



Council Report For the Meeting of September 17, 2020

To: Council **Date:** September 10, 2020
From: Karen Hoese, Director, Sustainable Planning and Community Development
Subject: **Heritage Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 20-079 for 2615-2629 Douglas Street (the Times Colonist Building)**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council give first, second and third reading to the Tax Exemption (2615, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, and 2629 Douglas Street) Bylaw No. 20-079.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

In accordance with Section 225 of the *Community Charter*, Council may exempt protected heritage property from taxation under section 197(1)(a) to the extent provided in the bylaw and subject to conditions established by the exemption agreement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the completed Heritage Tax Exemption Bylaw and notice for the property at 2615, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, and 2629 Douglas Street (the Times Colonist Building), in accordance with Council's motion of February 27, 2020:

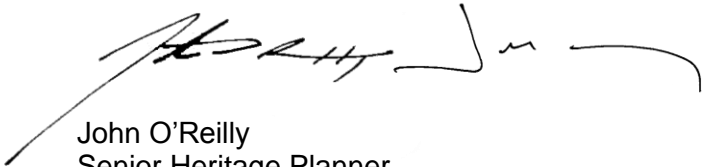
That Council instruct the City Solicitor to prepare a Tax Exemption Bylaw for 2615-2629 Douglas Street for land and improvements located within 66.1 metres of the front property line for 10 years, pursuant to Section 225 of the Community Charter, with the following conditions:

- 1. That the heritage designation of the property be completed.*
- 2. That a covenant identifying the tax exemption be registered on the title of the property and any possible future strata titles.*
- 3. That the final costs of seismic upgrading be verified by the Victoria Civic Heritage Trust.*

Council must give the Heritage Tax Exemption Bylaw three readings before staff can proceed to prepare and register a section 219 covenant on title of the property, which identifies the tax exemption and associated conditions.

After the By-law receives three readings, staff can provide legal notification for advertising in the newspaper once each week for two consecutive weeks prior to Council's final adoption of the bylaw.

Respectfully submitted,



John O'Reilly
Senior Heritage Planner
Development Services Division



Karen Hoese, Director
Sustainable Planning and Community
Development Department

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



Date: September 11, 2020

List of Attachments

- Attachment A: Subject Map
- Attachment B: Aerial Map
- Attachment C: Committee of the Whole Report and Attachments, February 13, 2020
- Attachment D: Council Minutes, February 27, 2020
- Attachment E: Tax Exemption (2615, 2621, 2623, 2625, 2627, and 2629 Douglas Street) Bylaw No. 20-079
- Attachment F: Notice of Proposed Permissive Tax Exemption.