

Council Member Motion For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 31, 2019

Date: January 30, 2019

From: Councillor Dubow, Councillor Collins and Councillor Potts

Subject: To seek Council support to allow Permanent Residents to vote in BC municipal elections.

Recommendation:

THAT Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies to the Premier of British Columbia, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Annual Convention, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention, and member local governments and regional districts within the Capital Region, AVICC and UBCM, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support:

Resolution: Permanent Residents to vote in BC municipal elections.

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections;

AND WHEREAS more than 45 countries have granted Permanent Residents some form of voting rights — including seven jurisdictions in the U.S. and 25 European Union countries; and 11 municipalities in Canada are working toward extending local election voting rights to Permanent Residents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia to make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections in Victoria and other municipalities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharmarke Dubow Sarah Potts

Laurel Collins

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