

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**  
**FROM THE MEETING HELD MAY 28, 2020**

For the Council meeting of May 28, 2020, the Committee recommends the following:

**H.1 Council Member Motion - Housing and Supports during Covid Phase 2**

1. That Council requests that the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the Premier of British Columbia, copying Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies in the Capital Region, reiterating the City of Victoria's request that the Government of British Columbia mobilize sufficient resources to offer housing with appropriate social care and health care to all unhoused people in the Province of British Columbia.
2. That Council directs City of Victoria staff to:
  - a. Resume booking hotel and motel rooms in the Capital Region without delay for people currently sheltering outdoors in the City of Victoria, working with partner organizations to offer housing with appropriate social care and health care services (and all supports and wraparound services that may be required), and with informed consent of people to be housed, drawing from unspent funds from \$300,000 in previously approved Covid-19 response funding, and that the City seek reimbursement from the Province for these expenditures.
  - b. Maintain access to hygiene for people currently sheltering outdoors, including handwashing facilities and washrooms in proximity to authorized outdoor sheltering locations on a 24-hour basis, drawing from unspent funds from previously approved Covid-19 response funding.
  - c. Maintain funding for shower facilities at Our Place, drawing from unspent funds from previously approved Covid-19 response funding.

**H.2 Council Member Motion - Advocacy for Paid Sick Leave for All**

WHEREAS British Columbia has entered Phase 2 of the province's Restart Plan allowing for the reopening of a broad range of businesses and services;

AND WHEREAS paid sick leave is an essential measure to protect public health and prevent disease transmission as the economy begins to reopen and contacts increase;

AND WHEREAS paid sick leave provides substantial benefits to the public, firms, and workers;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have fundamental powers to regulate, prohibit or impose requirements to protect public health;

AND WHEREAS the public health emergency is most effectively combatted with all levels of government working together;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Victoria City Council request that the province implement amendments to the Employment Standards Act to introduce a minimum of 21 paid sick leave days for the duration of the Provincial State of Emergency with a legacy of at least 10 days of paid sick leave for workers in British Columbia in perpetuity.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Victoria City Council requests that the federal government increase the EI Premium Reduction Program for employers that offer paid

sick leave or introduce a refundable corporate income tax credit to support firms in meeting their paid sick leave obligations for the duration of the current crisis.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Victoria City Council requests that, in the event that the federal government is unwilling to offer financial support for firms offering paid sick leave, the province implement a partially offsetting credit to the Employer's Health Tax or WorkSafeBC premiums for the duration of the current crisis.