

“SOUTH ASIAN WOMEN IN CANADA DAY”

- WHEREAS** *Immigration from the Indian subcontinent to Canada began in the late 1800s; and*
- WHEREAS** *families were initially split due to restrictive Canadian immigration policies disallowing South Asian women and children from joining their male family members; and*
- WHEREAS** *South Asians faced the full brunt of racial ideologies, social isolation, economic subordination and political disenfranchisement during the 20th Century; and*
- WHEREAS** *the struggle to have South Asian women and children join their male family members finally succeeded in 1919 with the Privy Council order PC2498; and*
- WHEREAS** *Canada then passed further laws restricting re-entry and other measures such that only a few South Asians came to Canada in the first half of the 20th Century; and*
- WHEREAS** *almost all racial and national restrictions in immigration were not removed until 1962; and*
- WHEREAS** *today South Asian Canadian women pursue diverse professions and walks of life, making rich contributions to the political, social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of Canada, including service as members of the Canadian Forces and law enforcement; and*
- WHEREAS** *December 24th, 2019 marks one hundred years since South Asian women were allowed entry into Canada; and*
- 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 Tuesday, December 24th, 2019 as **“SOUTH ASIAN WOMEN IN CANADA 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.

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Jindi Singh
Sikh Youth Of Victoria