“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

Sponsored by:
MAYOR
Councillor Marianne Alto
CITY OF VICTORIA
and Victoria Committee to
BRITISH COLUMBIA
End Homelessness