



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 28th, 2020

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 25th, 2020
From: Councillor Jeremy Loveday and Councillor Ben Isitt
Subject: Advocacy For Paid Sick Leave For All

Motion:

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.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Loveday', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Loveday

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Isitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Isitt