

“INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY AND WEEK”

WHEREAS *The Zonta Club of Victoria, a volunteer and service advocacy club, works locally and globally through Zonta International and UN Women, to empower women and girls achieve their full potential, by advocating that women’s rights are recognized as human rights, working to end forced and childhood marriage, fundraising to remove barriers for women seeking access to post-secondary education in fields that are grossly underrepresented by women (aerospace, sciences, technology and business), granting awards to young women in public affairs so they can continue their essential work improving the lives of others, and we work to improve women’s socioeconomic status; and*

WHEREAS *In 1975 The United Nations declared March 8th to be recognized globally as ‘International Women’s Day, and in 2015 countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 5 is “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”; and*

WHEREAS *The Zonta Club of Victoria is making the request to proclaim the week of March 8 to 15th as International Women’s Day and Week, with the aim of taking the time to reflect on the contributions women have made and continue to make their communities and countries better places in which to live, work and grow; and*

WHEREAS *International Women’s Day and Week is a time to uphold women’s achievements, recognize challenges, focus greater attention on women’s rights and gender equality, encourage and mobilize all citizens, politicians and decision-makers to do their part to bring about positive change so we can achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5; and*

WHEREAS *International Women’s Day and Week is a time to envision a world in which women’s rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence; and*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim Sunday, March 8th, 2020 as “International Women’s Day” and the week of March 8 - 15, 2020 as “**International Women’s Week**” 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 February 27th Two Thousand and Twenty.*

**LISA HELPS
MAYOR
BRITISH COLUMBIA
CITY OF VICTORIA**

**Sponsored by:
Barbie Zipp, President
The Zonta Club of Victoria**