

**"INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY"**

- WHEREAS** *International Overdose Awareness Day (iOAD) is a global event which provides opportunity for people to publicly mourn the loss of loved ones without shame or guilt; and*
- WHEREAS** *iOAD aims to raise awareness of the overdose crisis and reduce the stigma of overdose death; and*
- WHEREAS** *iOAD aims to raise awareness that the number of people lost to drug overdoses in B.C in 2016 was 944 and the projected deaths in B.C. for 2017 is 1400, each one preventable. Each death represents a human being, a member of a family and a member of the community; and*
- WHEREAS** *Worldwide the number of known overdose deaths in a single year is more than 200,000, all preventable losses; and*
- WHEREAS** *Every person lost to drug overdose is a member of a family, and a community. Each loss brings a wide path of grief; and*
- WHEREAS** *Through iOAD we may send a strong message to substance users that they are valued and that the community is working to mitigate harms and overdose; and*
- WHEREAS** *We wish to support those who use substances by providing evidence based policies and wide access to treatments; and*
- WHEREAS** *We wish to bring awareness to the public that drug use and overdose can happen to anyone in any family; and*
- WHEREAS** *Through iOAD we wish through bringing awareness, to prevent overdose deaths and to stimulate discussion in Victoria and world-wide about overdose prevention; and*
- WHEREAS** *We wish to bring basic information on services available to our community; and*
- WHEREAS** *International overdose Awareness Day was first declared in Australia in 2001 and has been marked internationally every year in cities across the world ever since. and*

**NOW, THEREFORE** I do hereby proclaim August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 as "**International Overdose Awareness Day**" 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

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

**Sponsored By:**  
**Leslie McBain**  
**Moms Stop the Harm**



## Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of August 10, 2017

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** August 4, 2017  
**From:** Chris Coates, City Clerk  
**Subject:** Proclamation "International Overdose Awareness Day" August 31, 2017

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the International Overdose Awareness Day Proclamation be forwarded to the August 10, 2017 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Attached as Appendix A is the requested International Overdose Awareness Day Proclamation. 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 handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Coates".

Chris Coates  
City Clerk

Appendix A: Proclamation "International Overdose Awareness Day"  
Appendix B: List of Previously Approved Proclamations