

**Minutes of the  
Esquimalt High School Alumni Association  
2018 Annual General Meeting**  
EHS Theatre, 847 Colville Road, Esquimalt, B.C.  
Monday November 19, 2018

Entertainment – EHS Music Program – 6:30 p.m.

**1. Call to Order at 7 pm**

**Gary Moser, Moderator**

Gary thanked the EHS Jazz Band for their music prior to the meeting. He also thanked the Executive Committee as well as the many volunteers who helped with this year's Alumni Association activities.

**2. Welcome from School**

**Emily Kirzinger, Vice-Principal**

Emily opened by recognizing the Songhees and Esquimalt territories. She reported that the year is going very well at EHS: athletics are in full swing; the Remembrance Day assembly was successful; this is the second year of using core blocks to deliver new curriculum; and a grad mentor program which focuses on Indigenous students is underway. Improvements in the theatre are ongoing.

**3. Introduction of 2018 Scholarship Winners**

**Lorna Reid**

Seven awards were presented to 2018 Esquimalt graduates. Two awards were from the EHS Class of 1968, three awards were fund-raised by the Alumni Association, and two awards are from organizations that have disbanded, but left the funds in the safe-keeping of the Alumni Association.

Susan Tomlinson (grad of 1968) presented the Class of 1968 awards to Marin Hoh and Saskia van Beers. Marin is an all-round amazing student, committing countless hours to ESCAPE, EYCI and Rotary Clubs, at the same time playing the cello in the Victoria Conservatory of Music's Young Artists Collegium Program. She plans to attend McGill or Concordia in 2019.

Saskia was involved in twelve different clubs and volunteer roles in her senior years, and also had two major weekly volunteer commitments outside of school. The common thread with her extra-curricular activities is a belief in helping others and making her community better. She is currently in first year of Engineering Science at the University of Toronto.

The three Esquimalt Alumni Association Scholarships are given to students who made a positive impact on the school community while demonstrating commitment to their studies. This year's winners were Meghan Scott, Magritte Gordaneer and Aya Ezzedine.

Meghan is a true leader. She was one of the two 2018 valedictorians and was elected grade 12 rep for the Challenge program. She has committed endless hours to multiple social justice clubs and leadership classes at EHS. She was involved in ESCAPE, EYCI, Rotary's Interact Club, and Model UN. She is currently studying in the Integrative Science program at University of Western Ontario.

Magritte was the co-founder of Esquimalt's Youth Political Commons group, and was instrumental in seeing four other chapters established in other Victoria high schools. This young activist is described as wise beyond her years. She has participated in the B.C. Youth Parliament, was a head delegate for Model UN activities, was Policy Co-chair of the Victoria Climate Hub and was an organizer for the March for Our Lives Rally in 2018.

Aya came to Canada as a nine-year-old from Lebanon. Overcoming obstacles has become a theme with this young woman. She has not only learned English very well, but she has become a passionate writer. In spite of significant health challenges that nearly took her out of school, she worked on the yearbook, volunteered as a Lebanese cuisine chef, and created multiple graphics for school events. She is presently studying at Sprott-Shaw College and plans to enter the field of psychology in the future.

The Esquimalt Writers' Group Award was presented to Lia Rozenbloom Holla. Although she is pursuing a degree in biochemistry and international relations, Lia has a passion for English and English Literature, and is a highly skilled singer and actor. She is also committed to helping others, locally and globally, whether it was collecting shoes for hurricane victims, organizing disarmament and March for Our Lives rallies, working for HDNA Youth summer camps or co-founding the Youth Political Commons.

The Esquimalt Kiwanis Club Scholarship, given to a community minded student who is pursuing studies in the Fine Arts, was presented to Josephine Thompson. Josephine is both an outstanding science student and a student of music, and has won multiple awards for both piano and violin. She will be auditioning for McGill University's symphony orchestra in her first year of Life Sciences, with a minor in Music. Josephine also committed countless hours with ESCAPE, EYCI and Rotary Clubs, and mentored younger musicians.

#### **4. Approval of Agenda**

**Gary Moser**

Gary Moser moved that the agenda be approved. Carried.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes from 2017 AGM**

**Marilyn McCrimmon**

Marilyn McCrimmon moved that the minutes be approved as posted. Seconded by Trish Best. Carried.

#### **6. President's Report**

**Brenda O'Connor**

Brenda presented her report and provided the secretary with a copy which is attached to the minutes.

#### **7. Treasurer's Report**

**Brenda O'Connor**

Acting treasurer Brenda O'Connor presented the treasurer's report, which included a 2017/2018 Financial Statement and Review of Books, a proposed budget for 2018/2019, and a Scholarship Fund update.

Each page was projected onto a screen for the audience to follow. Brenda invited questions about each report, but there were none. She also presented a document indicating that R. Dawn Paniz had undertaken a review of the financial records and had found them to be in good order.

Brenda presented a list of five proposed motions, and moved that motions one to four be passed. Paul Wickens-Jobling seconded the motion. Carried.

Brenda then moved that motion five be passed. Gary Moser seconded. Carried.

A copy of each of the reports as well as the five proposed motions are attached to the minutes.

#### **8. Director Reports**

##### **a. Membership**

**Ryan Richard**

Ryan reported the current status of membership records:

1217 names on file, 532 active memberships, 95 deceased, and 591 non-active names on file.

With our last email of the current newsletter and AGM notice, fewer than 20 emails bounced back. We did mail out about 120 notices to members in the Victoria area that we had no emails on file for.

When we get word of reunions, Ryan sends the organizer a copy of our membership form to hand out during the reunion.

Over the next year, we will continue our newsletters in the Spring and Fall. Also, Ryan will be looking into live streaming the AGM if it is possible. He will be consulting with the executive about working on a survey to see how we can better engage with membership, boost AGM attendance and recruit new members.

##### **b. Fundraising for new turf field**

**Dave Allen**

Dave pointed out that Esquimalt is the only municipality without an all-weather field. The goal of the turf field fund-raising committee, which includes representatives from RibFest and the Alumni Foundation, is to fundraise for an all-weather field that will be available to both the school and the community. Sports organizations, Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, Victoria School District and various community groups are all involved. Currently, the funds are held in trust with the Victoria School District.

## **9. Elections of Officers**

**Gary Moser**

There are six vacancies to be filled at this AGM. The following names were put forward:

Trish Best for Director of Reunions for another two years  
George Copley for Director at Large for another two years  
Marilyn McCrimmon for Secretary for another two years  
Lorna Reid for Director of Scholarships for another two years  
Ryan Richard for Director of Membership for another two years  
Barry Scott for Director of Merchandise for another two years

Gary called for any nominations from the floor. There being none, he declared these nominees to be elected by acclamation. The position of treasurer is still vacant. Brenda O'Connor is currently acting treasurer.

## **12. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

**Gary Moser**

In closing the meeting at 7:55 pm, Gary pointed out that the Alumni Association cannot raise the money for the all-weather field on our own, but that we are a very influential group. He prepared to open the next meeting, that of the Esquimalt High School Alumni Foundation.

The 2019 AGM will be held on November 18, 2019.