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VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

October 21st, 2020

Press Release

The Vic High Alumni Association has pursued a vision of a track and field revitalization project since the early 2000's. This project began as a result of discussions between the City of Victoria and SD 61. Starting in 2007 Alumni have fundraised over \$165,000 towards the project and additional contributions have been made by Bays United and the City of Victoria. We conducted a consultation process with the community, including students. Underlying all our work was a commitment to enhance the outdoor facilities for the students and the community. The reality is that the original project vision is now estimated to be over 7 million dollars, a goal that the Alumni Association continues to pursue but, is unlikely to meet. When the announcement for the renovation of Vic High was made in June 2019 it was clear to several alumni present at the announcement that the outside amenities- the track and field revitalization project- would not be covered.

The recent announced schematic of the proposed field renovation that could include outdoor lights, field, a 2 lane walking track as well as other amenities was well received by the Alumni Association Board of Directors at its October 2020 meeting. The new proposal represents a huge improvement over the current outside amenities. Although we are disappointed that the new proposal does not include space for the 8 lane track, we are pleased that the field and lights will offer students of Vic High as well as the community, a new facility for sporting events. The Alumni Association is very pleased that the District, supported by the provincial government, has developed a plan that will offer future students and the community a wonderful resource that honors Vic High's history while also creating modern learning spaces and sports facilities. The Alumni Association continues to pursue an artificial turf field with the City, Bays and SD61, in which the Alumni can invest.

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