



## CITY OF VICTORIA

# PROCLAMATION

### “INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION”

**WHEREAS** *International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is an opportunity to honour everyone— including women, girls, boys, men and gender diverse people—who is actively and courageously working towards an end to this harmful practice; and*

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

**WHEREAS** *female genital mutilation (FGM) is an issue in more than 90 countries on every continent except Antarctica, and there are at least 200 million FGM survivors in the world, including an estimated 100,000 or more survivors in Canada; and*

**WHEREAS** *has no benefits and causes only harm, including death, difficulties with urination, menstruation and sexual intimacy; post-traumatic stress disorder, gender dysphoria and body dysmorphia and increased maternal and child mortality—and is recognized by the United Nations and other global organizations as child abuse and abuse of a girl’s fundamental human rights; and*

**WHEREAS** *International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate all national and international efforts, especially grassroots efforts, to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5, which calls for the elimination of FGM and other harmful practices by 2030; and*

**WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria supports the human rights of women and girls so they can live a life free from the violence that is female genital mutilation.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** *I do hereby proclaim Sunday February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as “INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE OF 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 3rd<sup>d</sup> day of February, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.*

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

**Sponsored by:**  
**END FGM/C Canada Network**