



P R O C L A M A T I O N

CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

**A YEAR OF TRUTH
March 2023 – March 2024**

- WHEREAS** Colonialism has made invisible the histories and lives of Indigenous People; and
- WHEREAS** The City of New Westminster has taken some steps towards recognizing the harm, trauma, and pain that has been enacted on Indigenous Peoples in New Westminster in the name of municipal settlement, development and business; and
- WHEREAS** Past City practices such as record keeping or land use planning have obfuscated the extent to which colonialism has impacted Indigenous Peoples; and
- WHEREAS** The City of New Westminster has embarked on an introspective journey to uncover the Truth and to participate in Reconciliation; and
- WHEREAS** Truth must come before Reconciliation: one cannot reconcile if one is unaware of the full extent of the truth; and
- WHEREAS** The City invites the community to join them on this journey to learn and reflect, and recognizes that this is one step toward answering the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada;
- NOW THEREFORE** I, Patrick Johnstone, Mayor of the City of New Westminster do hereby proclaim the year long period of March 2023 through to March 2024 as

“A Year of Truth”

In the City of New Westminster, Province of British Columbia.

Patrick Johnstone
MAYOR

