

**“WORLD REFUGEE DAY”**

**WHEREAS** *World Refugee Day, 20 June every year, is dedicated to bringing attention to the plight of the world’s refugees; and the City of Victoria is extremely proud of our long successful history of welcoming refugees, settling, retaining and continuing to welcome refugees to our community; and*

**WHEREAS** *Canada is signatory to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol; and*

**WHEREAS** *in 2000, the United Nations General Assembly established June 20<sup>th</sup> as World Refugee Day; Since 2001, people around the world have celebrated the day with events that honour the world’s more than 20 million refugees and raise awareness around refugee issues; and*

**WHEREAS** *on 20 June 2017, the City of Victoria and it’s people join the rest of the world as they commemorate the strength, courage, and resilience of millions of refugees; and*

**NOW, THEREFORE** *I do hereby proclaim the day June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as*  
***“WORLD REFUGEE 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, Two Thousand and Seventeen.*

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

**Sponsored by:**  
**Kate Longpre**  
**Community Integration Coordinator**  
**Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria**



## **Committee of the Whole Report**

### **For the Meeting of June 8, 2017**

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 29, 2017  
**From:** Chris Coates, City Clerk  
**Subject:** Proclamation "World Refugee Day" June 20, 2017

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the World Refugee Day Proclamation be forwarded to the June 8, 2017 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Attached as Appendix A is the requested World Refugee 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 "World Refugee Day"  
Appendix B: List of Previously Approved Proclamations