



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 10th, 2019

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** Oct.3rd, 2019
From: Councillor Jeremy Loveday
Subject: Affordable Artist Housing in the City of Victoria

BACKGROUND

The Create Victoria Arts and Culture Masterplan states that “culture and creativity are essential aspects for vibrant and sustainable cities”. For arts, culture, and creativity to thrive in a community, artists need to be able to live and work in that community. The City of Victoria is at a crucial moment for arts and culture as the City has increasingly become unaffordable for many residents including artists.

During the engagement process for the Create Victoria Arts and Culture Masterplan, the City of Victoria heard from many members of the arts community who expressed concerns about the impacts of the affordability crisis on artists’ ability to live and create in Victoria. In response to this input, one of the goals of the Create Victoria plan is to “align with affordability initiatives by identifying artists and creators as potential applicants for affordability housing”.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council direct staff to align the Create Victoria Masterplan with the Victoria Housing Strategy to include the creation of housing for artists as a goal of the Victoria Housing Strategy.
2. And that Council direct staff to consider ways to encourage the creation of affordable housing for artists through the implementation of existing policies including the inclusionary housing policy, housing reserve fund, and other relevant policies.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Loveday".

Councillor, Jeremy Loveday