



**The Alberni Valley
Community Foundation**

Bursaries & Scholarships

The Alberni Valley Community Foundation administers and distributes several bursaries and scholarships. These are provided through donations from families or organizations in memory of a loved one. Funds donated to create the annual bursaries are invested with the Vancouver Foundation with the interest arising awarded to deserving and needful students annually in perpetuity.

For information on how to apply for one of the bursaries or scholarships listed below (or others) go to the SD70 Pacific Rim Website.

If you would like to create a bursary or scholarship in memory of a loved one or in promotion of an issue or organization, please contact the Alberni Valley Community Foundation at info@albernifoundation.ca

Details regarding the bursaries and scholarships currently administered by the AVCF and the recipients of these bursaries are listed below:

Bursary and Scholarship Recipients						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
E.J. Hughes Bursary						
	Sean O’Neill-Moeller	Cameron McArthur	Nyia Sutherland	Cheyenne Biederman	Ashlynn Grace Jennings	Alison Bryand
	Caleb Tsai	Caelie-Bryn Carter	Roxy Manson	Kieris Braker-Patterson	Connor Saddleton	Miley Kariam
			Josef Tsai	Anna Pesikova	Jordyn Witte	Alison Otis
Lilliah and Ralph Rosseau Bursary:						
	Coral Ridinger	Angus Sutton	Kayla Heiman	Lea Dumont	Owen Mahovlic	Darrah Gulstene
				Karilyn Mawn	Kate Edgar	Autumn Huysmans
Dr. S.F. Chan Family Scholarships:						
	Autumn Tatoosh	Maria Banman	Ryleigh Amos	Kieris Braker-Patterson	Kura Rorick	Angel Delmacio
	Simon Zhang	Caelie-Bryn Carter	Kyle Silver	Kelcie Sam	Dakota Pascoe	Brookelynn Cyr
	Callista Borstel	Jessica Lim	Seojin Lee	Lily Huynh	Ravishu Choudary	Kennan Sim
		Denisia Bob	Gabriella Stanley	Cheyenne Biederman	Vance Casavant	Donald Pilling
				Abby Cochrane	Brooke Beks	
					Stephen Mack Jr.	
Gerry Stoutley Memorial Bursary						
		Hunny (Desiree) Lucas		Mackenzie Clarke	Angelene Barney	Chehalis Knoblauch
		Alicia Kunz				
Cathy Cross Memorial Bursary						
				Madison Warren		Zooey Leclerc
						Mackenzi Wiersbitzky

2026 ADSS Bursary Awards Event



Mac Wiersbitzky receiving Cross Bursary from Marta Williamson



Brooklyn Cyr receiving Chan Bursary from Betty Chan



Angel Dalmacio receiving Chan Bursary from Betty Chan



Alison Bryand, Miley Kariam, Alison Otis receiving Hughes Bursary from Marta Williamson



Autumn Huysmans, Darrah Gulstene receiving Rosseau Bursary from Ken Watson

E.J. HUGHES BURSARY

Bursary description

Named in honour of the late Edward John Hughes, a nationally distinguished Vancouver Island artist, the E. J. Hughes Bursary is provided from the Estate of Dr. George Francis Roseborough. Dr. G. F. Roseborough was born and raised in Port Alberni and sought a medical education in Ontario and Michigan before returning to Vancouver Island to pursue a career as an ophthalmologist.



E.J. Hughes



Dr. G.F. Roseborough

Although generations apart, E. J. Hughes and G. F. Roseborough both served in the Canadian Military, which took them abroad. E. J. Hughes served as a wartime artist and Dr. Roseborough served as a medical officer. Dr. Roseborough's experience abroad influenced his decision to become an eye surgeon.

Much later in life, Dr. Roseborough and his wife, Nancy, renovated an old church at Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island, and converted it to gallery for local artists and artisans. After admiring his work for many years, Nancy invited E. J. Hughes to show some paintings at their gallery, which E. J. Hughes kindly obliged.

The E. J. Hughes bursary is intended to provide some support to recipients about to embark on a journey where education, experience, and expression are inextricably linked to a productive, meaningful life.

Bursary distribution

Bursaries are distributed annually to three high school or mature students that meet the EJ Hughes Bursary application criteria. The amount of the bursaries can vary from year to year. See below. The bursaries are intended for students with financial need to help them meet their post-secondary educational goals. Whether funds are needed for supplies, textbooks, or transportation home for the holidays, the bursary is intended as supplemental funding.

Bursary criteria

All prospective applicants that demonstrate financial need and meet the following requirements shall be considered for the EJ Hughes Bursary:

- Recipients shall be residents of the City of Port Alberni or the traditional territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations.
- Recipients shall be accepted, or currently enrolled, and eligible to proceed to the next term/semester at an accredited post-secondary institution, such as a college or university, at the time of application.
- The post-secondary institution will be located outside the City of Port Alberni, in Canada or the United States of America.

- Recipients may receive one bursary annually up to a maximum of four years, which do not have to be consecutive.
- From their bursary research, applicants shall include a brief statement highlighting something they learned about EJ Hughes and why it's meaningful to them.

Dr. George Francis (Frank) Roseborough (1927-2016) History

Born 1927, Frank was raised in Port Alberni. As a young man in the 1940's, he left Vancouver Island in the 1940s, to pursue higher education at Mount Royal College ('46). Frank went on to complete his science degree at The University of British Columbia ('49) and his medical degree at Queen's University ('55).

At university, Frank joined the Canadian Officer Training Corps (COTC). In the late 1950s, he served with the Canadian Regular Army as a medical officer for the United Nations Emergency Forces (UNEF) peacekeeping mission during the Suez Canal Crisis.

In the Middle East, Frank developed a keen interest in eye diseases. Soon after, he enrolled in the prominent Kresge Eye Institute (Michigan), and became an eye surgeon (ophthalmologist). Upon entering private practice, Frank transferred to active Militia. As Lieutenant Colonel, he served as senior medical officer for the Pacific area. Frank was appointed Honorary Colonel from 1984 to 1988, and then retired. Patients as well as medical and militia personnel will remember Frank as a committed medical professional and officer.

Equally, Frank will be remembered as the loving and devoted husband of his wife, Nancy Anne (Code) Roseborough. They shared 61 years of marriage by each other's side, proudly raising five children, building two ophthalmology practices (Victoria and Duncan), developing hobbies, and supporting numerous Island artists. Frank was also a longstanding member of the Union Club of BC.

LILLAH AND RALPH ROSSEAU BURSARY

Bursary Description - This Bursary is named in honour of Port Alberni educators Lilliah and Ralph Rosseau. Ralph was a popular teacher and also an avid outdoorsman who tragically died in a climbing accident in 1954. Lilliah, also an avid outdoors person, taught in Port Alberni her whole career and retired as Principal of Eighth Avenue School.



Ralph Rosseau

Bursary Distribution - Annually distribute two bursaries

Bursary Criteria - Awarded to students who proceeding to post-secondary studies in education or environmental stewardship.

Lillah Rosseau (1907-2003) and Ralph Rosseau (1907-1954) History

Ralph was born in Ontario, moving to Vancouver as a young child. He attended UBC for a teaching degree in the 1930's and started his first teaching job on Cortez Island. He moved to Bamfield in 1936 teaching out of the one-room school house there. In 1942, Ralph was hired as a teacher at Eight Avenue School in Port Alberni. While there he met Lilliah Smith, who also taught at the school and shared Ralph's enthusiasm for outdoor activity. She was a willing partner in both climbing and skiing adventures and in 1949 they were married. In 1950, Ralph moved to the newly-built Gill School on Beaver Creek Road, where he became the school's first principal.

Ralph was an avid outdoorsman who loved to climb. He organized countless outdoor activities for his students and, in turn, passed along his knowledge and love of the outdoors. He built a log cabin on Mt. Arrowsmith open for the use of hikers. In July of 1954, while climbing with a group including Lillah, Rousseau was killed in a fall on Mount Septimus (near Great Central Lake). He was 47 years old.

In recognition of Ralph's love of the mountains and his work with government survey crews, the highest peak to the east of Mount Septimus was named Mount Rosseau in his memory. The log cabin on Mount Arrowsmith was also named the Rosseau Chalet.

After Ralph's death, Lilliah continued to teach at Eighth Avenue school where she retired as principal. Lillah was an accomplished tennis player, artist, skier and mountain climber. She helped husband Ralph build the log cabin on Mt. Arrowsmith which later was operated as The Rosseau Chalet. Lillah was a member of the Eastern Star. She passed away in 2003 at the age of 96.

DR. F.S. CHAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Description – Four scholarships are provided annually by the family of Dr. F.S. Chan in his memory. Details of the scholarships are as follows:

- **New Canadian Scholarship** - awarded to a graduating high school student with a good record of scholastic achievement and involvement in school and/or community activities. Preference will be given to student(s) who were not born in Canada or were born to an immigrant family and who have shown perseverance in the face of adversity.
- **Scholarship for Eighth Avenue Learning Centre Student** - The F.S. Chan Family funds an award to a deserving student as determined by the team at EALC.
- **Scholarship for First Nation Students** - This award will be made to Indigenous Learner who has a good record of achievement and is planning on attending a public post-secondary institution. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need and school or community involvement.
- **Scholarship Recognizing Student Improvement** - This award will be made to a student who has improved enough to graduate and wishes to attending a public post-secondary institution.



Dr. S.F. Chan (1933-2020) History

Shiu Fai Chan was born in Hong Kong the youngest of seven children. Fai's father was a doctor and in order to follow in his footsteps Fai went to Taiwan, to enrol in Army Medical School. He learned Mandarin on the job. After interning, he returned to Hong Kong, and then worked on a Dutch cruise ship, travelling to Japan and Southeast Asia. In order to practice in Hong Kong, he came to Saskatchewan in 1960 to intern again, and learn English on the job. He met Elizabeth (Betty) and they were married in 1964. He took further training in Saskatoon and Hamilton, passed the exam in Internal Medicine, and worked in the Cancer Clinic in Regina. He started practicing in Port Alberni in 1969.

Fai became the first resident internist at the West Coast General, and the need for an Intensive Care Unit was soon clear. Fai and the nurses organized classes to train staff. Doctors and nurses learned together. His dedication to his patients was recognized locally by staff and patients. After retirement he received the B C Senior Medal for service and the Canadian Medical Association Medal for Service. Fai was a member of Port Alberni Rotary Club, and the Chinese Canadian Society. He was very active in the Chinese Canadian Society's fundraising banquets for Scholarships.

GERRY STOUTLEY MEMORIAL BURSARY

Bursary Description - This Bursary is named in honour of Port Alberni educator Gerry Stoutley.

Bursary Distribution - Annually distribute a \$1000 bursary.

Bursary Criteria - Awarded to a student of the Eight Avenue Learning Centre as selected by EALC staff

Gerry Stoutley (1941-2000) History

Gerry was a counsellor at ADSS for over 30 years. She was a support to all student and teachers, always available to help anyone in distress, helping students to achieve success in spite of obstacles encountered inside and outside of school. Staff, students and friends lovingly remember her. Her involvement in the community included memberships on many committees and boards that work toward the betterment of the citizens of Port Alberni.

CATHY CROSS MEMORIAL BURSARY

Bursary Description – This bursary has been established by the Alberni Valley Community School Society in memory of Cathy Cross. Alberni Valley Community School Society has donated funding to the Alberni Valley Community Foundation to establish a bursary fund in memory of the late Cathy Cross. Interest from this donation will provide continuing annual bursaries in perpetuity starting in 2026.

Bursary Distribution – Two annual bursaries of \$1000 each will be provided. One to a student at the Alberni District Senior Secondary School Wellness Centre and the other to a student at the Eighth Avenue Learning Centre (EALC).

The Alberni Valley Community School Society - is a non-profit organization that runs through schools and into communities. It brings people together to help define services that are needed for families in the community, then finds a way to help access or operate those services.

Cathy Cross (1955- 2023) History

Cathy Cross was born in Port Alberni and spent most of her life in the Alberni Valley. Throughout her daughters' school years, she was a member of various PACs and she started working as the Community School Coordinator in the late '90s. She stayed with the Community School through its moves from Redford School to Alberni Elementary School to its current home at the ADSS Wellness Centre (tiicmis).

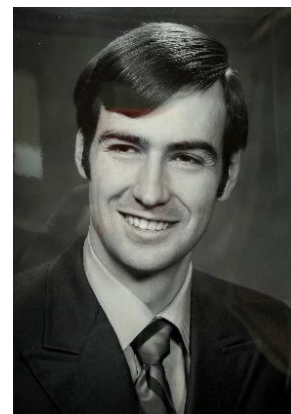
In more than 25 years of coordinating the Community School, Cross raised nearly \$1 million that went to programs helping families in the Alberni Valley.



R. GARY McCAIG MEMORIAL BURSARY

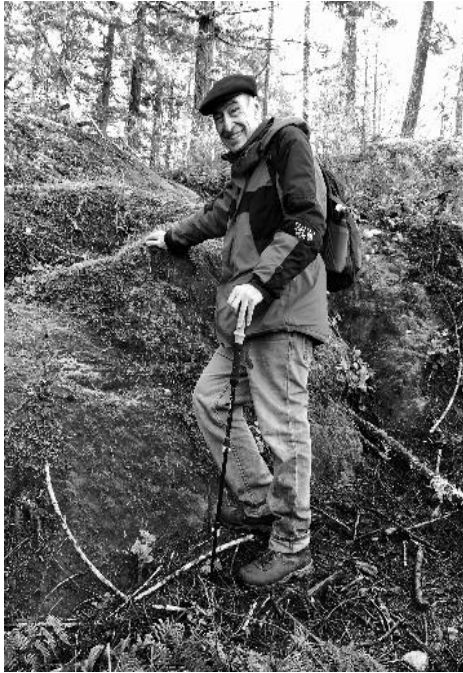
R. Gary McCaig (1948-2025) History

The R. Gary McCaig Memorial Bursary was established by Catalyst Salaried Employee Pensioners (CSEP) to honour Gary's work in battling an unjust strategy proposed by Catalyst Paper when it entered a bankruptcy proceeding. Hundreds of pensions were to be sacrificed, reduced by 35%, as an inducement to creditors. Gary led the pensioners group throughout the Court proceedings and their full pensions were saved. He continued leading CSEP and working on national pension legislation advocacy until his death. CSEP members hope to support young engineering students in reaching their academic goals and to encourage them to follow Gary's example in standing up to injustice when they encounter it.



Gary was born to Stanley and Christina McCaig in Edmonton, Alberta, in April 1948. He spent his childhood moving to various Canadian air force bases with his family before settling in the Victoria area. He was an outstanding student and pursued studies in Chemical Engineering at UBC, although most of his career was spent in management.

Gary moved to Port Alberni upon graduation and held many positions at the Port Alberni Pulp and Paper Mill. His first position was in the Technical Department dealing with pollution problems at the Mill. He then became the first Engineer to work directly in paper machine operations where he was able to initiate many innovative changes from his experience. Gary was the visionary and leader in the conversion of the #5 Paper Machine to produce "coated" papers. This conversion undoubtedly led to the viability and sustainability of the Port Alberni Mill. While many BC mills have closed in recent years, the Port Alberni Mill has continued operating because it produces these specialty papers. Gary's final position was Director of Technology for Catalyst Paper at Head Office.



In retirement, Gary spent many hours hiking, making trail markers, swimming, skiing, going on cross-Canada road trips, and especially enjoying his grandchildren. He initiated and led a provincial campaign to fight an unjust policy by BC Hydro and won concessions for thousands of home owners. He was a Director on the Board of Abbeyfield Housing for seniors. He was instrumental in leading the Sproat Lake Woodlands Society in their goal to protect and preserve lands of significant natural and recreational value within the woodlands surrounding Sproat Lake. He spent many hours writing letters to local and national newspapers and was recognized by these publications for his clearly stated and passionate positions on various issues – and sheer volume of output.

Gary's colleagues will remember him for his leadership, vigorous debate, great personal energy, and always a ready sense of humour. He was a Don Quixote, a champion for many righteous causes – big and small.

Bursary Description – This bursary has been established by the Catalyst Salaried Employees Pension Association (CSEP) which has donated funding to the Alberni Valley Community Foundation to establish a bursary fund in memory of R. Gary McCaig. Interest from this donation will provide continuing annual bursaries in perpetuity starting in 2027.

Bursary Distribution – An annual bursary of at least \$1000 each will be provided.

Bursary Criteria – Students from SD70 Pacific Rim and from SD47 qathet Powell River who are proceeding to post-secondary studies in Engineering are eligible to apply .