



A LAST LOOK AT ICONIC VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL

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Covid-19 may be preventing final tours of Vic High before major updates begin this summer, but the Victoria High School Alumni Association has the answer: *Vic High 2020*, a gorgeous full-colour photo book tour of the school available now on their website, <http://vichigh.com/support-us/vic-high-2020.php>

“The book helps celebrate a milestone in the history of Vic High,” says Association Chair Donna Lomas, “and also helps launch the school into its new future. Publishing it during this pandemic allows us to give people a chance to relive memories through photos now that school tours are not possible.”

Documenting Vic High through photos and videos began five years ago with Association volunteer photographer and Vic High alumni Fergie Andison spending hundreds of hours in the school, often during summer breaks.

“I came to understand what architecture means to a place and a community,” says Andison. “There’s a weight and a presence there that changes you. So many things about the building were state-of-the-art at the time, and it was a privilege to be shown so many hidden places and to experience the pride so many have in the quality and craftsmanship everywhere.”

Some of Andison’s favourites included the beautiful coffered ceilings and stained glass windows in the still-original auditorium, the Rhodesian mahogany floors in the library, and the unique-to-its-time running track balcony above the Roper gym, all captured lovingly in his photos.

Local heritage activist Pam Madoff praised the book as a virtual top-to-bottom tour, capturing details of how the school has been experienced by its most recent students while showcasing the architecture that’s been experienced, enjoyed and celebrated by students and staff for over 100 years.

With so many thousands of Vic High alumni in Victoria and around the world, the Association expects its first printing to sell out quickly. At \$25 plus postage, it raises funds that allow the Association to continue supporting Vic High students, projects and activities, while hopefully also easing the departure of students and staff from the much-loved building, a leaving made more difficult by the current pandemic. Go to vichigh.com to order VicHigh 2020 photo book.

<http://vichigh.com/support-us/vic-high-2020.php> for additional information.

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