



CITY OF VICTORIA

PROCLAMATION

“NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS”

- WHEREAS** *In Article 25(1) of its Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations has affirmed that housing is a human right; and*
- WHEREAS** *June 21, 2019 Bill C-97 containing the federal right to housing legislation, was signed into Canadian law; and*
- WHEREAS** *homelessness and inadequate housing pose severe hardship for women, men, people of all gender identities, youth and children living in Victoria; and*
- WHEREAS** *in the 2020 Point In Time Count 35% of persons experiencing homelessness in the Capital Region identified as Indigenous; and*
- WHEREAS** *people who experience homelessness and inadequate housing have poorer health, shorter life expectancy and often lack access to basic health, mental health and addiction services; and*
- WHEREAS** *in remembering those who have died on the streets and in inadequate housing of Greater Victoria, the cause of ending homelessness is kept urgent, as is the City of Victoria's collective commitment to preventing such deaths in the future; and*
- WHEREAS** *December 21st is the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, and has been designated National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day by cities around the world; and*
- WHEREAS** *in recognition of the people who have died unhoused and underhoused in Greater Victoria, Victoria City Council asks all our residents to take a moment of silence in remembrance on December 21st; and*
- WHEREAS** *Victoria City Council encourages our residents to support and participate in all local efforts to eliminate homelessness and inadequate housing in our community.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim Wednesday December 21st, 2022, as “NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ” 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 8th day of December, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.*

MARIANNE ALTO
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Alliance to End Homelessness
in the Capital Region