

“WORLD POETRY DAY”
AND
“NATIONAL POETRY MONTH”

WHEREAS *UNESCO has declared 21 March as World Poetry Day; and April is celebrated as National Poetry Month in Canada and the United States; and*

WHEREAS *National Poetry Month seeks to highlight the extraordinary legacy and on-going achievement of Canadian and American poets; introduce people to the pleasure and benefits of reading poetry; bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways; make poetry an important part of our children’s education; and*

WHEREAS *National Poetry Month is now the largest literary celebration in the world; and*

WHEREAS *poetry incites young people in particular to look inside themselves at a time when the outside world may irresistibly lure them away from themselves; and*

WHEREAS *poetry, as an essential part of the arts and humanities, affects every aspect of life, including education, the economy, and community pride and development; and*

WHEREAS *celebrating World Poetry Day and National Poetry Month encourages the return to the oral tradition, and acceptance of speech as a means of socializing and structuring the individual.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim the day of March 21st, 2016 as “WORLD POETRY DAY” and April as “NATIONAL POETRY MONTH” in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA, the TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES of the ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I hereunto set my hand this 10th day of March, Two Thousand and Sixteen.*

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Mayor’s Poetry Challenge and
Community Recreation & Culture
Victoria