



## **MINUTES – VICTORIA CITY COUNCIL**

### **MEETING OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016, AT 6:30 P.M.**

<b><u>PLACE OF MEETING:</u></b>	Council Chambers, City Hall
<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Mayor Helps in the Chair, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Thornton-Joe, and Young
<b><u>ABSENT:</u></b>	Councillor Madoff
<b><u>STAFF PRESENT:</u></b>	J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns - Deputy City Manager; C. Coates - City Clerk; C. Royle – Deputy Fire Chief; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks, Recreation, & Facilities; J. Potter – Manager of Citizen Engagement; J. O'Connor – Manager of Financial Planning; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; C. Havelka – Deputy City Clerk; I. Husu – Manager of Parking Services; C. Mycroft – Executive Assistant to the City Manager; P. Martin - Council Secretary.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The City Clerk outlined amendments to the agenda.

#### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the agenda be approved as amended.

#### **Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Dr. Edwin Daniel and Judy Gaylord be added to the Request to Address Council sections of the meeting.

**On the amendment:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

#### **Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that item #4 Proclamations, be moved after Item #5 Request to Address Council.

**On the amendment:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

**On the main motion as amended:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

### **READING OF MINUTES**

#### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the minutes of the special meetings held May 12, 2016 and June 9, 2016, be adopted.

**Carried Unanimously**

### **REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

#### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the following speakers be permitted to address Council.

**Carried Unanimously**

1. **Barb Singer: Fisherman's Wharf Park**  
Outlined why a grass knoll at Fisherman's Wharf Park should be available as an off leash dog park until 9:00 a.m.
2. **Taylor Mason: License cap and passenger capacity**  
Outlined why Council should limit the number of rickshaw licences available.

3. **Gurdeep Stephens: GE Free resolution**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.
4. **Jim Jordan: GE Free Victoria Resolution**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.
5. **Arzeena Hamir: GE Free Victoria**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.
6. **Tony Beck: Resolution on a GE Free Victoria**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.
7. **Rob Pearce: GMO and GE free Victoria**  
Outlined reasons why Victoria should adopt labelling policies and a ban on GMO products.
8. **Nick Murray: Pedicab Licenses**  
Outlined why Council should increase the number of pedicab licenses.
9. **Joan Russow: Applying the Precautionary Principle with Respect to Genetically Engineered Plants**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.
10. **Deborah Rodger: Downtown Casino**  
Outlined why Council should oppose a casino at the Crystal Garden or Apex Lot sites.

*Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 7:16 p.m. and returned at 7:17 p.m.*

11. **Marion Pape: Victoria's Climate Plan Moving Forward**  
Outlined why Council should work with BC Sustainable Energy Association to educate and engage citizens to develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
12. **Frances Litman: Health and Genetically Engineered Foods**  
Outlined why Council should make Victoria a genetically engineered free zone.
13. **Tom Hackney: 100% Renewable Energy for Victoria by 2050**  
Outlined why Council should introduce a motion to UBCM in Victoria in 2016 to implement 100% sustainable energy by 2050.
14. **Michael Coon: GMO Free Victoria**  
Outlined why Council should adopt a motion declaring Victoria as genetically modified organisms free to demonstrate its related concerns.
15. **Dr. Edwin Daniel: Genetically Modified Plants**  
Outlined why Council should make Victoria a genetically modified free City.
16. **Judy Gaylord: GE Free Resolution**  
Outlined why Council should adopt the GE free resolution for Victoria.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the following Proclamations be endorsed:

1. "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" – September 2016
2. "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" – September 2016

**Carried Unanimously**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Letter from Alice Finall, Mayor of North Saanich**  
Council received a letter dated July 28, 2016 expressing gratitude for the City of Victoria's offer of financial support in their legal action with NavCanada.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the correspondence dated July 28, 2016 from Mayor Finall of North Saanich, be received for information.

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **City of Victoria Youth Council 2015-2016 Annual Report Summary**  
Council received the Victoria Youth Council 2015-2016 Annual Report, which is a follow-up to their May 5, 2016 annual presentation to Committee of the Whole.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Council receive the annual report for information.

**Carried Unanimously**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

1. **Committee of the Whole – August 18, 2016**

1. **Temporary Use Permit with Variance Application No. 00001 for 1400 Vancouver Street and 952 Johnson Street**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at the next available meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Temporary Use Permit Application with Variance No. 00001 for 1400 Vancouver Street and 952 Johnson Street in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped July 21, 2016.
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:
  - a. Schedule C, 16.C.4 - Required parking is reduced from 44 spaces to three.
  - b. The Temporary Use Permit lapsing three years from the date of this resolution."

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Review - 2016**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Council:

1. Approve the following documents as interim guidance for the Community Association Land Use Committee process:
  - a. Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Terms of Reference
  - b. Role of Developer, Council and Staff in Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Processes
  - c. Community Association Land Use Committee (CALUC) Procedures for Processing Official Community Plan Amendments, Rezoning, Variance, Liquor License and Temporary Use Permit Applications.
2. Direct staff to prepare the necessary Land Use Procedure Bylaw Amendments to increase fees associated with mailed notices for community meetings from \$400 to \$500 for rezoning applications, and from \$800 to \$1,000 for Official Community Plan Amendment Applications and bring them forward for consideration at Council.
3. Direct staff to continue to work with the Community Associations, Community Association Land Use Committees (CALUCs) and the Urban Development Institute (UDI) to:
  - a. explore models and options to address resourcing and equity issues amongst the Community Associations and CALUCs to enable the City to provide more formalized support to the CALUC process
  - b. assess an appropriate role for CALUCs in areas beyond the review of development applications
  - c. report back to Council in October 2016 with further recommendations based on the outcome of this additional review.
4. As part of the next phase of consultation, direct staff to get the current written policies of each CALUC with regard to how a person becomes a member, how diversity and representation of the neighbourhood is sought, length of membership term, and maximum committee size.

**Carried Unanimously**

3. **Development and Permit Fee Review**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council direct staff to:

1. Undertake a review of current fees associated with development and building approvals
2. Engage the Urban Development Institute and the Victoria Residential Builders Association as part of this review

3. Report back with recommended amendments to the Land Use Procedures Bylaw, Building Bylaw, Electrical Safety Regulation Bylaw and the Plumbing Permit Fees Bylaw by December 2016.

**Carried Unanimously**

**4. Update Report on Work without Permit for 1417 Fernwood Road**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council direct the City Clerk to file a notice in the Land Title Office in relation to the property located at 1417 Fernwood Road, legally described as Lot 29 Plan 164 Section 74 Victoria & W PT of Lot 14 indicating that a resolution relating to this property has been made under the authority delegated pursuant to Section 57(3) of the *Community Charter* and the provisions of the *Property Maintenance Delegation Bylaw* and advise that further information regarding this resolution may be inspected at the Legislative & Regulatory Services Department in Victoria City Hall.

**Carried Unanimously**

**5. External Grant Review Committee – Strategic Plan Grants**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council:

1. In Appendix A – Terms of Reference for the External Grant Review Committee, strike out the two council liaisons and replace with two staff liaisons.
2. Approve the Terms of Reference (Appendix A) and implement an external Grant Review Committee for the City's Strategic Plan Grants for a one-year pilot for 2017 as outlined in the report dated August 5, 2016.

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Loveday, Lucas, Thornton-Joe, and Young  
**Opposed:** Councillor Isitt

**6. Committee Remuneration Policy**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Council approve the Committee Remuneration Policy and that the policy be reviewed in one year.

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, and Thornton-Joe  
**Opposed:** Councillor Young

**7. Climate Action Program Update and Way Forward**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Council:

1. Establish a long term GHG Reduction target for both corporate and community emissions consistent with global reduction goals of 80% GHG reduction and by 2050, including a specific target of 100% renewable energy by 2050.

and direct staff to:

2. Undertake a series of workshops with Council.
3. Create a staff-led Climate Action Task Force, commencing in October 2016, to define expectations and build strategy around climate action.
4. Develop an action plan based on our existing work done to date, in support of meeting reduction targets. This plan will include:
  - Priority actions I programs for consideration;
  - Governance and documentation renewal plan;
  - Resource plan; and
  - Internal and external stakeholder communication, education and engagement plans.
5. Report out to Council and the public on an annual basis with regard to the City's progress meeting the City's 2020 and 2050 targets

**Carried Unanimously**

## **8. Solid Waste Management Update**

### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Council direct staff to:

1. Continue the downtown Public Space Recycling Program and complete the resource assessment that would be required to deliver enhanced labelling and education/awareness to improve overall recycling and compost performance in 2017.
2. Complete a business case analysis of the various options for future yard waste management (collection and/or drop off), once more information is known about the future of integrated regional waste management.
3. Meet with the CRD and neighbouring municipalities to explore the potential for a compost pilot program in 2017 or 2018, and commence a business case analysis of the related organic waste management options, as required, based on the upcoming CRD planning decision and report back to Council with initial recommendations by December 2016; and
4. Adopt a vision of net-zero waste and the circular-economy.  
To develop a resource estimate to complete the City's Waste Management (and Action) Master Plan in 2017 as part of the 2017 financial planning process, which would align local and regional vision, strategy and planning.

**Carried Unanimously**

## **9. Pandora Avenue Two-Way Bike Lane – Tender Results / Recommendation**

### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council direct staff to:

1. Bring forward amendments to the 2016-2021 Financial Plan to increase the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Capital budget by \$435,000, with funding from the Gas Tax Reserve.
2. Complete a detailed review of all approved protected cycling infrastructure project implementation costs, (by Oct 2016).
3. Liaise with external agencies to develop a Biketoria construction implementation strategy to reduce risks of future cost and time overruns (by Oct 2016).

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, and Thornton-Joe  
**Opposed:** Councillor Young

## **10. Active Transportation Advisory Committee**

### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council:

1. Approve the attached Active Transportation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference;
2. Direct staff to initiate a public notification process inviting members of the public to serve on the committee, with a view toward Council appointing members by September 22, 2016 and meetings of the committee commencing in October 2016.

**Carried Unanimously**

## **11. Hoarding Education and Action Team (H.E.A.T.)**

### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council receive this report for information relating to the Hoarding Education and Action Team (H.E.A.T.).

**Carried Unanimously**

## **12. China Trade Mission, October 14-22, 2016**

### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Council receive this report for information.

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **Committee of the Whole – August 25, 2016**

1. **Heritage Alteration Permit Application No. 00221 for 1202 Blanshard Street**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council authorize the issuance of the Heritage Alteration Permit Application No. 00221 for 1202 Blanshard Street in accordance with:

1. Plans, date stamped July 5, 2016.
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements.
3. Final plans to be generally in accordance with the plans identified above to the satisfaction of the Assistant Director, Development Services Division, Sustainable Planning and Community Development.
4. Heritage Alteration Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **Emily Carr House**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Isitt:

1. That Council direct Mayor Helps to write a letter to Premier Christy Clark and to Minister Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations that the Emily Carr House can carry on as a historic house museum and interpretive centre for Emily Carr, her art, writings and life to be continued by professional curatorial staff and heritage (Committee of the Whole Report Emily Carr House Page 1 August 19, 2016) experts with a further recommendation that ongoing operating (core) funding be found and maintained given Emily Carr's great significance.
2. That Council direct Mayor Helps to request a meeting with Minister Thomson to advocate on behalf of the Citizens of Victoria that Emily Carr House continue to be funded by the B.C. Government and to keep it open as a historic house museum to present Emily Carr's legacy to the world.

**Carried Unanimously**

3. **Preserving and Improving Housing Supply**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Council direct staff to address housing supply preservation and improvement with:

1. Continued work advancing the heritage program by considering new Heritage Conservation Areas during local area planning and undertaking regular projects to consider additions to the City's Register of Heritage Properties to address character home retention.
2. Implementation of the Victoria Housing Strategy, acknowledging the actions affecting secondary suite regulations and updating the Property Maintenance Bylaw are slated to commence immediately in the fall of 2016 and
3. That the work include staff reporting back on implications of developing a green demolition bylaw.

**Carried Unanimously**

4. **Proposed Additions to the City of Victoria's Register of Heritage Properties**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council direct staff to notify the property owners that Council will consider the following motion on September 22, 2016, and that Council invites comments up to and including that meeting:

"That Council direct staff to:

1. Add the complete list of 50 candidate properties to the City of Victoria's Register of Heritage Properties as listed in Appendix 1 of this report.
2. Prepare further candidate property recommendations for consideration of addition to the City of Victoria's Register of Heritage Properties."

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, and Thornton-Joe  
**Opposed:** Councillor Young

**5. Potential Amendment to the 2015-2018 Strategic Priorities: Motion – Asbestos Control**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council direct staff to improve compliance and communication on the City's existing processes relating to permitting and inspecting developments (new, renovations or demolitions) that may include hazardous materials such as asbestos as outlined in this report.

AND that Council direct staff to meet with representatives of employees and the building trades and report back to Council on additional actions the City can take to increase protection for City workers and other workers in the City from the health impacts of asbestos.

**Carried Unanimously**

**6. Update on Portable Sign Regulations**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Council approve an enhanced compliance/enforcement strategy for Portable Signs to ensure equality with all businesses who do and/or should comply with the Portable Sign Miscellaneous Amendments Bylaw as follows:

1. A two-month education program with businesses to inform them of the Permit requirements in effect and to further advise of the enhanced enforcement approach.
2. Active compliance/enforcement to occur for:
  - a. Wilful non-compliance (after attempts at voluntary compliance for improper signage),
  - b. Exceeding the limit of 1 sign per business,
  - c. Impeding pedestrians, and
  - d. No current sign permit.
3. Complaint driven compliance/enforcement to occur for:
  - a. Oversized signs,
  - b. Signs displayed while business is closed, and
  - c. Sign applying to a non-ground floor business.

**Carried Unanimously**

**7. Audit Report Update: Project Management Framework**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Council receive the report dated August 22, 2016, for information.

**Carried Unanimously**

**8. Naming Initiative for Begbie Green**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Isitt:

That the issue be referred to staff to invite comment from the Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation by October 31, 2016, and report back to Council with any feedback received, as well as a copy of the Provincial Geographic Names Policy and any readily available information relating to the naming of the University of Victoria Law Building.

AND that Council direct staff to notify the neighbourhood that the naming of the green is being referred to the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, for their comment, in the spirit of reconciliation.

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, and Thornton-Joe  
**Opposed:** Councillor Young

**BYLAWS**

**1. FIRST READING**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the following bylaws **be given first reading:**

1. *Archives Use Bylaw No. 16-060*
2. *Housing Agreement (1032 North Park Street) Bylaw No. 16-072*

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **SECOND READING**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following bylaws be given second reading:

1. *Archives Use Bylaw No. 16-060*
2. *Housing Agreement (1032 North Park Street) Bylaw No. 16-072*

**Carried Unanimously**

3. **THIRD READING**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following bylaws be given third reading:

1. *Archives Use Bylaw No. 16-060*
2. *Housing Agreement (1032 North Park Street) Bylaw No. 16-072*

**Carried Unanimously**

4. **Adoption**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following bylaw be adopted:

1. *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 16) No. 16-057*

**Motion to postpone:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Council postpone consideration of bylaw until receipt of information on the number of rickshaw licences that are currently allowed.

**Carried Unanimously**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Letter from Ekaterina Gregory, President of the Victoria Khabarovsk Association**

Council received a letter dated July 3, 2016 advising that at the Victoria Khabarovsk Association's Annual General Meeting on June 22, 2016, Board members made a decision to dissolve the Association.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the correspondence dated July 3, 2016 from Ekaterina Gregory, President of the Victoria Khabarovsk Association be received for information.

**Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the motion be amended as follows:

That the correspondence dated July 3, 2016 from Ekaterina Gregory, President of the Victoria Khabarovsk Association be ~~received for information~~ **referred to protocol staff for information and input.**

**On the amendment:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

**Main motion as amended:**

That the correspondence dated July 3, 2016 from Ekaterina Gregory, President of the Victoria Khabarovsk Association be referred to protocol staff for information and input.

**On the main motion as amended:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

2. **Letter from Greg Moore, Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board**

Council received a letter dated July 18, 2016 regarding an implementation of an Extended Producer Responsibility program for mattresses and other bulky furniture to assist with the recycling and disposal of these items.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the correspondence dated July 18, 2016 from Greg Moore, Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board be received for information.

**Carried Unanimously**



3. **Letter from Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society**

Council received a letter dated August 21, 2016 requesting support for the recognition of certain land marks and sites for their historic value to the BC Japanese community.

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the correspondence dated August 21, 2016 from the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society be received for information.

**Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the motion be amended as follows:

That **Council direct the Mayor to write a letter of support, in response to** the correspondence dated August 21, 2016 from the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society ~~be received for information.~~

**On the amendment:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

**Main motion as amended:**

That Council direct the Mayor to write a letter of support, in response to the correspondence dated August 21, 2016 from the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society.

**On the main motion as amended:**  
**Carried Unanimously**

**ADOPTION OF BYLAW**

**Motion to lift from the table:**

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the adoption of the bylaw motion be lifted from the table.

**Carried Unanimously**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following bylaw **be adopted:**

1. *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 16) No. 16-057*

**Carried**

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, and Thornton-Joe  
**Opposed:** Councillor Young

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **To Set Public Hearings for the Meeting of Thursday, September 8, 2016**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following Public Hearings be held in Council Chambers, City Hall, on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.:**

1. Bylaws for Marijuana-Related Businesses
  - a. *Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1070) No. 16-058*
  - b. *Land Use Procedures Bylaw, 2016, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1) No. 16-059*
2. Development Permit with Variances and Development Variance Permit No. 00004 for 1421 Fairfield Road

**Carried Unanimously**

2. **Applying the Precautionary Principle with Respect to Genetically Engineered Plants**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday:

WHEREAS, the City of Victoria has the legislative authority to impose requirements in relation to:

- a) The health, safety or protection of persons or property;
- b) The protection and enhancement of the well-being of its community in relation to nuisances, disturbances and other objectionable situations;
- c) Public health;
- d) Protection of the natural environment and animals.

AND WHEREAS, genetically engineered (GE) plants and foods have not been adequately tested by any federal agency for long-term impacts on human and environmental health;

AND WHEREAS, Health Canada has relied on data presented by corporations that hold GM patents, rather than undertaking independent testing for the long-term impacts on health and the environment;

AND WHEREAS, it is currently not possible to prevent genetically engineered seeds and pollen flow from contaminating non-GE conventional and organic plants and trees, and wild plants;

AND WHEREAS, most genetically-engineered plants depend on the use of pesticides whose use is increasing dramatically, including the broad-spectrum herbicide glyphosate, which the World Health Organization has recently determined is linked to cancer in category 2A:

“probably carcinogenic to humans”, 2-4-D, and Dicamba, herbicides which have recently been used to control “superweeds” resistant to glyphosates (similar to “superbugs” in our hospitals resistant to antibiotics), either through direct spraying or by genetically engineering additional herbicide tolerance in crops (so called Agent Orange crops). The WHO recently confirmed its classification of 2-4-D as “category 2B: possibly carcinogenic to humans”, and neonicotinoids, which scientists have linked to declines in butterfly and bird populations as well as bee colony collapse disorder (CCD).

AND WHEREAS, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities passed a resolution in 2013 asking the Government of British Columbia to legislate British Columbia as a GE Free area in respect to all plant and animal species;

AND WHEREAS, in the absence of provincial legislation, many BC municipalities have declared themselves as GE Free zones including North Vancouver, Richmond, Saanich, Metchosis and Powell River;

AND WHEREAS, the City of Victoria has passed a Declaration of the Right to a Healthy Environment, which promotes the availability of safe foods, including clause 17(a): which specifies that “citizens have access to affordable, healthy and local food”;

AND WHEREAS, the Peninsula and Area Agricultural Commission, an organization advocating for agriculture on southern Vancouver Island, supported the Saanich GE Free resolution passed in 2012 and does not endorse GMO and GE crops.

AND WHEREAS, the regulation of genetically engineered plants and trees is in the public interest:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria places itself on record opposing the cultivation of genetically engineered crops, plants and trees in the City of Victoria in the absence of scientific testing on the long-term impacts of these crops on human and environmental health;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City calls upon the Federal and Provincial governments to implement a regime of mandatory labelling of all genetically modified organisms (GMOs) for sale in BC and Canada;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City calls upon the Federal and Provincial governments to impose a moratorium on bringing further GMOs to market for sale until a regime of independent and transparent scientific assessment and GMO management is introduced;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria shall forward copies of this resolution to the Premier, Prime Minister, local Members of the Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament, and member municipalities of the Capital Region.

**Carried Unanimously**

### **QUESTION PERIOD**

*A question period was held.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Motion:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Council meeting adjourn.  
Time: 8:28 p.m.

**Carried Unanimously**

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR