

“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

