

## GREATER VICTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 AND BAYS UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB SIGN A 25 YEAR AGREEMENT FOR THE ARTIFICAL TURF FIELD AT OAK BAY HIGH SCHOOL

The Greater Victoria School District and Bays United Football Club have signed a 25 year agreement that will result in a high quality artificial turf soccer field being built as part of the Oak Bay High School redevelopment. This agreement is a true win-win opportunity for Bays United and Oak Bay High School. Oak Bay High School Principal, Dave Thomson noted that "Oak Bay High has been the beneficiary of the excellent Bays United program for years. For us to build this relationship to provide a quality facility for the future is another great example of how the cooperative spirit of our community has paid dividends."

Bays United will contribute to field construction costs and provide revenue for annual field maintenance in return for a long term field use agreement. The school gains state of the art athletic facilities that will increase participation in youth sports and contribute to the development of higher calibre players. Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Board Chair stated that "*The Board is pleased that students will have full use of a first class all-weather sports facility during school hours and the community will also enjoy year round use of this modern facility.*" Outside of school use hours, the facility will be the home field for Bays United which currently runs its youth and senior soccer programs at several school and municipal fields in Victoria.

About Bays United – Bays United Football Club is among the largest of Lower Island Soccer Association's ten soccer clubs, with a membership of about 1,500 players aged 5 to over 65. The club promotes excellence in soccer by providing a challenging and development-focused environment from novice to premier levels. We believe that sport builds healthy bodies and minds, and positive player development helps our youth to achieve greater success in life. Bays United also values our community by bringing together people from different neighbourhoods to play soccer, volunteer in community sports events, and simply to socialize as they enjoy this beautiful game. Further information is available at <u>www.baysunited.ca</u>.

## Media Contacts:

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