

**“INTERNATIONAL DAY TO ELIMINATE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION”**

- WHEREAS** *the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna in 1993, reaffirmed the urgent need to eliminate denials and violations of human rights; and*
- WHEREAS** *racism, racial discrimination and related intolerance occur on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin and that victims can suffer multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination based on other related grounds such as sex, language, religion, political and other opinion, social origin, property, birth or other status; and*
- WHEREAS** *the United Nations has stated its commitment to a global drive for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance; and*
- WHEREAS** *the United Nations has proclaimed the 2016 Theme for the International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination as Challenges and Achievements of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action – 15 years after; and*
- WHEREAS** *poverty, marginalization, social exclusion and economic disparities are closely associated with racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance and contribute to the persistence of racist attitudes and practices which in turn generate more poverty; and*
- WHEREAS** *racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance continue to reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and may be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and thus there is a need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination; and*
- WHEREAS** *the United Nations has recognized March 21st each year as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, as an opportunity to renew our collective commitment to building a world of justice, equality and dignity, where racial discrimination has no place; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria is a signatory municipality of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination (CCMARD); and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria expresses its concern about and its condemnation of all forms of racism and racial discrimination (including related acts of racially motivated violence and intolerance; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria affirms that racism and racial discrimination and intolerance constitute violations of and obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria urges governments at all levels to take all possible measures to combat racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance; and*
- WHEREAS** *the City of Victoria urge the Government of British Columbia to include, in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for all cultures, peoples and countries, including a gender perspective in the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance at all levels.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** the City of Victoria joins hundreds of other cities around the world to proclaim **March 21st**, as **“INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION”** 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

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

**Sponsored by:  
Councillors Alto and Thornton-Joe**