

## **"INTERNATIONAL DEAF WEEK"**

**WHEREAS** *The Deaf Community and extended signers are celebrating the unique heritage and multicultural identities of Deaf individuals with 200 years of American Sign Language in 2017. In conjunction to this special bicentenary celebration, September 18-24<sup>th</sup> is International Deaf Week. The theme for this year that is promoted by World Federation of the Deaf, under the United Nations is "Full Inclusion with Sign Language"; and*

**WHEREAS** *The Deaf community strives to see the goals set out by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be fully achieved here in Canada; and*

**WHEREAS** *UVic American Sign Language (ASL) Club as well as the Society for Students with a Disability (SSD) at University of Victoria, would promote diversity among the students and staff, would be celebrating with American Sign Language Festival at a later date on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017, for a day of events on campus; and*

**WHEREAS** *Community building, diverse communication approaches and means, which introduced to the benefit of different areas of knowledge when approaching Linguistics, Humanities, Sociology and beyond; and the further recognition of our extended communities; and*

**WHEREAS** *We, regardless where we come from; hope everyone will share in the experience with "Full Inclusion with Sign Language" and celebrate the diversity, pride and meet all the love for one another through our culture and language.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** *I do hereby proclaim the week of September 18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> 2017 as "INTERNATIONAL DEAF WEEK" on the TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES of the ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, *I hereunto set my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, Two Thousand and Seventeen.*

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

**Sponsored By:**  
**Lindsay Carroll / Ravi Coughlan**  
**UVic ASL Club**



## Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of October 5, 2017

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** September 26, 2017  
**From:** Chris Coates, City Clerk  
**Subject:** Proclamation "International Deaf Week" September 18 – 24, 2017

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the International Deaf Week Proclamation be forwarded to the October 5, 2017 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Attached as Appendix A is the requested International Deaf Week Proclamation. Due to an oversight, the International Deaf Week Proclamation was not on the September 21 agenda. The organization sponsoring this proclamation has advised that consideration of their proclamation at the October 5 Committee of the Whole meeting, and at the subsequent October 5 Council Meeting would satisfy their requirements.

Council has recently established policy addressing Proclamation requests. The policy provides for:

- A staff report to Committee of the Whole.
- Each Proclamation request requiring a motion approved at Committee of the Whole prior to forwarding it to Council for their consideration.
- Staff providing Council with a list of Proclamations made in the previous year.
- Council voting on each Proclamation individually.
- Council's consideration of Proclamations is to fulfil a request rather than taking a position.

A list of 2016 and 2017 Proclamations is provided as Appendix B in accordance with the new policy. Consistent with City Policy, Proclamations issued are established as fulfilling a request and does not represent an endorsement of the content of the Proclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

A blue ink signature of Chris Coates.

Chris Coates  
City Clerk

Appendix A: Proclamation "International Deaf Week"  
Appendix B: List of Previously Approved Proclamations