Office of the Mayor

CITY OF VANCOUVER

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Proclamation

"INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION"

WHEREAS	The General Assembly of the United Nations designated March 21st as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to mark the day when 69 anti-apartheid protesters were killed by police in Sharpeville, South Africa, on March 21, 1960;
AND WHEREAS	The impacts of racism, including anti-Indigenous, anti-Black and anti-Asian racism, continue through current legislative acts and everyday interpersonal encounters;
AND WHEREAS	Racism and violence are systemic, structural, and interpersonal; addressing this requires questioning, challenging, and changing at every societal level;
AND WHEREAS	White supremacy, in all of its manifestations, from micro-aggressions to racial profiling to further acts of racialized violence, continues to be at the root of racism; and that denial and defensiveness impede the progress required to address racial inequities, racial discrimination and lateral violence;
AND WHEREAS	The City of Vancouver has acknowledged the existence of racism and is committed to addressing and responding to racism in all its forms. The City's work focuses on eliminating racism while recognizing that racism intersects with and is exacerbated by discrimination based on ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, and class of persons;
AND WHEREAS	The City is working towards its goal of becoming a City of Reconciliation, including through the recently passed UNDRIP Strategy (United Nationals Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), and repairing relationships with Indigenous and racialized peoples who were historically and are currently discriminated against in the city, and who, because of that discrimination, have not been able to fully participate and benefit;
AND WHEREAS	Tackling the elimination of racism and racial discrimination requires taking action to mitigate the effects of ongoing colonization and structural racism, which includes addressing power imbalances inherent in our social systems;
AND WHEREAS	The elimination of racism requires white people and others who the system was established to benefit to take a lead on actions to eliminate it:
NOW, THEREFORE,	I, Ken Sim, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, on behalf of Vancouver City Council DO HEREBY PROCLAIM March 21st, 2025 as

"INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION"

in the City of Vancouver.

Ken Sim
MAYOR

CITY OF VANCOUVER
BRITISH COLUMBIA