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April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Victoria High School Grads and Families,

As we are now well into Semester 2, we have reached the time of the school year when Grad events really ramp up. We know that this can be both an exciting and sometimes challenging time for grads and their families. With so many exciting opportunities ahead, we encourage grads to stay focused and engaged with their studies, through the spring of their grade 12 year, and finish strong. Along with this, comes several opportunities to celebrate the important milestone of graduation! Please find below information related to a number of upcoming graduation events.

These events have all been discussed with grads at their February Grad Assembly. There is also a Grad Google Classroom that regularly has reminders and updates on all things that grade 12s need to be aware of as we approach each event and milestone.

## **Dates to Note:**

May 1st - Grad Fee due

May 5th - Dinner Dance Guest Request form available

May 6th - Stage walk write-up due by 3:30pm

May 8th - Capstone Presentations (evening)

May 9th - Last day to purchase Recognition Ceremony Tickets

May 20th - Mandatory Assembly for all grade 12s

June 5th - Indigenous Education Graduation Ceremony - SJ Willis (more info to come)

June 6th - Dinner Dance Guest Request form due

## Main Events:

## June 3rd Recognition Ceremony at UVic (Farguhar Auditorium) 7 - 9pm

Rehearsal (8:45am - 12:00pm) - Grads are required to attend a rehearsal, on time, at the Farquhar Auditorium the morning of the Recognition Ceremony. The ceremony requires a great deal of organization and coordination, as such, participation is **mandatory**. Grads do not need to wear their regalia for the rehearsal. Families are asked to coordinate the transportation of their grad to and from UVic. Note, regalia will be distributed to grads in the days leading up the event.

Ceremony - Grads are asked to be at the auditorium no later than 6:15pm, in their regalia, and gather outside the main entrance. Families are asked to take their seats inside by 6:45pm and the ceremony is set to begin at 7:00pm. The ceremony is estimated to take 2 hours.

Seat tickets - Tickets are on sale now until May 9th. Families can purchase up to 4 seats through SchoolCashOnline (link here: <a href="https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/">https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/</a>) for \$10 a ticket. Additional seats may be available. Should this be the case, the additional seats will be on a first come, first serve basis. We will notify you if this is the case. After May12th, any additional tickets will be purchased through UVic (250)-721-8480.

## June 20th Grad Dinner Dance at the Delta Hotel 6:00pm - 10:30pm

This year's Dinner/Dance will be held at the beautiful Delta Hotel, located on the waterfront of downtown Victoria. Dinner will feature a buffet meal, complete with refreshments and desserts. This formal event is an amazing opportunity for Grads to celebrate their accomplishments with their friends.

This is a school event. Students and guests are expected to follow the school <u>Code of Conduct</u>. Students that violate the code of conduct will forfeit their participation and may be subject to further consequences. Guests will need to present a photo ID upon entry.

**Guests**- Those grads wishing to invite a guest are asked to complete the Guest Request form by June 6th and submit it to the office. The guest policy will be the same as the Winter Formal. Requests will be date stamped upon submission. Please know that the venue has a capacity limit. Based on the number of grads attending, we may, or may not, have room for guests. Our ability to include guests will be known mid-May. We will notify grads if/when their request has been approved and a guest ticket will then be available for purchase through SchoolCash Online.

- Guests must be 18 or younger at the time of the event. Photo ID confirming age will be required.
- Should a guest not be attending a high school, a meeting with admin must take place (grad, guest, guest family and admin) prior to approval being granted.
- This is a grad event and guests should have a strong connection to their sponsor and the Vic High grad class. Grads are asked NOT to sponsor anyone unless they meet this criteria. This event is not appropriate for younger students who are not well connected to their sponsor and/or the grad class.

Please know that we want graduation to be as inclusive as possible and are conscious of the financial burden connected to these events. Please connect with Jennifer Bartlett (Vice Principal), should fees be a challenge at this time. If you are looking for a beautiful gown, suit or tux, we do have many wonderful donations available to those in need. Again, please reach out to Jennifer Bartlett to inquire.

Additionally, please feel free to reach out to the school office or a member of the Admin Team, should you have any questions or concerns related to the upcoming events.