



Office of the Mayor
CITY OF VANCOUVER
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Proclamation

"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

WHEREAS	The City of Vancouver has been celebrating Black History Month since 2011 by honouring the legacy of Black and African Canadians. We dedicate February to celebrating the rich history and robust achievements of Black and African diaspora communities in Vancouver and Canada;
AND WHEREAS	The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x'məθk'əyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətal (Tsleil-Waututh) Peoples;
AND WHEREAS	The City recognizes the long historical relationship between Indigenous and Black and African diaspora communities in Canada since the early 1600s, over two centuries before the abolishment of slavery in 1834;
AND WHEREAS	As part of our commitment to becoming a City of Reconciliation, we strive to strengthen relations between Indigenous and Black communities, as well as people of mixed heritage, and reflect on their indomitable spirit, resilience and invaluable contributions amidst collective struggles of colonization and systemic displacement;
AND WHEREAS	The City acknowledges the various ways the Black and African diaspora communities have contributed to the cultural, economic, political, and social tapestry of the City since 1858, and similarly shaped the origins of Vancouver since it became a city in 1886;
AND WHEREAS	The City has a strong commitment to redressing and fostering a diverse and inclusive society, recognizing that Black and African diaspora people and communities in Vancouver continue to live with and experience individual and systemic anti-Black racism and the effects of prejudice, discrimination and hatred, which has its origins in Canada's history of colonialism, segregation and slavery;
AND WHEREAS	The City strives to strengthen the full and equitable participation of Black and African diaspora communities in all aspects of city life as it continues to develop a multi-year action plan that addresses anti-black racism and the effects of historic discrimination in Vancouver including social, economic and cultural displacement;
AND WHEREAS	For this year's Black History Month, the City of Vancouver has once again partnered with the Black Business Association of British Columbia to celebrate Black excellence by actively promoting and supporting Black-owned businesses in the city. This initiative aligns with "Economic Wellbeing and Prosperity Priority #1" outlined in the City's "Addressing Anti-Black Racism and Historic Discrimination: Interim Report" (2022);
NOW, THEREFORE,	I, Ken Sim, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, on behalf of Vancouver City Council DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of February 2025 as

"BLACK HISTORY MONTH"

in the City of Vancouver.



Ken Sim
MAYOR