WHEREAS The City of Vancouver celebrates Black History Month by recognizing that People of African descent have been a part of Canada since the early 1600’s prior to the abolition of slavery in 1834, and have been part of British Columbia’s history since 1858; and resilient communities of the African diaspora continue to contribute to the vibrant cultural, economic, political, and social development of the Province even in the face of the continued injustices of Anti-Black racism and colonization;

AND WHEREAS The UN General Assembly proclaimed 2015-2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent, Vancouver affirms the rights and is striving to strengthen the full and equitable participation of people of African descent;

AND WHEREAS We are located on the unceded ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh People, the City recognizes the historical relationship between Indigenous and Black Communities, and is dedicated to strengthening relations between Indigenous, Black and People of Mixed Heritage by listening and learning from their histories, stories, struggles and triumphs;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver approved the Northeast False Creek Area Plan on February 13, 2018 wherein a commitment was made “to work with the Hogan’s Alley Society to establish the long term involvement and investment of the Black Community in the future life of the Hogan’s Alley block in efforts to address the intergenerational socio-economic impacts of displacement”;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver acknowledges the work of the Hogan’s Alley Society and others bringing the Black Community’s perspectives into the Northeast False Creek planning process, and supporting initiatives such as the Nora Hendrix temporary modular housing;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver acknowledges that more work needs to be done, we have resourced and are following through on Council’s decision to develop an Anti-Black racism strategy;

AND WHEREAS We cannot publicly gather to celebrate Black History Month this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are partnering with the community to exhibit an interactive photo map that celebrates and centres Black residents who are making impactful contributions to life in Vancouver;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kennedy Stewart, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of February 2021 as

"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

in the City of Vancouver.

Kennedy Stewart
MAYOR