

**“NATIONAL ANIMAL RIGHTS DAY”**

- WHEREAS** *there are estimated to be between 2 million and 50 million species of animals on our planet who together comprise many trillions of individuals; and*
- WHEREAS** *humans are but one species of animal who together comprise about 7 billion individuals; and*
- WHEREAS** *most, if not all, animals are considered by humans to be sentient; that is, they experience a range of emotions and sensations, including pain, fear, joy, and happiness; and*
- WHEREAS** *no individual or species exists in isolation; all animals, indeed all living things, are inter-dependent and together make our world the extraordinary and wonderful place that it is; and*
- WHEREAS** *the world’s animals are in and of themselves extraordinary and wonderful; and*
- WHEREAS** *humans nevertheless kill about 100 billion animals each year; and Canadian humans alone kill about 1 billion animals each year - for food, entertainment, clothing, research; and*
- WHEREAS** *humans around the world annually commemorate **Human Rights Day**, established by the United Nations in 1950, in an effort to draw attention to and minimize the oppression of humans by other humans and to recognize human rights as the “foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world”; and*
- WHEREAS** *the oppression of humans and the oppression of the other animals share the same logic; and*
- WHEREAS** *we are all animals; and*
- WHEREAS** *the establishment, in 2011, and annual commemoration of **National Animal Rights Day** in major cities across North America are an effort to draw attention to and minimize the oppression of all animals and to recognize animals rights as the logical extension of human rights as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria supports the values and ideals of the founders and proponents of Human Rights Day and supports efforts and initiatives to abolish oppression in all of its forms.*
- NOW, THEREFORE**, I do hereby proclaim the day of June 4th, 2016 as **“NATIONAL ANIMAL RIGHTS DAY”** in the **CITY OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA**, the **TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES** of the **ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS**.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

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

**Sponsored by:  
Mark Reed  
VIVA  
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