



## CITY OF VICTORIA

# PROCLAMATION

### “HOLODOMOR COMMEMORATION DAY”

- WHEREAS in 1932/1933, Joseph Stalin, dictator of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, systematically imposed mass starvation in regions of the Soviet Ukraine, cruelly ending the lives of between seven and ten million people of all ages, mostly Ukrainians; and*
- WHEREAS the famine known as the Holodomor, or "extermination by hunger" was one of the most sinister acts of genocide ever perpetrated in the world, and on a scale never before witnessed; and*
- WHEREAS after decades of suppression of information, 25 countries including Russia and Ukraine signed a declaration at the United Nations to honour the 70th anniversary of the Holodomor, raising international awareness of the genocide, following which in 2008, the European Parliament recognized the Ukrainian Holodomor as a crime against humanity; and*
- WHEREAS in 2008 the Government of Canada passed Bill C-459, The Act to Establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day, declaring that "throughout Canada in each and every year, on the fourth Saturday of November, the Holodomor shall be memorialized"; and*
- WHEREAS the year 2021 marks the 88<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Holodomor; and*
- WHEREAS the Ukrainian-Canadian community of Southern Vancouver Island seeks to promote awareness about the Holodomor, honouring those family members, friends, and other Ukrainian civilians whose lives were taken, and to remind all Canadians of the beneficence of Canadian society, with its democratic traditions and abiding respect for human rights.*
- NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as “HOLODOMOR COMMEMORATION 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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.*

---

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

**Sponsored by:**  
**Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe**