



## CITY OF VICTORIA

# PROCLAMATION

### “NATIONAL FOREST WEEK”

- WHEREAS** *Victoria's urban forest plays a vital role within the city; and*
- WHEREAS** *Its vibrant forested green spaces offer valuable recreational opportunities to its residents; and*
- WHEREAS** *They are a center for physical, mental, social and community wellbeing; and*
- WHEREAS** *Its 150,000 trees also contribute a multitude of essential ecological services to the city such as pollution reduction, stormwater retention and air quality improvement; and*
- WHEREAS** *Their carbon sequestration and cooling capacities act as a vital tool of resilience and sustainability against climate change; and*
- WHEREAS** *Its tree cover could also serve as neighbourhood agroforestry projects that provide nutritious food and enhance community health; and*
- WHEREAS** *National Forest Week is an annual one-week campaign which recognizes its critical contribution to Canada and its people. This year, National Forest Week will be celebrated across the country by individuals and organizations with the theme of “Our Forests - Continually Giving” and will encourage individuals to reflect on the role of forests and trees within their everyday lives.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** I do hereby proclaim the week of September 19<sup>th</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as “**NATIONAL FOREST WEEK**” 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

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

**Sponsored by:**  
**CIF – VANCOUVER**  
**ISLAND SECTION**