

June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Chinook Grads and Families,

Well, here we are. Just over a week away from convocation on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to share with our graduates and their families the updated decisions for Convocation 2020! Please know that the Chinook High staff has been working hard, brainstorming, doing trial runs and making edits along the way to make this a meaningful and special day to mark a truly exciting milestone for our grads and families.

**We are happy to announce that with some guidelines, we can allow students to leave their vehicle to cross the stage!!! Following you will find important information for every family wishing to participate June 19<sup>th</sup>.**

\*Please be aware that these plans can be changed at any time due to AHS regulations and/or weather\*

We would also like to thank all the families who have reached out to offer help and support in this process.

#### **Attire:**

Please recognize that convocation is a **formal event**. Historically students wear the traditional cap, gown and stole to convocation. Recognizing the extraordinary circumstances this spring, we know there are some students who had special formal attire they were planning to wear to the gala that was cancelled this spring. It is with caution we have decided to open this year's convocation for students to choose to wear either the traditional convocation attire OR what they had planned to wear to the gala event.

We say 'with caution' because we realize that not everyone has formal gala attire for various reasons. We also do not wish to add any further financial burden or mental stress with families who feel they must now go out and purchase something. From the contact we have had with many families and students we anticipate the vast majority will wear the traditional cap and gown that will arrive in the convocation boxes the week of June 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Logistics:**

We have worked very hard to coordinate the best possible scenario (six identical ceremonies) where all our graduates can participate in an event that allows them to be recognized in front of some of their peers, family, their advisors and some other school staff; all while respecting the safety guidelines from Alberta Health Services. To do this, we have several things to consider. We need to follow AHS guidelines for outside gatherings of 50 or less. In addition to students who will be out of their cars, we must factor in the number of volunteers, parking attendants, speakers, guests, and staff running the events. After a trial run with staff, we also recognized that we cannot fill up our lot as it has an impact on the sight line of the people who will be watching from their vehicle.

To stay safe and on time, all attendees **must adhere to the following restrictions:**

- 1 vehicle per grad. Only standard vehicles will be permitted in the lot. No limousines, RV's, trailers, or other large vehicles. They will be turned away by parking attendants. Open vehicles will also not be permitted (bikes, motorcycles, convertibles with the top down).
- You must cooperate with parking attendants. **This is not rush parking.** To ensure vehicles are not obscuring other guests, all trucks, SUV's, vans, and larger vehicles will be directed to the back rows of the lot with standard sized cars directed to the front. Ensuring we stay on time; we will need to park and leave the parking lot in an orderly and timely fashion.
- Each guest must always adhere to remaining in their vehicles. No EXCEPTIONS. When called upon, **only grads** leaving their cars to head directly over to their advisor at the stage will be permitted out of their vehicle. Grads must then also return immediately to their vehicles after crossing the stage.
- Parents/Guardians/Family/Friends, we understand you will likely wish to commemorate the occasion with photographs. Please know we will have Life Touch present to take a photo of your grad on the stage. These will be made available through Life Touch. This is no different than any other convocation we have hosted in the past. Should your advisee wish to have a photo with their advisor, we ask that grads bring their phone/camera for a safely distanced selfie with their advisor.
- We ask that families please plan for photos with friends and families off site if this is something you choose to do. With gathering restrictions and to keep traffic flowing, we ask that you do not take photos on or near school property on June 19th.

### **Ceremony Details:**

We have just over 260 students convocating this year. To accommodate all logistics, we will be running six separate convocations, broken up by advisor groups, to ensure AHS gathering restrictions are honoured and that our lot can accommodate the vehicles coming in and out. Each ceremony is allotted 45 minutes. These 45 minutes take into consideration vehicles getting in and back out of the lot. **It is critical you are there on time.** We will be starting each ceremony on time. We ask that you remain in the lot for the duration of your scheduled ceremony. The ATB center north lot could be used as a place to park a few minutes before your grad's scheduled ceremony but exiting the vehicle is not permitted. Please take time to go through the following schedule to find your grad's advisor to identify group number and time. We will be broadcasting the ceremony live on our **FM radio station 103.1 The Howl**. We ask that you tune into the radio station once you arrive as that is how you will be able to hear the ceremony. Our very own Brady Hwy will be DJing the event with music as well.

**Schedule- June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*All students from each group will arrive and leave the parking lot at the same time. Each group has a gold and a red section to keep outside the car numbers under 50\*\***

**Gold Section.** These advisor sections will be the first group of grads to leave cars and head to their advisor by the stage. Wait to be called up by the Master of Ceremonies (Kevin Wood).

**Red Section.** These advisor sections will be the second group of grads to leave cars and head to their advisor by the stage. Wait to be called up by the Master of Ceremonies (Kevin Wood).

<b>Group 1 2:00-2:45 Arrive 1:55 Depart 2:35</b>		<b>Group 2 2:50- 3:35 Arrive 2:45 Depart 3:25</b>		<b>Group 3 3:40-4:25 Arrive 3:35 Depart 4:15</b>		<b>Group 4 4:30-5:15 Arrive 4:25 Depart 5:05</b>		<b>Group 5 5:20-6:05 Arrive 5:15 Depart 5:55</b>		<b>Group 6 6:10-6:55 Arrive 6:05 Depart 6:45</b>	
<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>
Cory	10	Ali	7	Alisha H	12	Deanna	9	Matt	5	Billy	4
Sydney	5	Irene	7	Tessa	6	Brad	5	Cam	5	Shane	4
Jay	4	Stef	3	DeAndra	5	Ard	7	Kevin S	8	Tammy	4
David O	1	Ray	4					Amanda	5	Jackie	4
										Jaclyn	4
										Leta	4
<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>	<b>Advisor Section</b>	<b># of Families</b>
Todd	1	Kenny	4	Rebecca	7	Lou	6	Alisha S	6	David W	7
Duane	6	Eva	6	Janay	6	Bruce	3	Nick	1	Taryn	9
Raelyn	4	Bill	8	Garth	8	Victoria	1	Dave M	7	Chantel	3
Grant	3	Neil	3			Tara	3	Kevin W	6	Chris	5
Josh	6					Missy/Lisa	9				

### Staging and Parking:

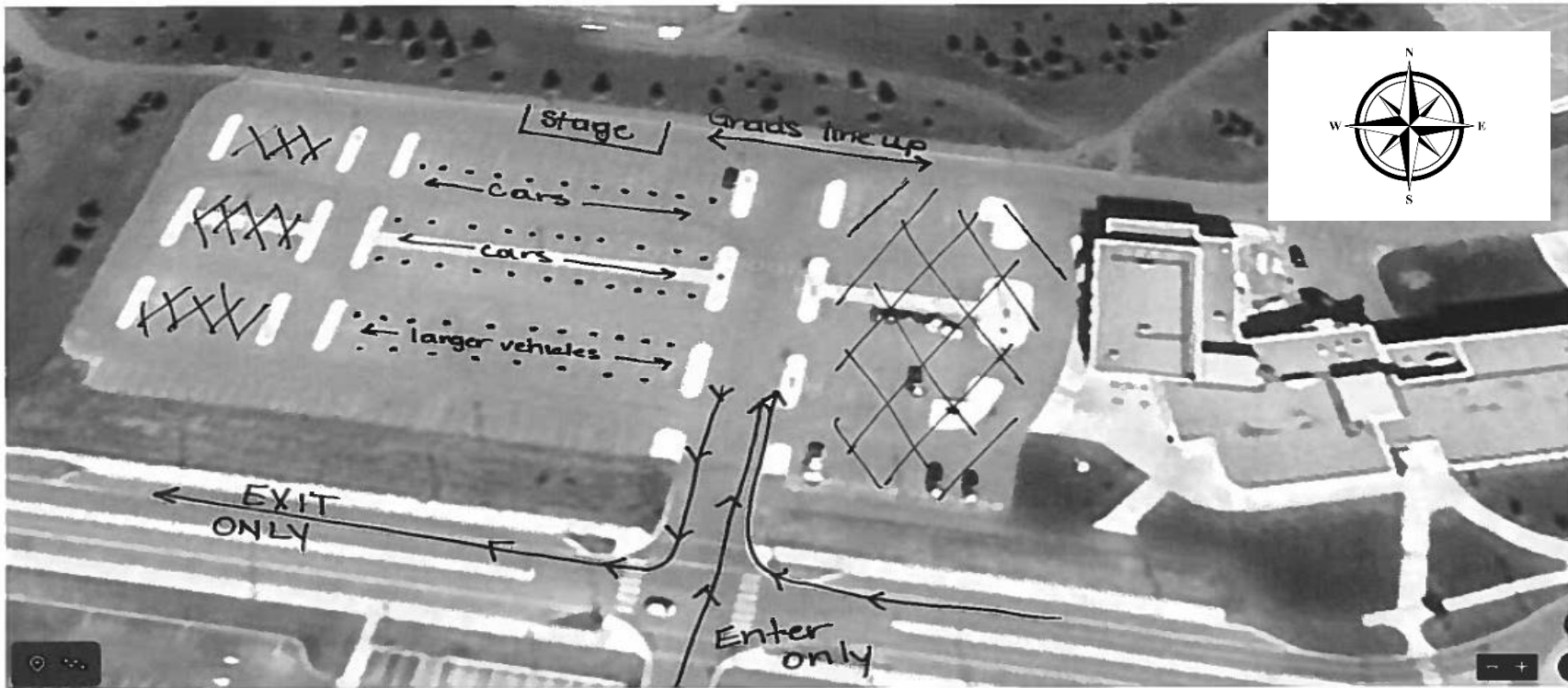
The stage will be in the middle of the north end of the lot. When it is time for grads to leave their cars and assemble by advisor, they will head to the east side of the stage to find their advisor and line up alphabetically- keeping a safe 2 meters apart. While not mandatory, it is recommended that those students leaving their cars wear a mask.

We ask that you please be considerate and not idle your vehicle for the duration of the ceremony if possible.

Anyone **entering** the lot must enter either from the north lot at the ATB center or turn right into our lot off Britannia Blvd.

When **exiting** the lot, all vehicles must turn right and head west on Britannia Blvd and turn onto 30<sup>th</sup> Street West.

There will be parking attendants in both the intersection of our parking lot and Britannia as well as in our lot to direct you where to park. Parking spots have been marked out in advance.



**Convocation Box:**

If your grad's convocation fees were paid, you will receive a convocation box. Inside you will find all the items we normally hand out to students the day before and the day of convocation. Cap, gown, stole, tassel, diploma cover, school certificate and perhaps cards or letters teachers may normally give students or their advisees. In addition to these items, we are adding a keepsake program and a commemorative gold rock. To honour the tradition of our grads normally signing the big gold rock next to the west doors, this year we hand painted gold rocks for each grad and marked them to commemorate Chinook Grad 2020. This way, you get to take a piece of the school with you.

**The Next Couple Weeks:**

Expect to hear from your grad's advisor this week. The purpose for the call is to arrange a time that works to drop off the convocation box to your home the week of June 15-18. Please ensure that when you are on the phone you confirm your address with your grad's advisor. We want to ensure we get this important item to the right place. If you are unable to arrange a time/day please let your grad's advisor know. We can try to come up with an alternative arrangement. If you have any questions, please reach out to your grad's advisor via email or contact the office directly.

**\*Please understand that any/all of this could change any time due to AHS regulations and/or weather. We will do our best to keep you updated with any potential changes\***

**Congratulations Grads! We look forward to seeing you and celebrating with you June 19<sup>th</sup>!**