

Appendix A

“SIKH HERITAGE DAY”

- WHEREAS** *Sikhism is a religion founded in the Panjab region of South Asia over five centuries ago and introduced to Canada in the 19th century; and*
- WHEREAS** *Sikhism is the fifth largest world independent religion with approximately 30 million adherents from diverse backgrounds throughout the world, including approximately 500,000 adherents in Canada; and*
- WHEREAS** *Sikhs in Canada pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the social, cultural, political and economic vibrancy of Canada, including service as members of the Canadian Forces; and*
- WHEREAS** *Vaisakhi is one of the most religiously significant days in Sikh history, commemorating the creation of the Khalsa, a nation of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699; and*
- WHEREAS** *the celebration of Vaisakhi includes performing Seva (selfless service), such as providing free meals to all visitors to Sikh Gurdwaras; and*
- WHEREAS** *the month of April is proclaimed Sikh Heritage Month by the Province of British Columbia; and*
- WHEREAS** *on April 28th, the Vaisakhi celebration will take place at Gurdwara Singh Sabha, showcasing the Sikh community through prayer, followed by a parade and food for everyone to enjoy*
- WHEREAS** *Today, the City of Victoria seeks to recognize the diversity of its community and afford all residents the opportunity to better understand, recognize and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences*

NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim Sunday, April 14th, 2019 as “**SIKH HERITAGE DAY**”, on the **TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES** of the **LEKWUNGEN SPEAKING, ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS** in the **CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY** of the **PROVINCE** of **BRITISH COLUMBIA** and wish the Sikh community a joyous Vaisakhi celebration on April 14th 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 28th day of March, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Jatinder Singh
Gurdwara Singh Sabha