



Office of the Mayor  
CITY OF VANCOUVER  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

# Proclamation

## "NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY"

WHEREAS The City of Vancouver formally acknowledges that it is on the unceded traditional homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples;

AND WHEREAS The Governor General of Canada declared June 21<sup>st</sup> as National Aboriginal Day 24 years ago as an opportunity to honour, learn and reflect on the rich, diverse cultures of Indigenous Peoples and the unique heritage, traditions, and knowledge of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples;

AND WHEREAS May 23, 2022 marked one year since the confirmation of Le Estcwicwéy (The Missing) at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School, it has been a year of reckoning with the residential school legacy, with confirmations of thousands of unmarked graves in communities across the country. We send our deepest sympathies to all Indigenous people who continue to experience the devastating impacts of Canada's residential school system;

AND WHEREAS Indigenous Peoples continue to face racism, discrimination, and marginalization in Vancouver and across the country, we remain committed to upholding the Calls to Action identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver has a responsibility to examine its own role of occupying these lands and its own position within a fundamentally settler-colonial construct, we recognize that we are on a long journey to repair and make right our relations with Indigenous Nations and Peoples;

AND WHEREAS The contributions of Indigenous Peoples to Vancouver's past, present and future are significant but often not well recognized and we commit to lifelong learning about Reconciliation and the profound ways that Indigenous residents have shaped our city's rich culture and vibrant communities;

AND WHEREAS First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples make vital contributions to advancing arts, culture, equity, safety, and community wellbeing throughout the City of Vancouver, we recognize and acknowledge Sam McKay, Nisga'a artist and long-time resident of the Downtown Eastside, whose artwork we proudly wear today for this year's National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration at Carnegie Centre;

AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver is striving to be a City of Reconciliation, creating long-term, systemic change and new relations based on mutual understanding and respect;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kennedy Stewart, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 as

## "NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY"

in the City of Vancouver.

Kennedy Stewart  
MAYOR

