



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

CHARLES THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS the diverse cultural, ethnic, spiritual and religious heritage of British Columbians is a fundamental characteristic of British Columbian society and contributes greatly to life in this province, and

WHEREAS Buddhism is a transformative teaching that encompasses various systems of philosophy (prajna), meditation (samadhi) and ethics (sila), and

WHEREAS Buddhism has been practised for over a century in British Columbia by people of diverse heritages, and, in 2021, the population of British Columbia included 83 860 people who identify as Buddhist, and

WHEREAS May 5, 2023, marks Vesak Day, which is recognized internationally by the United Nations to acknowledge the contributions of Buddhism to humanity and to celebrate Buddhism's message of compassion, peace and goodwill, and

WHEREAS Buddhist British Columbians contribute in many ways to the prosperity and cultural diversity of British Columbia;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that May 7, 2023, shall be known as

“Buddhist Culture Day”

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 second day of May, two thousand twenty-three and in the first year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General

Lieutenant Governor