



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

CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

**HOMELESSNESS ACTION WEEK (HAW)  
OCTOBER 12 – 18, 2024**

- WHEREAS** Homelessness Action Week has been recognized in many municipalities in the Province of British Columbia for over a decade; and
- WHEREAS** The City of New Westminster is committed to addressing local issues related to homelessness, as reflected in the *Homelessness Action Strategy* for the City of New Westminster and the new Three Crises Response Pilot Project; and
- WHEREAS** The lasting impact of dual public health emergencies and the current affordability crisis has significantly affected those who are unhoused and has placed many in our community at greater risk of homelessness than ever before. This has emphasized the need for more housing that meets a variety of needs, housing supports to keep people housed and a wide variety of interconnected support services to address the complex needs of the unhoused population in New Westminster; and
- WHEREAS** Homelessness Action Week provides an opportunity to:
- Raise public awareness and understanding of the causes of homelessness, and the needs of the unhoused population, while challenging stigma toward the unhoused.
  - Engage local organizations in planning and developing strategies to address homelessness.
  - Advocate for policy and resource changes across all levels of government to address needs and gaps related to homelessness, particularly in the area of shelter and housing, and enhance access to programs, services and supports.
  - Facilitate important social connections and a sense of belonging for the unhoused.
- NOW THEREFORE** I, Patrick Johnstone, Mayor of the City of New Westminster do hereby proclaim the wee of Saturday, October 12 to Friday, October 18, 2024

**HOMELESSNESS ACTION WEEK (HAW)**

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

Patrick Johnstone  
MAYOR

