



## CITY OF VICTORIA

# PROCLAMATION

### **“KOMAGATA MARU REMEMBRANCE DAY”**

- WHEREAS** *on May 23, 1914, three hundred and seventy-six British Subjects from India of Sikh, Muslim and Hindu origin arrived in Vancouver Harbour aboard the Komagata Maru, seeking to enter Canada; and*
- WHEREAS** *on July 23, 1914, the Komagata Maru was forced to leave as a result of a discriminatory act by the Government of Canada, without allowing the passengers to disembark; and*
- WHEREAS** *in 2008 and 2016, behalf of the Descendants of the Komagata Maru Society request the BC Government and Government of Canada apologized for this act of discrimination, committing to learn from the mistakes of the past, to ensure they are never repeated; and*
- WHEREAS** *on June 10, 2020 Vancouver City Council apologized for its role in the Komagata Maru incident at the request of the Descendants of the Komagata Maru Society; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria is committed to protecting People from hate, racism, and discrimination through legislation, education, and example; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria is home to many diverse cultures where individuals can practice their beliefs and customs while respecting and learning from other traditions; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria promotes multiculturalism and the full and free participation of all individuals in society.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** I do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 as “**KOMAGATA MARU REMEMBRANCE DAY**” 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

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

**Sponsored By:**  
**Descendants of the Komagata Maru Society**