



Office of the Mayor  
CITY OF VANCOUVER  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

# Proclamation

## "BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

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 abolishment of slavery in 1834, and have been part of British Columbia's history since 1858;

AND WHEREAS The UN General Assembly proclaimed 2015-2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent and the City of Vancouver recognizes that Black Canadians and African diaspora communities continue to contribute to the vibrant cultural, economic, political, and social development of the city, even in the face of the continued injustices of anti-Black racism and colonization;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver affirms the rights and is striving to strengthen the full and equitable participation of people of African descent;

AND WHEREAS Vancouver is 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 support strengthening relations between Indigenous, Black and People of Mixed Heritage;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver honours the legacy of Black Canadians who have significantly shaped this country and paved the way for the leadership, creativity, determination and future imagination of Black Canadians, African Diaspora and other racialized communities, and all Canadians, including Emery Barnes, a trailblazer in politics as the first Black member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, as well as Barbara Howard, a pioneering figure in Canadian sports and education, and Vie Moore, whose Hogan's Alley restaurant became a prominent cultural and community Vancouver landmark;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver is working on an Anti-Black Racism Strategy, and has signed an MOU with the Hogan's Alley Society to establish the long term involvement and investment of the Black Community in the future life of the 898 Main St. Block to address the intergenerational socio-economic impacts of displacement, and the need for the continued input of the Black Community's perspective in the Northeast False Creek planning process and all our City planning processes:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Sim, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of February 2023 as

**"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"**

in the City of Vancouver.

Ken Sim  
MAYOR

