



Mayor's Statement on Province Introducing Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Date: Thursday, October 24, 2019

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – The City of Victoria congratulates the Province of British Columbia on introducing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act today.

“Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is an essential step forward on the reconciliation path,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “I commend the Province for their commitment to this important piece of work and to centering the TRC Calls to Action.”

The City of Victoria established its Witness Reconciliation Program in 2017 and recently launched the *Victoria Reconciliation Dialogues*, a six-part series of conversations that enable the community to explore together what reconciliation could look like on Lekwungen territory.

“Our first Reconciliation Dialogue was a very powerful evening,” said Mayor Helps. “People in our community are passionate about learning more and collaborating on our shared responsibility for reconciliation.”

The next Reconciliation Dialogue session will focus on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Due to the high level of interest, the venue has changed. *Victoria Reconciliation Dialogue #2: The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the City* will be held on Monday, November 18 from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) at the Victoria Conference Centre.

For more information, visit: victoria.ca/ReconciliationDialogues.

— 30 —

For More Information:

Mayor Lisa Helps
250.661.2708