



**Council Member Report
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 16, 2020**

Date: July 7, 2020
From: Councillor Dubow, Councillor Potts, Councillor Isitt and Councillor Loveday
Subject: Ending Street Checks in the City of Victoria

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward a copy to the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board:

Resolution: Ending Street Checks in the City of Victoria

WHEREAS street checks occur when police or other law enforcement officers stop an individual for reasons: (1) not related to a reported or observed criminal offence, (2) not related to an investigation of a reported or observed criminal offence, or (3) not part of a random vehicle check;

AND WHEREAS carding is the practice of recording information about an individual who is the subject of a street check in a police database;

AND WHEREAS available data points to a pattern of discrimination against Black, Indigenous, people of colour (BIPOC) and unhoused people in the deployment of this tactic in various jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS the harmful effects of street checks have been well-documented across Canada and found to disproportionately and negatively impact members of the BIPOC community and unhoused people;

AND WHEREAS the City of Victoria has adopted a strategic plan that includes ensuring a welcoming, compassionate and neighbourly atmosphere in our community where all people are welcomed, accepted, respected and encouraged to participate;

AND WHEREAS the City of Victoria is committed to ending racism and has an important role to play in making a collective response to end fear-mongering, racism and human suffering;

AND WHEREAS police boards and police departments should take into account the priorities, goals and objectives of local communities when establishing fiscal and operational policies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Victoria City Council declares that street checks and carding are against the priorities, goals and objectives of the City of Victoria;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council requests that the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board and the Victoria Police Department take immediate action to implement a ban on street checks and carding in the City of Victoria.

Respectfully submitted,



Councillor Dubow



Councillor Potts



Councillor Isitt



Councillor Loveday