

**“INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE  
FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION”**

**WHEREAS** *the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation honours all those who are courageously working towards an end to this harmful practice; and*

**WHEREAS** *4.1 million girls are still at risk of mutilation each year including in Canada; and*

**WHEREAS** *we acknowledge that Female Genital Mutilation is an issue in more than 90 countries and on every continent except Antarctica, and that there are at least 200 million FGM survivors in the world, including more than 100,000 in Canada; and*

**WHEREAS** *we acknowledge that FGM has no basis in any religious text and is recognized by the United Nations as child abuse and an abuse of a girl’s fundamental human rights.; and*

**WHEREAS** *we acknowledge that FGM has no benefits and causes only harm; and*

**WHEREAS** *we call for increased global and Canadian action to end Female Genital Mutilation and ask governments at all levels to fully uphold the human rights of women to be free from this cruelty.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** *I do hereby proclaim Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as*

***“INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION”\_on the HOMELANDS of the Lekwungen speaking SONGHEES AND ESQUIMALT PEOPLE in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA.***

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, *I hereunto set my hand this 28<sup>th</sup> of January, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.*

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

**Sponsored by:**  
*Megan Parisotto  
End FGM Canada Network*