WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic poses a significant threat to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of British Columbia, and threatens to disproportionately impact the most vulnerable segments of society;

AND WHEREAS prompt coordination of action and special regulation of persons or property is required to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of British Columbia, and to mitigate the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on residents, businesses, communities, organizations and institutions throughout the Province of British Columbia.

NOW THEREFORE I declare that a state of emergency exists throughout the whole of the Province of British Columbia.