"NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY"

WHEREAS *in Article 25(1) of its Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations has affirmed that housing is a human right; and*

WHEREAS *homelessness and inadequate housing pose severe hardship for women, men and children living in Victoria; and*

WHEREAS *people who experience homelessness and inadequate housing have poorer health, shorter life expectancy and often lack access to basic health, mental health and addiction services; and*

WHEREAS *in remembering those who have died on the streets and in inadequate housing of Greater Victoria, the cause of ending homelessness is kept urgent, as is the City of Victoria's collective commitment to preventing such deaths in the future; and*

WHEREAS *December 21 is the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, and has been designated National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day by cities around the world; and*

BE IT RESOLVED *that in recognition of the people who have died unhoused and underhoused in Greater Victoria, Victoria City Council asks all our residents to take a moment of silence in remembrance on December 21st; and*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *that Victoria City Council encourages our residents to support and participate in all local efforts to eliminate homelessness and inadequate housing in our community.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim Saturday, December 21st, 2019 as* ***"HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY"*** *on the HOMELANDS of the Lekwungen speaking* ***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 December 12th, Two Thousand and Nineteen.*

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LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Councillor Marianne Alto
and Victoria Committee to
End Homelessness