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## **Declaration of State of Local Emergency ORDER**

WHEREAS there is a global COVID-19 pandemic and associated social and economic disruption within the jurisdiction of the City of Victoria;

AND WHEREAS the social and economic disruption, which results in immediate hardship to many residents and businesses in the City of Victoria, including loss of income for thousands of residents, closures of hundreds of businesses and risk of widespread illness and suffering, poses an existing or imminent threat to people and property within the City of Victoria;

AND WHEREAS this medical, social and economic emergency requires prompt coordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the health, safety, and welfare of people or to limit damage to property;

NOW THEREFORE:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to Section 12 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* that a state of local emergency exists in the City of Victoria due to COVID-19 pandemic and associated social and economic disruption;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the City Manager, Jocelyn Jenkyns, and the Deputy City Manager, Susanne Thompson, and any person acting under their direction are empowered pursuant to Section 13 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* to do all acts and implement all procedures that are considered necessary to prevent or to alleviate the effects of the emergency, including:

- (a) pursuant to section 10(1)(e) and (l), to require all persons in the City of Victoria currently providing residential rental accommodation to others to render assistance to alleviate the effects of the current emergency by:
  - (i) continuing to provide the residential rental accommodation for the duration of the emergency on the same terms and conditions (including rent) as existed on March 1, 2020; and
  - (ii) not issuing any eviction notices based on failure to pay rent during the duration of the emergency,
- (b) pursuant to section 10(1)(e) and (l), to require all persons in the City of Victoria currently providing commercial rental premises to others to render assistance to alleviate the effects of the current emergency by:
  - i. continuing to provide the commercial rental premises for the duration of the emergency on the same terms and conditions (including rent) as existed on March 1, 2020; and
  - ii. not take any action (including evictions, distress, or other remedy whether in law or equity) based on failure of tenant to pay rent during the duration of the emergency,
- (c) ...

ORDERED by the Council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria this date, March 23, 2020, to remain in force for seven days until March 30, 2020 at midnight unless cancelled by the Mayor of the City of Victoria or the Minister responsible.

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Mayor Lisa Helps