

“ORANGE DAYS: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS”

WHEREAS *As people retreat inside their homes in efforts to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, reports from around the globe have shown an alarming increase in the already existing pandemic of violence against women. All types of violence against women and girls, and particularly domestic violence, have intensified. Although older women in Africa are strong and resilient, they are also among the most victimized groups when it comes to gender-based violence. We are calling this "the shadow pandemic"; and*

WHEREAS *In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts, global UNiTE Campaign activities this year take place under the theme: "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!"; and*

WHEREAS *In recognition of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our community, GRAN is inviting Victorians to undertake safe, local activities to raise awareness of the urgent need to include funding and strategies to respond to and prevent "the shadow pandemic," violence against women during COVID-19; and*

WHEREAS *in Canada, violence against women is disproportionately inflicted on Indigenous women; and*

WHEREAS *by creating worldwide awareness and calling on governments to match adequate, sustained resources to their political promises, we will find solutions to end gender-based violence.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim the 16 days from November 25th to December 10th, 2020 as “ORANGE DAYS: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS” on the HOMELANDS of the Lekwungen speaking SONGHEES AND ESQUIMALT PEOPLE in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA and urge all Victoria residents to participate in the United Nations campaign to "Orange the world."*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I hereunto set my hand this November 12th, Two Thousand and Twenty.*

**LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Sponsored by:
*Anne Moon
Grandmothers Advocacy Network
Victoria Branch*