



September 20, 2018

City of Victoria  
Mayor & Council  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 1P6

Dear Council

It is with enthusiasm I make a personal invite for the City of Victoria to become a part of a historical totem pole raising event taking place here in Victoria at 1515 Blanshard Street in November 2018.

In partnership with the Royal BC Museum, TimberWest and the Ministry of Health, we would like to extend the invite to the city to be a part of a totem pole project called the "Crossing Cultures & Healing". This totem and our partners are working to engage with Indigenous peoples to work in the spirit of reconciliation. This pole serves notice of our desire to work in a culturally safe manner to engage with Indigenous peoples at all levels. The Ministry of Health is working to improve outcomes and to hire a more diverse population which includes Indigenous people.

We at the Ministry of Health graciously invite the City of Victoria to be a part of the occasion in our path towards reconciliation. The pole which is being carved at the Royal BC museum will be complete by October 5, 2018 with master carvers Perry & Tom LaFortune at the helm, this pole will represent the continuing work with Indigenous people.

If the city for this unveiling event which will take place in mid-November 2018 would be willing to provide in-kind gestures towards this event such as supporting of road closures & permits required this would be an amazing gesture of good faith in this project.

I look forward to hearing from council on considering this request.

Respectfully

Steve Sxwithul'twx

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Cultural Safety/Indigenous Employment  
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