Esquimalt High School Alumni Association

NEWSLETTER

SAVE THE DATE!

Save November 21st for our Annual General Meeting starting at 7:00 pm. The AGM will be a "hybrid" meeting, in person and virtual, so we can practice safe distancing and help prevent the spread of COVID-19. If you would like to participate in the Zoom meeting, either online or by phone, you will need to register by emailing us at ehsalumni1959@gmail.com. We will register your email and send out the login details closer to the meeting. All the meeting materials, such as previous AGM Minutes, will

be on our webpage at https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/our-school/alumni/meetings-minutes/.

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association AGM Agenda Monday Nov. 21, 2022 – 7:00 pm - EHS Theatre, 847 Colville Road

1. Call to Order at 7:00 pm	George Copley
2. Welcome from the school	Sarah Garr, Principal
3. Introduction of 2022 Scholarship winners	Lorna Reid/Dana Bjornsen
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4. Approval of the Agenda George Copley5. Introduction and Vote on Motion for Electronic Meetings George Copley

6. Approval of Minutes from 2021 AGM Marilyn McCrimmon

7. President's Report Barry Scott
8. Treasurer's Report Ryan Richard

*2021/2022 Financial Statement & Review of Books

*2022/2023 Budget, Signing Officers & Person to do Review

*Report on Scholarship Fund

9. Director's Reports

*Membership Ryan Richard
*Scholarships Lorna Reid
10. Elections of Officers Brenda O'Connor
11. Closing Remarks/Adjournment George Copley

Esquimalt High School Alumni Foundation AGM Agenda

(Immediately following Alumni Association AGM)

1. Call to Order	George Copley
2. Approval of the Agenda	George Copley
3. Introduction and Vote on Motion for Electronic Meetings	George Copley
4. Approval of the Minutes from 2021 AGM	George Copley
5. President's Report	Dave Allen
6. Treasurer's Report	Ryan Richard

*2021/2022 Financial Statement & Review of Books

*2022/2023 Budget, Signing Officers & Person to do Review

7. Fundraising Activities for 2022/23 Dave Allen

8. Elections of Officers

Marilyn McCrimmon

9. Closing Remarks/Adjournment George Copley

^{**}The next AGM is November 20, 2023.

ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION and ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI FOUNDATION NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION

TAKE NOTICE THAT a special resolution will be introduced at the Annual General Meetings of the EHS Alumni Association and EHS Alumni Foundation held on November 21, 2022, to amend the bylaws with the purpose being to clarify the power of each organization to hold general meetings by electronic means such as Zoom in addition to in person meetings. A special resolution requires a minimum of 2/3 of the members present to vote in favour for it to pass.

Text of the Special Resolution:

Moved that the bylaws of the Esquimalt High School Alumni Association (or Foundation) be amended as follows:

- 1. Section 10 is repealed and replaced by:
- "General meetings of the society may be held in person or by telephone or other electronic means. General meetings must be held on the date, at the time and, in the event of an in person meeting, at the place that the directors decide."
- 2. Section 13 is repealed and replaced by:
- "Notice of a general meeting must specify the day and hour of the meeting. In the case of an in person meeting the notice must also specify the place of the meeting and in the case of a meeting by telephone or other electronic means must also specify the means by which a member may join the meeting. If special business is to be dealt with at the meeting, the notice must specify the general nature of that business."
- 3. Section 22(2) is repealed and replaced by:
- "Voting may be by show of hands or by any other method that adequately discloses the intention of members.

Association and Foundation Bylaws before amendment:

- 10. General meetings of the society must be held at the time and place, in accordance with the *Societies Act*, that the directors decide.
- 13. Notice of a general meeting must specify the place, day and hour of the meeting, and, in case of special business, the general nature of that business.
- 22(2). Voting is by show of hands.

THE AGM ELECTIONS

- 1. The following are up for re-election to the EHS Alumni Association:
 - 1. George Copley (director-at-large)
 - 2. Robert Laidler (vice-president/director of reunions)
 - 3. Marilyn McCrimmon (secretary)
- 2. The following are up for re-election to the EHS Alumni Foundation:

1. Dave Allen	(president)	5. Brenda O'Connor	(director-at-large)
2. Ryan Richard	(treasurer)	6. Robert Laidler	(vice-president)
3. George Copley	(secretary)	7. Sarah Garr	(director-at-large)
4. Barry Scott	(director-at-large)	8. Cathy Wong	(director-at-large)

^{*}Nominations will be taken at both meetings. We hope that some of <u>you</u> will consider joining the Executives of the Alumni Association and/or Foundation.

EHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Barry Scott

With the easing of Covid restrictions this year, our executive was able to pursue normal activities again. At the outset, I would like to acknowledge the excellent performance of our former principal Tina Pierik who has been transferred to another school in the district in a similar position. Her seemingly endless energy and her very positive advocacy towards all Esquimalt High School Students will be much missed.

- On Remembrance Day in November 2021, myself and a student from the leadership class, Owen Jones, laid a wreath at the Esquimalt Cenotaph.
- With a last-minute change in location for the Grad dinner last year, the executive agreed to donate \$1,000 to cover the relocation costs for this important event.
- This year the executive initiated a new program to establish a list of distinguished EHS graduates with bios for each to be featured in our future newsletters.
- Another project coming soon will be newsletter articles on the First Nations education, activities and graduation at EHS.
- With the urgent need for reorganization and ongoing administration in our archives, the executive has committed to initiate a formal program this coming year. The first activity in this process was a workshop on May 17th in which obsolete files and posters were culled along with the reorganization of yearbooks, etc. We are hoping to attract a group of volunteers to administer the archives on an ongoing basis.
- A few Alumni volunteers along with the student leadership group and Rainbow Kitchen, participated this year in RibFest. A big thank you to all who gave up their own time over the 5-day period and special thanks to Dave Allen who organized and participated on each day of the event. The group contribution was a success, resulting in approximately \$2,200 disbursed to each of the three groups.
- On September 27th, Dave Allen and I participated in the Secondary Schools Alumni Associations workshop at Mt. Doug High School. Very good participation by all attendees and a few meaningful programs were presented for consideration. A further meeting will take place in December.

I want to encourage more EHS Alumni members to get actively involved through membership activities as well as standing in positions on the Alumni executives. The association is only as effective as the support and participation provided by its members.

In closing, I would like to thank all my directors for their hard work and commitment over the past year.

Barry Scott Esquimalt High School Alumni Association, President

EHS ALUMNI FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Dave Allen

The EHS Alumni Association has been working for 16 years and the EHS Foundation has existed for the last 14 years. Significant support for the students at Esquimalt High School has been provided during this time. Some of this help has included: upgrades to the school's theater, assistance with the purchase of a new school bus, funding for different areas in the Fine Arts, financial support for a number of student groups at the school, being part of raising over \$370,000 for a new turf field at the school along with the granting of over \$30,000 in scholarships to deserving grade 12 students. None of this would have been possible without the outstanding support from alumni members and the time and effort of those who were willing to organize the various alumni events. This year's message is very simple we need some new members to step forward and provide their ideas and help at the executive level. Basically, it involves 4 meetings during the year and assistance with several fundraising activities. Hopefully two, three or more of our local alumni will step up and get involved with the organization.

WE NEED YOU!!

I would like to thank those alumni who helped at the 10th annual Esquimalt RibFest this past September 9, 10 and 11. We had 15 alumni members along with a similar number of members from the school Leadership Class and volunteers from the Rainbow Kitchen work at the EHS Alumni Tent. These 44 people prepared and sold 1100 langos along with pop and water at the weekend event held at Bullen Park. The result was more than \$2200 was raised for each of the three groups – Rainbow Kitchen, the EHS Leadership Class and the Alumni Association. Great work by all the volunteers and to the alumni members who came out and supported this activity.

Finally, I would like to thank those alumni members who have served on the executive of the Alumni Association and EHS Alumni Foundation for their time, effort and willingness to help.

Dave Allen, Esquimalt High School Alumni Foundation President

AN UPDATE ON EHS

by Sarah Garr, Principal

It has been a busy start to the school year with classes and extra-curricular activities in full swing! We have welcomed many new staff to Esquimalt High School along with a large cohort of Grade 9 students. On a personal note, I am thrilled to have taken on the role of Principal at Esquimalt High school after two years in the Vice-Principal role. It is a privilege to serve this amazing community!

Our focus this year is on Connection and Belonging. With this in mind, our school goals are:

- 1. Health, Wellness, Connection and Belonging for ALL.
- 2. Meaningful Learning Opportunities with Purpose and Dignity for ALL.

Additionally, we are continuing our Truth and Reconciliation Team and Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education Team to support Indigenous students.

The highlights of the school year thus far have been our Meet the Teacher Open House, Kernal Korn Day, Clubs Day and Ribfest. Students had a great time at the Halloween Dance on October 27th. On behalf of our Admin team and staff, we'd like to thank our Alumni for all of the support they provide to our school community!

PROFILE OF RAY BRYANT – EHS GRAD OF 1955 By Marilyn McCrimmon and Wes Umphrey

Ray Bryant is an EHS grad of 1955 whose pride in his Esquimalt roots is evident. When he and I met up for lunch and a chat at a mutually favourite pub, his wealth of experience during his 50-year career in law, as well as his stint in municipal politics, made for a fascinating and informative conversation. His friend Wes Umphrey — they met in grade 3 — also offered up some stories about his accomplished classmate.

Born at the St Joseph's Hospital in Victoria, Ray grew up in a home on the corner of Head and Wollaston Street, the younger of two brothers. He remembers Saturday morning treks up to Esquimalt Road to pay the bill at Lock's Meat Market, probably not anticipating that he and business owner Walter Lock would one day serve on Esquimalt



Class of 1955 Valedictorian

Student Council 1954-55. Vice-president Ray Bryant is seated, second from left. President Wes Umphrey is seated in the centre.

Right from the start, Ray got involved in all aspects of school life, from music to sports to student council, and it was his nature to give his best effort at everything he did. He played soccer and basketball, and ran track, participated in band and choir, and in his grad year, he was elected the vice-president of student council, serving alongside student council president and good

Friend, Wes Umphrey.
Ray recalled that he and his friend Pat
Floyd were decent enough singers in the school

Wes recalled that John Dean, the donor of the land for John Dean Park, lived across Head Street in the stone house on the hill. Not only was he a good neighbor, but he was also generous to the neighbourhood kids, who lined up every Saturday morning for a weekly allowance of 25 cents. Ray and his brother Vern would be in that lineup.

Municipal Council together.

Ray started school at Lampson Elementary School, attending from grades one through eight, before moving on to Esquimalt High School, then located on Head Street, (where Ecole Victor-Brodeur now stands) for grades nine to twelve.



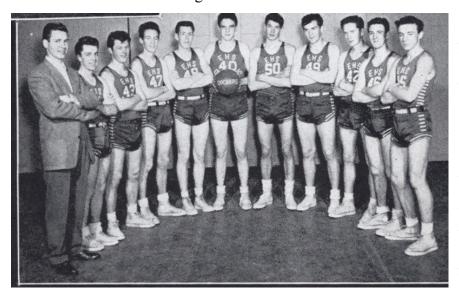
Senior Boys' Soccer 1954-55. Ray is seated second from right, and Wes Umphrey is seated third from right.

choir that music teacher Charlie Ozard would sometimes send the two of them when the Arion Choir and the Gilbert and Sullivan productions needed more voices for their chorus. He also played the trumpet in the school band, starting in grade 8 at Lampson. But when the Esquimalt High School band teacher got moved up to a district position, Ray had to take the street car across town to join the Vic High band in order to continue playing. Of course, he didn't always enjoy having to play for Vic High's sports events, especially when they were playing against Esquimalt. However, in the future he would meet and marry a Vic High grad.

Clive Kelly was the EHS principal at the time. Miss Hewlings, who had been the first principal of EHS, was his English teacher. He took four years of Latin with Miss Conibear, excelling at the language, which no doubt came in handy when he began to study law with all its Latin terms.

Teacher and vice-principal Roy Temple, who later went on to become principal of EHS, was the soccer and track coach. Ray remembers him saying that if you worked hard, you would either become very good at something, or you would feel good about yourself. In Ray's case, he was "preaching to the converted." Wes describes his friend as not only being a fast sprinter, but he was also a savvy soccer player who "had a nose for getting the ball in front of the goal."

Ray made a lifelong connection with his coach. When Roy's daughter Candide married Jim Hume, Ray was the best man, and when Jim and Candide started their family, Ray's son Michael was asked to be the godfather of their firstborn.



Senior Boys' Basketball – Dockers. 1954-55. Ray is second from left, beside coach Mr. Horne. Wes Umphrey is third student from left.

His classmates noticed the high-achieving involved student, and elected Ray as valedictorian of his grad class. He also won the first Joseph Barlow sportsmanship award, given in honour of a teacher who died in 1953 after contracting polio. When Ray said he also won an award for best sea cadet of the year, he recalled that it was the third year in a row that an Esquimalt student had won that award. But he had to

turn down the RMC scholarship as it was intended for students who wanted to be engineers. Ray was clear from a young age that he would be a lawyer.

Ray started his post-secondary schooling at Victoria College, moving to UBC after two years to study commerce and law. Upon graduation, Ray went to work for an established law firm, but within a few short years he had his own firm, specializing in family law. Wes recalled that Ray did a lot of work for Esquimalt residents, particularly EHS Alumni, friends and neighbours, and he said that Ray's fees were never high. Over his impressive 50-year law career, Ray worked for all three levels of government – federal, provincial and municipal.

While at Victoria College, Ray met his future wife Margaret at a beach party. Wes said Ray often commented that he had a hard time beating the Vic High and Oak Bay wolves off to win her attention. They married in 1960, and went on to have three children: Janine, Michael and Alan. Tragically, Alan died suddenly at the age of 39 of an aortic dissection. Janine (Roy) went into teaching, and became a principal here in Victoria. After winning an award for the best principal in Canada, she was "head-hunted" by the education department in Seattle where she now works. Her own son and daughter-in-law now teach in Esquimalt.

Ray's son Michael was the Attorney-General in Ontario. Ray laughed when he said three different premiers told him the story of when the question of "How did a boy from Esquimalt become the AG of Ontario?" was posed, the answer was that, "He had his mother's brains and his dad's modesty."

Michael went on from the AG position to become the Executive Director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, based in Ontario. B.C. came knocking on his door, and he is now the new Chief Executive of Civil Liberties in BC. Married to entertainment lawyer Susan Abramovitch, their two kids attend Queens and McGill. Sadly, Ray lost his wife Margaret earlier this year, after 62 years of marriage.

Ray's early interest in politics was stoked by his father's 16-year term on Esquimalt Municipal Council. In 1966, Ray was elected Reeve of Esquimalt. During that time, the name was officially changed to mayor, so Ray became the first Mayor of Esquimalt, serving until 1970. He jokingly referred to being "be-reeved" at the time. Although he was re-elected, he stepped down to spend more time with a young family. But he didn't lose his interest in politics, becoming campaign manager for Courtney Haddock and then Hugh Curtis.

During his time in office, amalgamation was discussed and Ray said that he was fine with it, as long as they called the amalgamated city Esquimalt. As mayor, he was also head of the Police Commission, and Bill Allen, EHS Alumni Executive member Dave Allen's father, was also a member at the time.

Bullen Park, the site of the yearly RibFest among many other Esquimalt events, has a special significance for Ray. His grandfather came from England to work in the shipyards in Esquimalt, and his grandfather's family followed later on the Empress of Ireland, which tragically sunk in the St Lawrence River in 1914. Ray's relatives were lucky to be among the survivors, but because they couldn't find any of their papers, they were put in "immigration prison." They needed \$400 to get across Canada to join Ray's grandfather. Fitzpatrick Bullen, owner of the shipyard, heard about the tragedy, and about Ray's grandfather's family being stuck on the East coast. He gave him the money to get his family across Canada. Bullen Park was named after this generous shipyard owner.

Former EHS principal Len Michaux approached Ray about setting up an EHS Alumni Association in the early 2000's. Len saw Vic High doing a good job and thought why can't Esquimalt do that as well? Ray said that Len was so enthusiastic, that if he wanted you to do something, you got on board. Len asked Ray to sign a letter of introduction to go out inviting people to join an EHS Alumni Association. Ray formed a small committee, including Wes and Gwen Macpherson and others, to start the process. Wes was elected president of this inaugural Alumni Association. Since 2006, the EHS Alumni Association has been going strong, just like one of its accomplished alumni, Ray Bryant.

NB: If you would like to suggest an EHS Alumni member to be profiled in a future newsletter, please email your suggestions to ehsalumni1959@gmail.com.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF RIBFEST By Dave Allen





This past September was the 10th anniversary of the Esquimalt RibFest. Each of these years except one, because of COVID-19, the EHS Alumni Association along with students from the Leadership Class at Esquimalt High School and volunteers from the Rainbow Kitchen has participated at RibFest. This past September 9, 10 and 11 saw the largest crowds ever at the event in Bullen Park. The workers from the three groups prepared over 1,100 langos and sold 1,500 bottles of water along with a similar amount of pop. For their efforts the 44 volunteers raised a total of \$6,663.00 with each group receiving \$2,221.00. Although it was very



busy at times, it was also rewarding watching the students, alumni members and volunteers from Rainbow Kitchen working and interacting together. Over the years of RibFest each of these 3 groups has raised over \$16,000 for their organization. The Alumni executive wants to thank the 15 alumni members who gave generously of their time and energy for this year's event. We look forward to being involved again next year and hope to see many alumni members attending and supporting this event. If you are interested in getting involved send an e-mail to esquimaltalumni1959@gmail.com.

FINANCE UPDATE By Ryan Richard, Alumni Association/Foundation

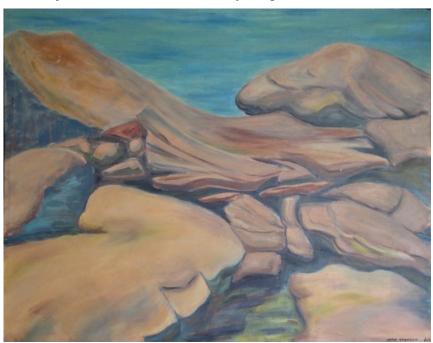
We are pleased to offer the option to send donations and membership dues payment directly to us by using your bank's Interac e-Transfer system. The email we are going to be using for it is: **ehsalumniassociation.payments@gmail.com**.

You will need to fill out the donation form and then send it to us by mail or by scanning, so that you can be issued an Income Tax receipt for donations over \$20. The form also allows you to inform us where you would like your donation directed. Also, if you are applying to become a member, we do require you to fill out the membership form on our website.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at our main alumni email address.

SPRING 2023 ART AUCTION

The EHS Alumni Association is once again planning to hold a silent auction of some of the paintings of the late Joan Thompson, a long-time resident of Esquimalt. Her daughter Flora and nephew Ron Thompson, both graduates of Esquimalt High School made the generous donation of about 20 pieces of Joan's work to the Alumni Association. Unfortunately, this donation occurred just as COVID-19 shut everything down in 2020 and as a result, the Alumni



1970 Beach Visit to Patricia Bay; acrylic 13" x 28"

been waiting until things have returned to more normal times The plan is to now hold the auction in the Spring of 2023 in conjunction with Esquimalt High School's Fine Art week. The money collected from the inperson and online silent auction will be added to the Scholarship Fund of EHS Alumni Association. A full listing of all the items donated will appear on the school website next April and in the Spring 2023 newsletter. Two of

Association executive has

Fall 2022



Joan's paintings are shown here and it is hoped alumni members and those of the larger community will support this fundraiser. The Spring 2020 copy of the alumni newsletter also contains more information about Joan and copies of some of her other works - https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/our-school/alumni/newsletters/.

1966 Sandstone; oil 27" x 34"

50 PLUS ONE YEAR REUNION OF 1971 EHS GRADS By Marilyn (McCall) McCrimmon – Grad of '71



Photo credit: Tat Ma

The EHS class of '71 is very lucky to have an enthusiastic and well-experienced group of reunion organizers - their mantra is "party on!" Planning committee members include: Irene Brett, Deb Chang (Olson), Marnie Elphick, Tim Evans, Colleen Ferguson (Biggs), Sue Henry (Weber), Wendy Kennett (Campbell), Roberta Wakelin (Blake), Marnie Lewis (Keziere), Pam Lowe (Hollett), Colleen Olague (Whalley), Larry Pistell, Julie Phillion (Alexander), Mary Ellen Schrader (Woods), and Chris Stewart (Tapping).

This group not only organizes ten-year reunions, as well as a couple of five-year reunions since 1971, but they also host a yearly pub night get-together on the last Friday in May. Covid and the closing of the Gorge Pub impacted that gathering, but '71 grads are asked to stay tuned for notice of a May 2023 get-together.

The 50 "Plus One Year" Reunion was special. Covid delayed us a year, and ongoing worries about Covid kept the numbers down a little, but the group of 69-year-olds who gathered for two nights of socializing had a great time.

On Friday May 13th, grads gathered for a pub night at the Six Mile Pub, and the following night grads met at the Gorge Vale Golf Club for a cocktail party. Draw prizes added to the fun. Personally, it's amazing how quickly you can feel like you are socializing with fellow 18-year-olds and reliving the good times at EHS. Maybe it was the 1971 music playing in the background?

Grads circulated and met up with friends and greeted other grads that had not attended a reunion since 1971. Tat Ma, who most of us hadn't seen for 50 plus one years, used his photography skills to take some memorable photos over the two days, and he even patiently and efficiently organized us for some group photos. The cake in the photo was literally the icing on the celebration. I know I am not the only '71 grad who is already looking forward to the next gathering.

REUNIONSBy Robert Laider, Director of Reunions (Class of 1969)

Are you planning a reunion for your grad class? If so, you should know that the EHS Alumni Association is ready and able to assist you in the promotion of your event. We can list the date and details of reunions on the Esquimalt High School Alumni Association Facebook page and aid in reserving school venues, such as the gym, cafeteria, or theatre, if required. We also can provide organizational details from past reunions that may assist you in planning your own event. In addition, we can loan out display panels, EHS signs, school annuals and items from the Heritage Registry for use at your reunion. As we move past the current pandemic, we expect more grad year groups will be eager to organize reunions. So let us know about yours. We'd love to help you out. Please email us at ehsalumni1959@gmail.com.

50 YEAR REUNION OF 1972 EHS GRADS By Marilyn McCrimmon

Esquimalt High School classmates Cathy Campbell, Loretta (Ronayne) Hanson and Terry (Woolgar) Stein organized a 50-year reunion gathering on August 13th, the first get-together for this class in 20 years. Cathy offered up her backyard on Roberts Bay in Sidney as a venue and over 50 grads showed up for the 12 noon to 8 pm summertime gathering.

The '72 Grads clearly enjoyed the opportunity to see each other again. Cathy said that although she had set up some backyard games, most people chose to talk and mingle instead, taking advantage of the chance to catch up on each other's lives. People came from all over B.C. and parts of the U.S.

Music from the 70s set the tone. The organizers decided to make it a potluck, and Cathy described an abundance of food, thanks to the generosity of the '72 grads who attended. A sunny day, lots of food, and a lovely seaside backyard made for a memorable gathering of this EHS class.

A "tree of life" featured photos of deceased classmates, 29 in all, a somber display that made an impact on everyone. As a result, Cathy and Loretta and Terry decided that the class needed an opportunity to get together more often. The three organizers are going to plan a yearly lunch get-together for the 1972 grads, enabling their fellow classmates to see each other more often.

It will likely be held in Cathy's backyard – possibly potluck and possibly catered. Stay tuned for news of this soon-to-be annual gathering.



The photo from left to right:
Dan O'Connell, Jeff Harold, Diane Smedley, Marg Willis, Dave Clarke, Cathy
Campbell, Debbie Nordstrom, Loretta Ronayne, Dan Haverty.

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association



2022/2023 FUNDRAISING DRIVE

This past year has been challenging for all of us as we continue to navigate the unusual and unsettling times of COVID-19. It has been especially difficult for any groups trying to carry on fundraising activities. However, the programs at the school still have needs and as a result we are turning to our members to ask if they can help by donating to the Alumni Association so we can continue to support the students at Esquimalt High School. We wish to continue offering 3 - \$1,000 scholarships. Any donations of \$20 or more will receive a receipt for income tax purposes. Donations received **before December 7**, **2022** will be issued receipts for 2022 and donations **after this date** will be issued receipts for 2023.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Send us an Interac e-Transfer via your bank by emailing your donation to ehsalumniassociation.payments@gmail.com. Please email your mailing address to us for your tax receipt to be mailed.
- Please make cheques payable to: Greater Victoria School Board
- Include a notation on the memo line of the cheque for "Scholarship Fund of EHS" or "EHS Turf Field Fund"

Thank you for assisting the students at Esquimalt High School.

For income tax purposes, please complete & mail this slip with your cheque donation.		
Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	Amount:	
Purpose:		

Esquimalt High School Alumni Association 847 Colville Rd Victoria, BC V9A 4N9 ehsalumni1959@gmail.com