



CITY OF VICTORIA

PROCLAMATION

“BLACK HISTORY MONTH”

- WHEREAS** *during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black Canadians to our economic, cultural, spiritual and political development; and*
- WHEREAS** *Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and*
- WHEREAS** *the celebration of Black History Month was initiated in Canada by the Ontario Black History Society and introduced to Parliament in December 1995 by Jean Augustine, the first Black woman elected as a member of Parliament in Canada; and*
- WHEREAS** *Black History Month was officially observed across Canada for the first time in February 1996; and*
- WHEREAS** *The 2022 theme for Black History Month is: Black Health and Wellness inspired by the theme of the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent; and*
- WHEREAS** *the observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the continued need to battle racism and build a society that lives up to its democratic ideals; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria is working towards becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens – past, present, and future- are respected and recognized for their contributions and potential contributions to our community, the province, the country and the world; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria is proud to honour the history and contributions of Black Canadians in our community, throughout our province and nation.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim the month of February 2022, as “BLACK HISTORY MONTH” 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 27th day of January, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.*

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by: Silvia Mangué
BC Black History Awareness Society