

RRTA NEWSLETTER



August, 2021
(Reports Edition)

AGM -- Times Two!

A Message to New Retirees from the President

A BIG WELCOME to all new teacher retirees from Richmond School Board. You will soon learn that retirement life opens up so many decisions that need to be made. The RRTA welcomes you to join our group of retired teachers, or if you are moving, you may choose to join a different group of retired teachers in BC, free for the first year. This gives you the opportunity to see the variety of activities that are available for you.

Covid has had a big effect on our organization but we are all hopeful that with increased vaccination and people following the safe procedures, we will slowly be getting back to "normal". Presently, we are all gaining skills in programs like Zoom to hold virtual meetings, workshops, and a great variety of activities that we used to do in person.

I highly recommend the RRTA as a means of keeping in touch with former colleagues and meeting many new friends. As former teachers, we are all wanting to pursue new ideas, travel, enjoy a variety of activities like group lunches, hiking clubs, golf or other sports groups etc. Our group gives you an opportunity to keep mentally and physically active with colleagues and new friends. Please read the rest of the Newsletter to gain a better understanding of our future plans.

Welcome to retirement, keep enjoying life, meet new friends, have fun, and keep smiling!

David Bell, President RRTA

Usually the Summer Edition of the Newsletter heralds the coming of our Fall AGM at the conclusion of the Back to School Without Us Luncheon.

Covid 19 has brought about many changes to our plans. With the permission of the BCRTA and the BC Government, we have been allowed to postpone the 2020 AGM until no later than November 2021. We also have the business of our 2021 AGM to conduct at the same time, so we will have to hold a double AGM meeting.

Since we have not planned a fall luncheon, we will be holding these General Meetings at an online Zoom conference.

At the first AGM (2020), we will be asking the membership to ratify the financials and budget, the rolling over of the previous board of directors, and the choosing of 2 delegates for the 2021 BCRTA AGM.

The second AGM (2021) will require the ratifying of the budget for the 2021-22 season and the 2020-21 financials. Voting on the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors for 2021-22, and selecting 2 delegates for the BCRTA AGM in 2022 will also need to be done.

These two AGMs will be held at 10am on Wednesday September 8th, 2021 and will be immediately followed by the RRTA Trust Fund Foundation AGM

All members will receive a Loop email with the invitation to the meetings after which you will be sent the Zoom link to the meeting. If you are not currently on our email list but have an email address, you can let Loraine Martin have your email for this one invitation. For those without computers, you can arrange to attend the Zoom meetings with another member should you wish to attend.

Lorraine Martin can be contacted at:

richmondrrta@gmail.com

Gordon Smith
RRTA Newsletter Editor

RRTA Committee Reports for the 2021 AGM

Sunshine Report

Over the 2020-2021 year a variety of cards have been sent to members and their families. Words of condolence were sent to the families of Gurdial Neel, Joe Eso, Gordon Scott, Carol Farrell, Bob Corrigan, Marlene Yurichuk and Margaret Hobson. Sympathy cards were sent to Amanda Hufton on the loss of her father and Lesley Pope on her husband's passing.

Many "Thinking of You" and "Get Well Soon" cards were sent to encourage members who were undergoing treatment or recovering from illness. Pat Walach relies on our members to notify her of people who need support. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a note please contact her at **604-278-9530** and she will send out cards of caring, encouragement or sympathy.

Christmas Project

Karen Holden will be stepping down from the RRTA Board of Directors this year. However, Karen has graciously agreed to continue to look after our Christmas Project. In the past, poinsettias were sent to our Life Members living in the lower mainland, and cards were sent to those not in the immediate area.

With Covid-19, the Directors made the decision that we would no longer give the poinsettias, but would send a card to all the Life Members.

A big thank you to Karen for continuing to do this on our behalf.

RRTA Directors 2020-21

www.richmondrrta.ca

TABLE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -- David Bell

president@richmondrrta.ca

VICE PRESIDENT - Vacant

SECRETARY -- Amanda Hufton

TREASURER -- Vacant

PAST PRESIDENT - Gordon Smith

DIRECTORS (CHAIRS)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

FINANCE -- Vacant

HERITAGE -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP / PHONING -- Denise Gobbo

PROGRAMME -- Munjeet Booton

WELLNESS -- Lynne Farquharson

SUNSHINE -- Pat Walach (604) 278-9530

NEWSLETTER -- Gordon Smith

SOCIAL -- Mary Hardy

CHRISTMAS PROJECT -- Karen Holden

TRUST FUND FOUNDATION -- Glenn Kishi (Chair)

(604) 272-2408

gkishi@shaw.ca

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Bob Jackson

Michael Gilles

Cathy Wozny -- Acting Treasurer

Heritage Committee Report 2020-21

The Heritage Committee had a disappointing 2020-2021 year.

At the beginning of the school year, the Heritage Committee was informed that the General Currie Heritage Building would now be home to the school's music teacher from Monday to Thursday. After discussing 'ways and means' that the Heritage Committee could still function, we put some heritage items in storage and worked with the school's Music teacher to organize the room. We were all set to continue to work on the database project and to update displays.

Unfortunately, once the Covid case count increased the school's Covid protocols became much stricter and visitors were not welcome. We made the decision to suspend Heritage Committee meetings.

We are looking forward to starting up again in September.

If you have an interest in Richmond's educational history and wish to help out, contact rtaheritage@gmail.com

New members are always welcome.

Lorraine Martin
RRTA Heritage Committee

Membership Report 2020-21

Welcome to all our new members.

The Richmond Retired Teachers' Association (RRTA) is a branch of the British Columbia Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA). Our membership base continues to grow and at present our local membership stands at 498 members. Thank you to all for spreading the word and encouraging new and former retirees to take advantage of the free first year membership offer.

Regrettably, again this year, due to the Covid situation, we have had to curtail many of our activities. But better days seem to be ahead. We continue to plan behind the scenes and look forward to welcoming everyone once again at our lunches and workshops when it is safe to do so.

A reminder that to become a member of the Richmond Branch, you must first join the provincial organization, then check the box to join our local.

We do our best to keep our membership list up to date. Thank you for helping by remembering to let Lorraine Martin know of changes to your e-mail, phone number, or address. Contact Lorraine at info@richmondrrta.ca. As we are a branch of the BCRTA, at the same time that you contact Lorraine, please also let the BCRTA office know of any changes by contacting Laurie at laurie@bcrrta.com.

Submitted by
Denise Gobbo

Social Committee Report 2020-21

Covid-19 has changed our lives dramatically, but there are signs we may be getting back to a near normal. We will NOT be doing a fall “Back to School Without Us” luncheon. However, we have a tentative Christmas Luncheon booked for Wednesday December 1st, 2021. Of course this will all depend on the level of restrictions remaining as they are now. Be aware though, that there may be changes due to Covid. First of all, expect costs to be up as food costs have increased. We may have to choose between a plated meal rather than a buffet, or pay a bit more to have staff serve up the buffet food in the event we will not be allowed to “help ourselves” at the buffet table.

As you may have read in the budget, we have had very few expenses during Covid and may be able to subsidize the luncheon more than previous years.

We also may have to forgo entertainment, or content ourselves with a small secondary school combo rather than the larger group of elementary students we often have.

Gordon Smith and Mary Hardy
Social Committee

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association Financial Report (as of June 30, 2021)

Funds on deposit are \$10,191.73. This is slightly greater than historical amounts for this time of year. In June 2020, funds on deposit were \$6,857. The difference is caused by the general shutdown due to Covid-19. We have been unable to provide our usual program of luncheons and speaker series. I did point this out to the membership in the newsletter, so hopefully no one will be concerned about a slight buildup of funds. The greater concern may be the Canadian Revenue Agency, but surely they are aware of the situation for associations like ours.

This past fiscal year required only 6 cheques be written, compared to 22 in 2019-20 and 24 the previous year. I had prepared a budget for both years at the appropriate time. The 2019-20 budget was able to be passed by the Board of Directors, as well as this current one for 2021-22. The books were reviewed by a new person, Charlotte Veerman Ross, because Lesley Jack ‘retired’ from the position. Many thanks to Lesley for taking this on since 2014, as well as a one-off in 2012! Charlotte will hopefully review the records again this summer, 2021.

There is a bit of additional information in the 2021-22 budget, so I won’t repeat it here. The bottom line is that we are in good shape and have temporarily agreed to increase the luncheon subsidy from the neighbourhood of \$5 to \$15. We are hoping that we may be able to hold one luncheon in 2021-22.

The other important item is that I will continue as a Director and will assume the position of Treasurer. However, please consider taking on the position of Treasurer!

Cathy Wozny
Acting Treasurer

Proposed 2021-22 Budget

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association								
Budget for 2021-2022								
	Budget		Actual	2020-21		Budget	Budget	Budget
Expenses	2021-22	Comments	2020-2021	Remaining		2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Contingency	\$150			\$150.00	Contingency	\$150	\$150	\$150
Heritage	\$250			\$250.00	Heritage	\$250	\$400	\$250
Newsletter	\$1,500		\$185.08	\$1,314.92	Newsletter	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,800
Operating	\$1,000		\$975.00	\$25.00	Operating	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$900
President	\$100			\$100.00	President	\$100	\$100	\$250
Programs & Speakers	\$600			\$600.00	Programs/Speakers	\$600	\$600	\$700
Programs' Events w/Revenue	\$600			\$600.00	Programs w/Revenue	\$600	\$600	\$800
Special Events/Social	\$3,000	\$15 subsidy, one event		\$3,000.00	Special Events/Social	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,000
Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300		\$30.52	\$269.48	Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300	\$300	\$250
Website	\$500			\$500.00	Website	\$500	\$500	\$500
Expense Totals	\$8,000		\$1,190.60	\$6,809.40		\$10,000	\$11,650	\$12,600
Income								
Membership	\$4,300		\$4,525.00	-\$225.00	Membership	\$4,300	\$4,300	\$4,300
Programs w/Revenue	\$600			\$600.00	Speaker Series/Matinee	\$600	\$600	\$800
Special Events/Social	\$1,500			\$1,500.00	Special Events/Social	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$5,000
Bank Interest	\$0		\$0.44	\$0.00	Bank Interest	\$1	\$1	\$1
Income Totals	\$6,400		\$4,525.44	\$1,875.00		\$9,401	\$9,901	\$10,101
Gain (-Loss)	-\$1,600		\$3,334.84	-\$4,934.40		-\$599	-\$1,749	-\$2,499
Background Information								
	Bank Balance as of	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	
	fiscal year end:	\$10,192	\$6,857	\$6,203	\$6,106	\$7,568	\$6,751	
		2015	2014	2013	2012	2011		
		\$6,860	\$13,949	\$12,924	\$15,162	\$12,663		

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association								
Notes	Budget 2021 - 2022				p2 of 2			
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, most expenses have been estimated, based on 2019 figures, unless other reasonable information is available.								
<p>Newsletter and Operating expenses are close to actual, in the budget form, although some expenses may not have been submitted. The other significant expense, of luncheons, has been estimated for one (only) in the coming fiscal year, hopefully on December 1, 2021. The following is the rationale for this budget:</p> <p>We are not permitted to spend on donation. The Canada Revenue Agency requires that we spend only for the benefit of the membership. Luncheon subsidies meet this stipulation. Based on the 2019 cost of just under \$35 to Mayfair Lakes, a greater subsidy to members is offered for consideration.</p> <p>63 members attended the Christmas luncheon in 2019. The willingness and ability of members to attend such a gathering is unknown. 60 is an estimate. While fairness to members who are unwilling or unable to attend is always a difficult consideration, another option has not appeared, except to increase Zoom utilization, but enormous savvy volunteer input is needed. Who among us can produce a video or host a social chat, event, or Philosopher's Corner if they haven't already done so? All are doing what we know and can.</p> <p>The new 2021-22 Proposed Budget shows a loss of \$1,600, which would only occur if every budget allocation was fully spent. It allows for peaks and valleys without undue trimming of specific categories.</p> <p>The Balance Sheet of actual income and expenses for 2020-2021 shows a gain of \$3,335, due to membership income having been offset by very little expense. This is reflected in an increase of bank balance from \$6,857 at the end of June 2020 to \$10,192 at the end of June 2021. It's all very uncertain, but in a good way.</p>								
Expense breakdown for Special Events/Social in 2021-2022								
	Income	MayFair	Total	Price to		Indiv.		
	Sp Events	Lakes	Subsidy	Members	# Guests	Subsidy		
	see below	est \$35	based on Christmas 2019 Invoice			see below		
Choir Honourarium								
Choir Bus	\$100.00							
Choir treats	\$110.00							
	\$30.00							
	\$240.00							
		Mayfair Lakes	\$2,100	\$1,750	\$2,100	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750
		Door Prizes & Flowers	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$85
		Pointsettias	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95	\$95
		Choir	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$240
			\$2,520	\$2,170	\$2,520	\$2,170	\$2,170	\$2,170
		Social/Special Events Income	\$1,200	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,500
		Net Cost	\$1,320	\$1,170	\$1,020	\$920	\$670	\$670

Nominations Report from the Chair

The Past President is in charge of the nominations for the Board of Directors, so the job falls to myself. As you can well imagine, it is difficult to find people to volunteer to take on the jobs necessary to run the RRTA. We were very fortunate last year, with Covid in full pandemic, that our Board of Directors from the previous year agreed to continue with their jobs until such time as we could hold a 2020 AGM. As it turned out, that will not happen until this September.

I would like to put out an appeal to the membership to please consider joining our Board as a Member at Large. We usually meet three times each year for Director's meetings, and of course, once for the AGM. This past year, we have been meeting via Zoom conferences.

If you are willing to add your name to the slate of candidates for 2021-22, please contact us at:

richmondrrta@gmail.com

As it stands now, all of the Directors from 2020-21 are allowing their names to stand again with the exception of Michael Gilles, and Karen Holden. We could certainly use some members to step up to fill their shoes. We are also wanting someone to take the position of Vice President, and Cathy Wozny would be happy to step down as Treasurer should someone be willing to take on the position.

Bear in mind, the current Directors have been on the Board for many years now and we could certainly use some new perspectives.

As of now, the following are the candidates for the 2021-22 Board:

David Bell (President), **Amanda Hufton** (Secretary), and **Cathy Wozny** (Treasurer).

The following are candidates for Director at Large: **Loraine Martin** (Heritage Chair, and Communications Co-Chair), **Denise Gobbo** (Membership and Phoning Committee Chair), **Lynne Farquharson** (Wellness Chair), **Pat Walach** (Sunshine Committee), **Munjeet Booton** (Programme Committee Chair), **Mary Hardy** (Social Committee Chair), **Gordon Smith** (Newsletter and Communication Co-Chair), **Bob Jackson** (Director at Large), and **Michael Gilles** (Director at Large)

In addition **Glenn Kishi** is an ex officio member of our Board as Chair of the RRTA Trust Fund Foundation and is elected to that position at the RRTA Trust Fund Foundation AGM.

In addition we need to select two delegates for the BCRTA AGM in October 2022. **Lynne Farquharson** and **Bob Jackson** have put their names forward.

Please have this Newsletter with you when attending the Zoom AGM's as it contains copies of the Financials and Reports.

AGM 2020

We'll start the 2020 AGM first. The items of business to be covered are the usual AGM topics with no special business.

Ratification of the Directors decision to roll over the Board of Directors from 2019-20 until such time as we could safely hold an AGM.

Ratification of the Financials from 2019-20. (See page eight for a reprint from the Summer 2020 Newsletter of the 2019-20 Financials and Budget).

Ratification of the Budget for the 2020-21 Season which had been submitted by the budget committee and adopted by the Board of Directors.

Ratification of the Directors decision to keep the fees the same for 2020-21.

Ratification of the Directors decision to have Charlotte Veerman Ross audit the Financials for the upcoming season.

Selection of 2 delegates to the BCRTA AGM this October. Lynne Farquharson and Bob Jackson have put their names forward. We welcome other candidates.

AGM 2021

Ratification of the Financials 2020-21 and Budget 2021-22.

Selection of auditor for the books.

Setting of fees for 2021-22.

Election of Officers for 2021-22 (see Newsletter page 6 for nominations).

The RRTA AGMs will be immediately followed by the RRTA Trust Fund Foundation AGM



Gurdial Neel.	June, 2020
Joe Eso.	Nov. 2020
Gordon Scott.	Dec. 2020
Carol Farrell.	Nov. 2020
Robert Corrigan.	Jan.2021
Marlene Yurichuk.	Feb. 2021
Margaret Hobson.	June. 2021

If you know of any RRTA members who could use some sunshine in their lives due to illness or a loss in their family, please let our Sunshine Chair, Pat Walach know.

Financials for 2019-20 and Budget for 2020-21 to be ratified at the 2020 RRTA AGM

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association						
		Proposed Budget for 2019-2020				
		Proposed Budget			To date Budget	
		2020-21	Comments	Feb 29 2020	2019-20 Remaining	2019-20 Budget
Contingency		\$150			\$150.00	Contingency \$150
Heritage		\$250		\$123.71	\$276.29	Heritage \$400 \$150 incr. for display lighting
Newsletter		\$1,500		\$1,355.61	\$144.39	Newsletter \$1,500 reduced by \$300
Operating		\$1,000		\$808.96	\$191.04	Operating \$1,000 increased by \$100
President		\$100		\$95.08	\$4.92	President \$100 recognitions(reduced by \$150)
Programs & Speakers		\$600		\$401.19	\$198.81	Programs/Speakers \$600 reduced by \$100
Programs' Events w/Revenue		\$600	name change	\$400.00	\$200.00	Tea Matinee \$600 reduced by \$200
Special Events/Social		\$5,000	reduced by \$1500	\$4,212.46	\$2,287.54	Special Events/Social \$6,500 reduced by \$500
Sunshine/ChristmasProject		\$300	*	\$248.95	\$51.05	Sunshine/ChristmasProject \$300 increased by \$50
Website		\$500		\$399.00	\$101.00	Website (new and amended) \$500 new item
Expense Totals		\$10,000		\$8,044.96	\$3,605.04	\$11,650
(*includes \$150 estimate for poinsettias expense)						
Income						
Membership		\$4,300		\$4,615.00	-\$315.00	Membership \$4,300
Programs' Events w/Revenue		\$600	name change	\$480.00	\$120.00	Speaker Series/Matinee \$600
Special Events/Social		\$4,500	reduced by \$500	\$3,565.00	\$935.00	Special Events/Social \$5,000
Bank Interest		\$1		\$1.07	-\$0.07	Bank Interest \$1
Income Totals		\$9,401		\$8,661.07	\$739.93	\$9,901
Gain (-Loss)		-\$599		\$616.11	\$2,865.11	-\$1,749
Notes: Programs and Speakers may have a speaker requiring a cost to attendees. This is reflected in a separate budgeted income, plus a separate budgeted expense, in order to provide clarification.						
Heritage's expense budget is reduced by \$150 as the prior year reflected an anticipated expense, which has been resolved.						
Special Events/Social have been reduced to reflect 2019/2020 results.						
Further Reductions for expenses will likely result due to covid-19 cancellations but are difficult to predict at the time of budget preparation.						

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association						
		Budget 2020 - 2021			p2 of 2	(as of Feb 29, 2020)
Background Information						
		estimated 2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Bank Balance as of						
fiscal year end:		\$6,500	\$6,203	\$6,106	\$7,568	\$6,751
(Note, bank balance as of Feb29, 2020)		2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
is \$6969.49)		\$6,860	\$13,949	\$12,924	\$15,162	\$12,663
Expense breakdown for Special Events/Social						
		Income	MayFair	Total	Price to	Indiv.
		Sp Events	Lakes	Subsidy	Members	Subsidy
Sep		\$1,675.00	\$1,826.29	\$151.29	\$25.00	67 \$2.26
Dec		\$1,890.00	\$2,107.54	\$217.54	\$30.00	63 \$3.45
		\$3,565.00	\$3,933.83	\$368.83		\$2.84 average
Choir Honourarium		\$100.00				Recap
Choir Bus		\$106.25				Mayfair Lakes \$3,933.83
Choir treats		\$26.79				Door Prizes & Flowers \$81.39
		\$233.04				Pointsettias (estimate) \$150.00
						Choir \$233.04
						\$4,398.26
						Social/Special Events Income \$3,565.00
						Net Cost \$833.26

Scholarship Thank You Letters

Mr. Kishi
Richmond Retired Teachers Association Trust Fund Foundation
10711 Truro Drive,
Richmond, BC
V7E5B3

Dear Mr. G. Kishi

I am very pleased and honoured to be selected as a recipient of the Richmond Retired Teachers Association Scholarship. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and for providing support towards my higher education. I am planning on using this scholarship towards my post-secondary education and paying off my tuition. This scholarship will ease my family's financial burden and also allow me to begin my journey towards attaining my goals.

My name is Shubham Kumar and I live in Richmond B.C. with my family which includes myself, my mom, my dad, and my younger sister. I am currently a grade 12 student at Cambie Secondary and plan on going into the Faculty of Science at the University of British Columbia with the goal of becoming a doctor. I have always been a student who is very focused on their academics and also greatly involved in the community. I have received many academic achievements awards and have also been awarded as the top academic scholar in grade 12. Some of my accomplishments in the community include volunteering at the Cambie Open Gym program and the Cambie Out of School Care (OSC) program at the Cambie Community Centre. At the Cambie Open Gym program, I was responsible for opening the gym, setting up all the equipment and maintaining peace in the gym. At the Cambie OSC program, I had to communicate with the kids, keep an eye on them and make sure they were having fun! I was also the leader of the Brothers Helping Others Club at our school, where we hosted several events to fund raise for the school and also the community. It was wonderful to see how big of an impact I could have on peoples live through volunteering and how much they appreciated the time that I put into volunteering.

By awarding me the Richmond Retired Teacher's Association Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to be more focused on my education. I really appreciate you for providing support towards my post-secondary education. Thank you again for your generous and your willingness to assist me in accomplishing my goals.

Sincerely,

Shubham Kumar



Mr. Kishi
Richmond Retired Teachers Association
10711 Truro Drive,
Richmond, BC
V7E5B3

Dear Mr. Kishi

I am honoured to be selected as the recipient of the 2021 Richmond Retired Teachers Association's Jean Myron Memorial Scholarship.

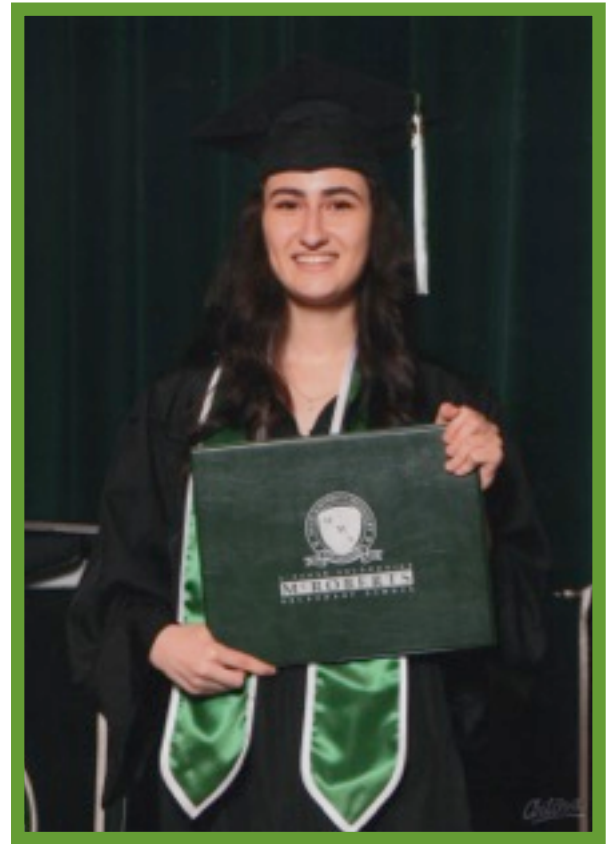
My name is Julie Ibrahimova. At school I have always been a passionate and dedicated learner, all the while prioritizing community involvement. I am an executive of the Animal Rescue, and the Humanitarians of McRoberts Clubs. In addition, I have volunteered with Richmond Family Place, the Parachute Waves Program and the RAPS Cat Sanctuary.

This scholarship will be used towards my tuition at the University of British Columbia, where I will be studying Applied Sciences. My hope is to major in Mechatronics, where I will integrate electrical, mechanical and computer engineering. Ultimately, I would like to pursue a career in sustainable energy engineering in efforts to better the worlds environmental state.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

Sincerely,

Julie Ibrahimova



On a final note, a thank you letter received by Pat Walach from the Palmer Secondary Scholarship Committee.

Dear Ms. Walach and the RRTA,

In usual years we invite donors to our Valedictory Ceremony so they can present and congratulate recipients in person. As you know, our current health orders prohibit such gatherings. This year we are pre-recording our ceremony to ensure physical distancing, editing it and then premiering it online on June 17, 2021. Students will learn of any scholarships they have been awarded during the online viewing.

Your presence will be missed but we reassure you that your generosity will be recognized in our program and the school website. Students will continue to send you thank-you cards in which they share their future plans with you and your organization.

We aim to resume our regular face-to-face ceremony when we recognize the Grads of 2022.

We hope that you will continue to be a part of future Palmer Valedictory events.

With gratitude,

Palmer Scholarship Committee

Ms. Rupi Gill
Counsellor