## "EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK"

- **WHEREAS** Eating Disorder Awareness Week seeks to raise awareness of eating disorders, shed light on dangerous and pervasive myths, and promote prevention; and
- WHEREAS the Provincial Eating Disorders Awareness (PEDAW) campaign launches annually in February with events and activities taking place throughout the year and is part of a national effort to raise awareness around prevention and early intervention of eating disorders as well as media literacy, resiliency, building healthy body image and self-esteem; and
- whereas the Vancouver Island Voices for Eating Disorders Society (VIVED) is a grassroots organization that, despite its members' ongoing struggle with illnesses, has pulled together people with eating disorders, their loved ones, friends and allies, and has met with the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions to talk about lived experiences and present ideas about how services and programs can be improved, and is hosting a public panel on eating disorders February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Bolen Books, and
- **WHEREAS** eating disorders are psychiatric illnesses with higher mortality rates than any other mental illness, and
- **WHEREAS** it is critical that greater awareness be raised in this area to support additional and innovated services in the City of Victoria so more adults with eating disorders to receive can access appropriate services in their own home community,
- NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim the week of February 1<sup>st</sup> February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as "EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK" on the HOMELAND of the Lekwungen speaking ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA.
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 31st day of January Two Thousand and Nineteen.

LISA HELPS MAYOR CITY OF VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA Sponsored By: Vancouver Island Voices for Eating Disorders Society