



Canada  
Province of British Columbia  
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,  
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the  
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

**To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting**

WHEREAS British Columbia is a socially, culturally and ethnically diverse province comprising many peoples and communities, and

WHEREAS people of African descent have been a fundamental part of British Columbia since at least 1858, and have helped shape the cultural, economic, political and social development of the province, and

WHEREAS the United Nations has proclaimed the years 2015 to 2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent, which aims to advance social justice and inclusion policies, eradicate racism and intolerance, promote human rights, and assist in creating better, more prosperous communities, and

WHEREAS Black History Month is a time to honour, celebrate and reflect upon the stories, experiences and accomplishments of Black Canadians in British Columbia and across the country, and the government of British Columbia recognizes the leadership and commitment of Black Canadians to justice and anti-Black racism, and

WHEREAS while Black British Columbians continue to build a more diverse and prosperous society, too many continue to face anti-Black racism individually and systemically, and the government of British Columbia is committed to fighting all forms of anti-Black racism through initiatives, programs and policies, and

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia wishes to join with all British Columbians to commemorate Black History Month;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that February 2021 shall be known as

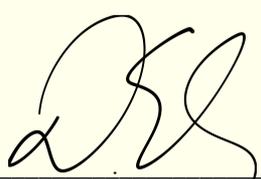
**“Black History Month”**

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this twenty-eighth day of January, two thousand twenty-one and in the sixty-ninth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney General and  
Minister Responsible for Housing  
(counter signature for the Great Seal)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lieutenant Governor