

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The importance of tradition, history and legacy cannot be ignored. Tradition is defined as the action of handing over. It is the handing down of information, beliefs and customs by word of mouth or by example from one generation to another without written instructions. It is an inherited pattern of thought or action. It creates cultural continuity in social attitudes and institutions.

"Once a Colt, Always a Colt"

This is the motto of the Alumni Association. When you consider this motto and hold it up to the definition of tradition, you can see the connections immediately. Schools are steeped in tradition. They hold firm to certain principles, rituals and ways of being that set them apart and give them an identity. No school more embodies this than Richmond Secondary. From its long and storied history in our community, to the development and redevelopment of the school logo over time while holding true to the 'Colt' legacy, to the recognition of our history by incorporating artifacts, pictures and even actual pieces of previous school buildings within or new modern school we have tried to honour our past, celebrate our present and look forward to our future.

Yes, at Richmond Secondary we work hard in our classes so that we can look back and take pride in the fact that we always strived to do our best. Equally, if not more importantly, we make strong connections to our school. We get involved. We create the memories that will connect us to Richmond High forever. In many ways, you as Alumni have set the standards and the expectations for current and future generations of Colts to live up to. It is through your efforts; creating spirit and a special culture when you roamed the halls of Richmond Secondary, by continuing to support the efforts of future graduates to build upon your legacy and by allowing them to leave

their own unique mark on the school and its future that Richmond is what it is today.

This year has provided us with many opportunities to display our Colt pride. We began the year with our school wide Terry Fox Run. This was one way for us to say to the community that we care about the efforts of others to create a better world. We continued this commitment through the organization of another poignant, moving Remembrance Day Assembly. Finally, the students in our Global Perspectives Program worked hard all year raising money to finance their humanitarian mission to Morocco.

Our enthusiastic talented student have also showcased their talents in a variety of school events: The Christmas Luncheon organized by our Cook Training Program, our Winter and Spring Music Concerts featuring many outstanding orchestras, choirs and ensembles, our IB One Act Plays, our RSVP Theatre Spring Production - the Servant of Two Masters, Colt Idol and the Mandarin Singing Contest to name a few. Each of these events had a public face, but there were many talented and dedicated students working behind the scenes to ensure that these events were successful.

This year we have embarked on a new undertaking that we hope will become an important part of our Colt future. A group of dedicated parents is organizing a **Dry After Grad** that will be a part of the culminating celebration for our Graduating Class of 2007.

Every step of the way you have walked with us. You have continued to support us with your generous contributions of time, materials, experience and money. It means a lot to our students when they see you at one of our events, supporting our school and keeping the Colt connection strong. We appreciate the thoughtful leadership of the Alumni Board of Directors and their efforts to equitably distribute funds which support various projects at the school.

The common elements in all of these activities are tradition, history and legacy. The stewardship for these elements lies with the Alumni Association and you have done an outstanding job of keeping them alive. Thank you for continuing to make Richmond such a great school and for remembering that: "Once a Colt, Always a Colt"

Jim McLeod

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Alumni Board of Directors continues to meet once a month from September to June. Over the past year we have: attended numerous events at the school as well as the Valedictory ceremony June 2006; awarded 6 X \$750 scholarships; presented Ken Lorenz with the Special Recognition award at the Valedictory ceremony for his many years of service to the school and the Global Ed program; attended the RSS Christmas luncheon; co-ordinated an Alumni display for Heritage Week at Richmond Centre in Feb. 2007; we have recently just distributed over \$20,000 in Gaming revenues to RSS clubs, teams and departments. A very special "thank you" to all of the Directors.

Beth McKenzie

Richmond Secondary Alumni Association Annual Newsletter 2007

"Once a Colt – always a Colt"



2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Beth McKenzie - 72
Treasurer	Donna Matheson - 73
Heritage week	Ray Gora - 54
Mem at Large	Dorothy Harvey -51
Mem at Large	Kathy Miller - 72
Newsletter	Jenny Gilles - 72
Media	Deb Robson - 72
Secretary	Patti Dean - 73
Fundraiser	Anne Scott - 51
Secretary	Heather Clifton - 74
Fundraiser	Trish Vogler - 62

Note: Elections to take place at our AGM/luncheon on May 17, 2007.

2007 Annual General Meeting

AGM MEETING AND LUNCHEON
Thursday - MAY 17TH 2007
AGM 11:30, LUNCHEON 12:15
TICKETS \$17.00 EACH

FOR TICKETS call Richmond High at 668-6400.
For info contact Dorothy Harvey @ 940-1403

This is a fabulous lunch prepared by our own student cafeteria class. Hope you can make it.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Please find enclosed 2007 Fiscal Report prepared by Donna Matheson.

CASINO DISTRIBUTIONS

For the 2006/2007 school year the Alumni was awarded \$24,440 from the BC Gaming Commission. The Alumni Board of Directors requested that the school determine its needs and wants for the spending of the funds.

The Board went through the list brought forth by Mr. McLeod (Principal) and approved the following expenditures for the 2006/2007 school year:

\$4500 Scholarships
\$4800 Athletics - Basketball Jerseys
\$1600 Athletics - Soccer Jerseys
\$1975 Business Ed. - Computer with wireless card
\$1200 Dragon Boat - Registration fees
\$1300 Drama - Stage lights
\$500 Drama - Digital camcorder
\$800 ESL - Digital camera
\$400 Fine Arts - Camera
\$1250 Grad Planning - Infocus projector
\$1650 Grad Planning - Computer and speakers
\$860 Library - Paperback book rack
\$2500 Mathematics - Math contest registration
\$250 Mathematics - Chess sets
\$250 Modern Languages - Recorder
\$1235 Modern Languages - Infocus projector
\$500 Modern Languages - Chinese movies, games
\$3100 Physical Education - Apex leg press machine

It is our hope that we are able to support a number of different departments, clubs and organizations within the school each and every year.

SCHOLARSHIPS

At the 2006 Valedictory Ceremony, which was held at the Chan Centre at UBC on Wednesday, June 7th, 2006 the Richmond High Alumni Association awarded the following students with a \$750.00 scholarship.

Megan Battersby	Tim Kuo
Kevin Hills	Marilyn Tse
Thomas do Los Teyes	Vania Chan

We wish Megan, Kevin, Thomas, Tim Marilyn and Vania all the best.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Each year at the Valedictory Ceremony the RSS Alumni Association gives out a Special Recognition Award. This award can be given to a Past Grad, Teacher, Administrator or anyone in the community who has made a significant contribution to the Grads of Richmond Secondary School. If there is someone you think should be recognized please contact the Alumni Association.

Below is a list of past recipients and some of the contributions that they have made to the school.

2006 - Ken Lorenz - Global Education Coordinator
2005 - Remi Vincente - Teacher and IB department head
2004 - Bill Disbrow - Basketball Coach and Teacher
2003 - Darlene Macklam - School Principal - retired
2002 - Hugh McNair - grad of the class of 1941 - farmer and founding member of Alumni Association

REUNIONS

If your grad class is planning a reunion please be sure to let us know so we can post information for all your fellow classmates.

50-year reunion - the class of 1957 is planning a reunion in August 2007, please contact Gerry Retallick for more information.

20 year reunion - the class of 1987 is in the beginning stages of planning its reunion. Please contact richmond87@yahoo.ca for more information.

MEMBERSHIP – NOW OVER 1600

Every year our list of Richmond Secondary School Alumni grows larger and larger. We are proud to be Colts and always will be. Unfortunately each year we also lose Alumni. Being the oldest secondary school in Richmond is an honour and we should be proud of all of our grads - those from every decade since the 1920's.

It is a difficult process to keep our records up to date - so please let us know if you have moved recently (if you haven't received a newsletter in the past year then we don't have your current address).

If you have never officially joined the RSS Alumni please download the Membership Application (in pdf format) and send in to

receive membership card and pin on our web page at:

<http://www2.sd38.bc.ca/RSSAlumni-Web/membershipforms>

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT - RICHMOND HIGH and Our Principals

In 1906 the Provincial Government passed a new School Act, which combined four existing districts, Lulu, Sea Island, English and Steveston, into the Richmond School District. The growth of the new district was slow but in 1927 a new high school was built for Richmond students, this building, located at Cambie and Sexsmith was named "Richmond High School." The Great Depression hit in 1929 and slowed growth even further. In fact, only one new school was constructed in the next ten years. The student population fell significantly with the outbreak of WWII when Canadians of Japanese descent were relocated in camps in the interior of the province. After 1945, however, there was tremendous growth in the Richmond School District and by 1950 the school population doubled to 2900. At that time the Superintendent, Colonial J. N. Burnett, ordered a survey of growth. This led to the construction of the many new schools: Cook, Blundell, Whiteside, Kidd, Dixon and a new Richmond High School on the present-day site.

1906 - Formed Richmond School District
1952 - Richmond High - Mr. A.R. MacNeill
1959 - Richmond High - Mr. B. G. Webber
1966 - Richmond High - Mr. E. R. Ball
1969 - Richmond Secondary - Mr. H. Lindsay
1970 - Richmond Sr. Secondary - Mr. H. Lindsay
1984 - Richmond Sr. Secondary - Mr. J. Rantanen
1986 - Richmond Sr. Secondary - Mr. R. Akune
1990 - Richmond Sr. Secondary - Mr. R. Carkner
1994 - Richmond Secondary - Mrs. D Macklam
2006 - Richmond Secondary - Mr. J McLeod