

Minutes of the Esquimalt High School Alumni Association

2019 Annual General Meeting

EHS Theatre, 847 Colville Road, Esquimalt, B.C.

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

Mon. Nov. 18, 2019

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. Gary also declared that there was a quorum present.

2. Welcome from School

Tina Pierik, Principal

Tina opened by recognizing the Songhees and Esquimalt territories. Tina is new at EHS, and she brings an impressive and varied background to her role as principal. This is her fourth year as a school principal; she has been teaching since 1992; she is bilingual and has taught French Immersion; she is a qualified teacher/counsellor; and she has done behaviour support. On a personal level, she has three children, aged 19, 21 and 24. Tina said that the school is off to a good start, and she also recognized the support of a strong alumni association.

3. Introduction of 2019 Scholarship Winners

Lorna Reid

Six awards were presented to 2019 Esquimalt graduates. Three awards were fund-raised by the Alumni Association, and three awards are from organizations that have disbanded, but left the funds in the safe keeping of the Alumni Association.

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 of \$1000 each were Juhi Bhathella, Spencer Tanner and Grace Martin. Juhi's mom accepted on her behalf, and both Spencer and Grace were present to receive their awards.

Juhi Bhathella is currently studying science at UBC. Her career goal is medicine. She was involved in the Esquimalt Youth for Change and Inclusion, Rotary Interact, Model United Nations and ESCAPE (Peace/Environment Club). Juhi was top Leadership student (gr. 9-12), Gifted Program grade rep, a Peer Tutor and a Student Voice Activist. She was a Yale Young Global Scholar and achieved straight A's from grades 9 to 12. Her extra-curriculars included dance, choir, band and the Royal Conservatory for piano.

Spencer Tanner is currently studying chemistry at UVic. He has an extensive sports background, which includes power lifting, the 2019 city and provincial championship in rugby, 2019 championship in Night League basketball, and third place in the Port Alberni invitational wrestling tournament. He has honour roll and attendance awards for the past four years. Spencer's community contributions include volunteer scorekeeper, concession and ticket seller.

Grace Martin is currently attending the Canadian College of Performing Arts. Her extensive arts involvement includes roles in EHS musicals, Victoria Fringe Festival productions, and the

Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival. She has been a member of the choir, concert band, jazz band, vocal ensemble, and she also plays guitar. Grace has done Highland dance and Jazz dance for eight years, and figure skated for seven years.

The \$500 Esquimalt Kiwanis Club Scholarship is given to a community minded student who is pursuing studies in the Fine Arts. There were two winners this year, Jingfu (Theo) Chen and Sarah Santoso.

Jingfu is currently studying at Emily Carr University of Fine Arts and Design and was not able to attend. Jingfu was an honour roll student, a teacher assistant for Art 9/10 and won the top student award for Textiles 11, Math 11 and English 11. He also won a grade 11 service award, was a volunteer for Embrace China 2018 and he helped with the removal of invasive plant species at Murray Pond and Saxe Point. In addition, he was a peer tutor for mathematics. Jingfu also participated in several art exhibitions.

Sarah is currently studying biochemistry and creative writing at McGill University. Her parents accepted on her behalf. Sarah volunteered with the Salvation Army Sunset Lodge and Cops for Cancer and was a volunteer swim coach. She participated in Skills Canada Public Speaking competitions and the choir. Sarah is an accomplished musician. In addition to being a Royal Conservatory Grade 8 pianist, she plays both the oboe and the saxophone. Sarah is a straight A student who graduated with her Double Dogwood in French and English and was a YMCA summer work exchange in Quebec.

The \$500 Esquimalt Writers' Group Award was also presented to Sarah Santoso.

4. Approval of Agenda

Gary Moser

Gary Moser moved that the agenda be approved. Carried.

5. Approval of Minutes from 2018 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)

In Brenda's absence, Dave Allen presented the President's Report. A copy is attached to the minutes.

7. Treasurer's Report

(Brenda O'Connor)

In Brenda's absence, Dave Allen presented the treasurer's report, which included a 2018/19 Financial Statement and Review of Books, a proposed budget for 2019/20, and a Scholarship Fund update.

Each page was projected onto a screen for the audience to follow. Dave invited questions about each report, but there were none.

Dave presented a list of five proposed motions and moved that they all be passed. Wes Umphrey seconded the motion. 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: 1173 names on file, 510 active memberships, 125 paid members with no current address, and 110 deceased.

In May, Ryan sent membership applications out to everyone who we had addresses for but weren't active members yet. Online applications have been successful. When we get word of reunions, Ryan sends the organizer a copy of our membership form to hand out during the reunion.

Ryan noted that we are primarily communicating via email.

b. Committee to Organize Distinguished EHS Alumni

Dave Allen

Dave gave the history behind this new committee. Vic High and Spectrum have both organized dinners to honour their distinguished alumni. Dave is now contacting alumni members to form a committee to nominate alumni to be honoured at a future distinguished alumni dinner. These distinguished alumni will also be featured in a permanent display at the school. The committee will begin by establishing the criteria, and then they will forward nominations to the Alumni Association Directors for their approval. It was noted that nominations could be made post-humously.

c. EHS Alumni Archives

Dave Allen

Dave noted that the boards on display this evening represent a small part of the collection in our growing EHS Alumni Archives. Dave hopes to begin organizing the archives, with the help of a committee, in the New Year.

EHS librarian Geoff Orme and Esquimalt historian Sherry Robinson will both help. It was noted that digitizing the archives collection will make it easier to share.

9. Elections of Officers

Marilyn McCrimmon

Three directors agreed to let their names stand for another two years. Four directors agreed to let their names stand for a new position. The following names and new positions were put forward:

Barry Scott for President for two years.

Gary Moser for Vice-President for two years.

Ryan Richard for Treasurer for two years.

Robert Laidler for Director for two years.

Brenda O'Connor for Director for two years.

Dave Allen for Director of Heritage for two years.

Marilyn called for any nominations from the floor. There being none, she declared these nominees to be elected by acclamation. The position of director is still vacant.

12. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**Gary Moser**

In closing the meeting at 8:00 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 for our small size.

He prepared to open the next meeting, that of the Esquimalt High School Alumni Foundation.

The 2020 AGM will be held on November 16, 2020.