



## Council Member Motion

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 11, 2018

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**To:** Committee of the Whole

**Date:** January 11, 2018

**From:** Councillor Loveday

**Subject:** Effective and efficient policing and governance in the Capital Region

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### BACKGROUND

In 2014 the City of Victoria held a non-binding referendum on the idea of amalgamation. Residents of Victoria overwhelmingly voted in favour of reducing the number of municipalities in the Greater Victoria area, with 80% of respondents voting affirmatively.

The City of Victoria's 2015-18 Strategic Plan includes the 2018 outcome "Put a recommendation about amalgamation in front of the public in the 2018 Election" but so far the City hasn't taken any action towards completing this strategic goal. The Province conducted a study on Regional governance but didn't directly address the question of amalgamation. Regardless of whether residents are in favour, against, or undecided about amalgamation, a Citizens' Assembly process would allow residents to explore the benefits and drawbacks of amalgamation as part of a collaborative process.

There have long been calls for regional policing in the Capital Region. A regional police force could lead to more efficient and effective policing. Conversations between local police chiefs have been occurring and it is time for explorations to occur at the political level as well.

The District of Saanich recently approved motions expressing their receptiveness to the creation of a regional police force and requesting that the Province establish and fund a citizens' assembly on amalgamation.

### MOTION

Be It Resolved That Council call on the Province of British Columbia to establish and fund a Citizens' Assembly on Amalgamation with interested municipalities from Greater Victoria

And Be It Further Resolved That the City of Victoria remain receptive to any initiatives for the creation of a regional police force and request the Mayor write to local Mayors requesting participation in discussions on the potential of a regional police force.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Loveday".

Councillor Jeremy Loveday