



Esquimalt High School Alumni Association NEWSLETTER

Grant proposal for New Turf Field

The project is now called the “Es-Whoy-Malth Community Field Collaborative”. For those that weren’t born and raised in Esquimalt, ‘Es-Whoy-Malth’ is Lekwungen for ‘Place of Shoaling Waters’. This is perfect for our project as the EHS Field is built over a creek (now underground) that shoals from Vic West through Esquimalt into the Gorge.

A group of community-minded people have worked diligently on a grant application since January 2019 to meet the deadline of January 25, 2019 for a large fund called the CCR Program. This is the Community, Cultural and Recreation Program and the collaborative efforts have produced a pretty compelling package.

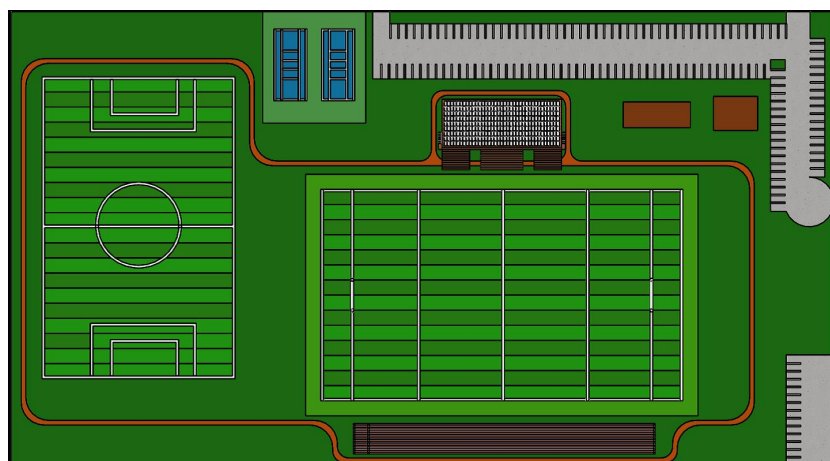
The main part of the grant team includes The Songhees First Nation as the signatory, the Township of Esquimalt and School District #61 who all have various roles outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding. Ribfest, numerous sporting groups, the EHS Alumni Association and many other organizations are the ‘supporting cast’ and have provided letters and/or endorsements, as well as a guarantee of \$320,000 in cash support of which \$191,500 is from Ribfest!

This project is divided into three phases: the first phase being the new turf field and lighting system. Under the guidance and counsel of some Recreation people and grant experts, we are asking for \$3.31M for this phase with a projected start date of later this year. The focus has been on quality, not cutting corners and ensuring everything we do is high end, state of the art and built with the latest technologies. The next two phases are:

- A community track/chip trail and revitalization (raise, re-surface, install drainage, etc) of the lower EHS field, keeping it grass; and
- A multi-purpose cultural centre and field house which includes a student gym, music area, change rooms, stands, viewing area and washrooms.

We have fingers crossed for a thumb's up response and hope to hear something back before the end of June. The funds raised from the Esquimalt RibFest have allowed us to proceed with this grant application. Thank you to all who have helped at RibFest and all of those who have attended this annual event. Here is a sample of the expected layout of the project.

****Please note in the diagram below top is Colville Road and the school is to the right.**



EHS Robotics Team:

One of our goals in the year is to be able to do outreach to our family of schools. This year part of our team was able to bring Spike over to Rockheights Middle School and share our enthusiasm for robotics with the grade 8 class.

Our group participated in the Island Farms Victoria Day parade and had a tent in the square afterwards where we allowed children to come and drive our robot (with some help).

At the end of our first year, we were able to attend the World Championships in Houston Texas. Twelve students and 2 parents joined us for a whirlwind week with 400+ teams from all over the world. Our students were challenged to go beyond what they knew and saw what they had the possibility of doing with the other veteran teams (some of them had been going for 20+ years).



Recap of this year:

Our 2018-2019 season has been a year of learning, patience and tons of work. We grew from a team of 12 to a team of 22.

Organization was a key component this year: we attempted to divide our team into sub-teams of business, building/design, 3D printing, driving and programming. This proved to not be the best idea for team building and next year we will return to our original model of all members participating, especially the building and design.



We continued to produce our own 3D printed parts designed in Fusion 360 and printed on our school 3D printers. The design aspect has grown for our team and the skills that the students are learning will carry them well into this technical field.

There are times where everything that will go wrong does - the Canadian Pacific Regionals was our example of that in March 2019. Our robot limped through every match, wires coming undone, issues with design and construction - but - true to Atom Smasher's (Esquimalt) spirit our team faced every obstacle with a huge smile and a get down to work attitude. Our competition is now complete and we are working on the next step of community involvement and fundraising for next season.

We appreciate all the support we have had through various businesses and organizations as we walk down this road of learning. This has definitely been our learning year and we are eager to utilize our lessons in productive ways to help us grow as individuals and as a team.

Scholarship Update:

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. Magritte is currently attending McGill University as a student in their Political Science Department.

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.

Upcoming Community Events:

Splash of Lights (formerly Esquimalt Lantern Festival)

Captain Jacobsen Park

Saturday May 4 (6:00PM to 9:30PM)

EHS Robotics Team and EHS Alumni Association will be on hand selling bags of popcorn, pop and water at \$1.00 each. Come make your lantern and visit our table.

Website: <http://www.townshiparts.org/splash-of-light.html>

Buccaneer Days

Esquimalt Arena and parking lot near Bullen Park
May 11 and 12 (11:00AM to 5:00PM)

Langos Booth is located at the entrance to the back parking lot next to Bullen Park. The EHS Robotics Team members will be selling langos, pop and water to raise funds for travel to competitions this spring.

Display area in the arena will have the EHS Robotics Team providing a demonstration of several robots built by students from Esquimalt High School.

Website: <https://esquimaltbuccaneerdays.ca>



RibFest

Friday, September 6 - Sunday, September 8, 2019
(11:00AM to 10:00PM each day)

Bullen Park

Langos Booth is located in middle of the park. EHS Leadership students, supporter of the Rainbow Kitchen and EHS Alumni members will be selling langos, pop and water to raise funds for the Rainbow Kitchen and various projects at Esquimalt High School.



Bubble Soccer is located in the Kids Zone area. The EHS Robotics Team members will be looking after the running of Bubble Soccer area. Please come by and support these students.

Website: <https://www.esquimaltribfest.com/>

Upcoming School & Alumni Events

Class of 1959 Reunion

Gorge Vale Golf Club (1005 Craigflower Road)

Thursday, August 15 (2:30PM - 9:00PM)

Afternoon Snacks & Buffet Dinner (No Host Bar)

Cost: \$75.00 per person (Email us at ehsalumni1959@gmail.com for registration form)

Graduates, Classmates and Partners invited.

Plans are coming together for our reunion, and we ask that you send in your registration as soon as possible. There are still several graduates or classmates for whom we do not have contact information. Please pass the information about the Reunion on to anyone that you know who attended EHS at any time in any grade with the Grad Class of 1959.

Urinetown The Musical

You're invited to Esquimalt Musical Theatre's production of *Urinetown The Musical*. Made up of over 40 Esquimalt students from grade 9-12 and featuring a live band including district employees and UVic students, this show will have you laughing until it hurts. Musical Theatre International says that, "*Urinetown* is a hilarious musical satire of the legal system, capitalism, social irresponsibility, populism, bureaucracy, corporate mismanagement, municipal politics and musical theatre itself!"

Shows will take place in the Esquimalt High School Theatre on April 26, 27 and May 2, 3, 4, all starting at 7:30pm. Tickets can be purchased on the Esquimalt High School website or through the Box Office at (250) 382-9226 ext. 195 (\$12/adults, \$10/students). New this year, we will be selling "VIPee" tickets (\$20/adult, \$18/student). As one of the privileged few, you will get to beat the line with first choice seating (at 7:00PM), be served refreshments, and leave with a complimentary gift package! Our cast and crew are excited to share this work with the community, hope to see you there!

The Sacred Circle

We are very pleased to announce that we are putting on another production of *The Sacred Circle* this year. This cultural presentation was created from a piece of writing by Wedlidi Speck and is rooted in local Vancouver Island First Nations culture. The vision was brought to the forefront by Butch Dick of the Songhees Nation, and through the efforts of our working team (Butch Dick, Sarah Rhude, Krystal Cook, Jen Treble, Jessica Sault, Kai Barker) and the many talented and committed students, teachers and staff, the production was brought to life in a beautifully successful manner over the last two years. This year we are expanding the play to include more, song, dance, drumming, and stories. Performances all presented in the theatre at Esquimalt High School on May 23 & 24 at 7:00pm.

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association

Executive Meetings

August 19, 2019

EHS Theatre at 7:00pm

Every Third Monday in January, April, August and October

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association & Alumni Foundation

Annual General Meeting

November 18, 2019

EHS Theatre at 7:00pm

Every Third Monday in November

New Memberships!

We are always looking to include new members in the Alumni Association. If you know of any former students or staff of Esquimalt High School please encourage them to join the Alumni Association for a **one time fee of \$10**. All the information to join is contained on the alumni website (<https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/our-school/alumni>). We have now set up so this form could be emailed and you may now e-transfer or if you prefer you can mail us a cheque with your payment. Sorry but right now we cannot accept PayPal as a form of payment.

YOUR EXECUTIVES

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association:

Brenda O'Connor	President & Acting Treasurer
Gary Moser	Vice President
Marilyn McCrimmon	Secretary
Trish Best	Reunion Director
Lorna Reid	Scholarship Director
Ryan Richard	Membership Director
Barry Scott	Merchandise Director
David Allen	Director at Large
George Copley	Director at Large
Jason Johnson	Ex-Officio Member

Esquimalt High School Alumni Foundation:

David Allen	President
Gary Moser	Vice President
George Copley	Secretary
Ryan Richard	Treasurer
Brenda O'Connor	Director at Large
Barry Scott	Director at Large
Jason Johnson	Director at Large

Check out our Alumni website at <https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/our-school/alumni>. There you can contact us and view AGM Meeting Minutes & other news. If you prefer you can send us a letter or donation to:

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association

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