



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 culturally diverse province comprising many peoples and communities, and

WHEREAS since 1977, the Powell Street Festival has honoured the history and culture of Japanese Canadians in British Columbia with festivities held in the Powell Street neighbourhood on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations in Oppenheimer Park—a historically significant site from where the Japanese Canadian community was uprooted, dispossessed and dispersed across the province and country in the 1940s, and

WHEREAS the artist-activist spirit of the Powell Street Festival was born from a commitment to reunite and empower the Japanese Canadian community by promoting professional and emerging artists, supporting grassroots organizations and cultivating opportunities for connection across diverse communities in this province and country, and the Powell Street Festival plays an important role in creating a rich space of arts, culture and activism while supporting the Downtown Eastside community by creating economic and other creative opportunities for neighbourhood residents, and

WHEREAS due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the festival will be celebrated online and in person in socially distanced ways, with activities available throughout July, culminating on July 31 and August 1, 2021, and

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia remains committed to acknowledging the past and present experiences of the Japanese Canadian communities and their invaluable contributions in making British Columbia the culturally diverse and prosperous province it is today, and supporting the Powell Street Festival in promoting arts, culture and empowerment within and beyond the Japanese Canadian community;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that July 31 and August 1, 2021, shall be known as

“Powell Street Festival Days”

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-third day of July, two thousand twenty-one and in the seventieth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

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

Lieutenant Governor