



**Council Member Motion**  
**For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 12, 2020**

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** March 6, 2020  
**From:** Mayor Helps, Councillor Thornton-Joe, And Councillor Alto  
**Subject:** Extended Hours for Our Place

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**BACKGROUND**

Each year Our Place is funded to open from November 1 - March 31 from 7:00am-9:00pm 7 days a week and 9 - 6 on stat holidays.

In the spring and summer months, due to funding, the hours from April 1 - October 31 are weekdays from 7:00am-6:00pm, weekends from 10:00am-6:00pm and on statutory holidays only open to serve lunch and dinner.

The gap of 3 hours in the morning on weekends, 3 hours gap 7 nights a week, and the limited hours on statutory holidays contributes to an increase in already existing congregation on the boulevard outside of Our Place. It also means that people seeking a place to use a washroom, food and snacks, or to get out of the heat or cold have no place to go when Our Place is not open. Further, as the First Met shelter closes in the morning at 7am, those who need a place to have a shower and get some food must wait outside of Our Place on weekends until it is opened.

BC Housing and Island Health have expressed a commitment to providing \$50,000 each to extend the Our Place hours to match the winter hours until the end of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. if the City of Victoria would also contribute \$50,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charlayne Thornton-Joe".

Councillor Thornton-Joe

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alto".

Councillor Alto

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Helps".

Mayor Helps