"ORCA ACTION MONTH"

- WHEREAS British Columbia's Resident Killer Whales (orcas) are listed as endangered (Southern population, of the Salish Sea) and threatened (Northern population) under the Species at Risk Act, and
- WHEREAS Salish Sea orcas are an iconic population, culturally significant for Indigenous peoples and bring much pleasure and interest to residents of and visitors to the City of Victoria and
- WHEREAS major factors in the decline of the Salish Sea orcas include previous captures for marine parks, declining salmon populations, marine pollution, vessel disturbance and underwater noise, and
- WHEREAS the City of Victoria supports efforts to recover this endangered population by better understanding and providing for their needs, and
- WHEREAS during the month of June various conservation groups in the Pacific Northwest come together to focus on educating the public and taking action to protect the Salish Sea orcas, and
- WHEREAS bringing attention to the plight of the Salish Sea orcas also brings attention to conservation efforts to recover British Columbia's herring and Chinook salmon populations, and
- WHEREAS we recognize the importance of respecting and observing the Salish Sea orcas with care.
- NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim the month of June 2019 as "ORCA ACTION MONTH" on the HOMELAND of the SONGHEES AND ESQUIMALT PEOPLE in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA.
- *IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of May, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

LISA HELPS MAYOR CITY OF VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA Sponsored By: Tessa Danelesko Georgia Strait Alliance