the \$8000 in scholarships and bursaries which the Association awards each year. Details of these awards are posted at [www.vichigh.com](http://www.vichigh.com) under the News tab.

The Association's **annual budget** is about \$25,000. The major components are:

- support for students (\$12,800) including scholarships and bursaries;
- support for alumni (\$7900) including newsletter production, postage, and website support;
- management costs (\$4300) including accounting, bookkeeping, and liability insurance.

It's a continual challenge to cover necessary expenses while meeting scholarship and bursary commitments, but the alumni and community reach of this wonderful school is extensive and the Association's board members work hard to capitalize on that.

*Here's where you can help -- and thanks too for your past donations!*

**Come Write a Cheque.** Canada Helps online is quick and easy (click on the Canada Helps button on our home page at [www.vichigh.com](http://www.vichigh.com)). But cheques work too: use the enclosed Donation Card and mail it to us c/o Victoria High School, 1260 Grant Street, Victoria, BC V8T 1C2. We issue tax receipts for donations of \$25 or more.

**Come Buy a Seat.** Maybe even the one you always sat in for assemblies! A brass plaque with text of your choice attached to the seat, for yourself or others. You can find all the information you need on our website, under the tab Support Us. This is your last chance to buy a seat at the current price of \$200, as the Board has been discussing a new rate for the new year.

**Come Make a Plan.** We have recently learned that the Association has been named a beneficiary to the estates of some alumni who passed this year. (We hope to be able to publish details in our Spring Newsletter.) Supporting students is a great investment in the future, so we encourage you to consider the Association in your estate planning.

**Thank you!** None of this happens without the enthusiasm and commitment of so many alumni to the ongoing success of our beloved Vic High and the generations of students who will pass through its doors.

**Come Give a Cheer!**



Ken Gower, Chair  
(VHS 1968)

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