

jbna@vcn.bc.ca Victoria, B.C., Canada <u>www.jbna.org</u>

January 21st, 2019

Mayor Helps and Councillors, City of Victoria.

Re: Proposed Heritage Conservation Area Initiative

Dear Mayor Helps and Councillors,

This letter is in support of the residential built heritage preservation initiative recently proposed by Heritage Planner, John O'Reilly. James Bay is the oldest residential neighbourhood in British Columbia and the JBNA Board is keenly interested in preserving and celebrating our irreplaceable built heritage.

This proposed policy update, for creating Heritage Conservation Areas, is clearly articulated and engages residents in identifying those special areas appropriate for heritage conservation. James Bay has two established Heritage Conservation Areas and there are additional precincts that residents may also be interested in designating as HCAs. The proposal provides sufficient information required for motivated residents to engage in the process of creating an HCA.

We also support the proposal for Council to direct City staff to form a heritage working group comprised of CALUC members, citizen representatives, and heritage advocates who would be tasked to develop recommendations for improvements to the City's heritage program and strategies for increasing awareness, comprehension and appreciation of residential heritage conservation in the City of Victoria.

The James Bay Neighbourhood Association Board encourages you to support this positive and forward-looking initiative.

Yours truly

Marg Gardiner President, JBNA

JBNA ~ honouring our history, building our future