

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS, The City of Vancouver joins other cities across our great state and nation to honor community volunteers during National Volunteer Week. We celebrate and pay tribute to the amazing efforts that volunteers put forth each and every day. Volunteers make a difference in our neighborhoods, schools, churches, faith-based organizations, community and civic groups, and government agencies. Volunteers are an invaluable resource and are at the heart and soul of our city, county and nation; and
- WHEREAS, volunteers are the catalysts that create positive changes in our communities by bringing their compassion, their time, their ideas, talents, technical skills, and professional expertise to strengthen and help our city flourish. As societies' needs change, volunteers are at the heart of community life....lending a hand to create a better quality of life for our residents. They provide support to recreation activities, public education, health and social services, housing and food service organizations, public safety and emergency preparedness agencies, and to environmental and economic initiatives. Volunteers help communities provide basic human services, spiritual support, neighbor-to-neighbor assistance, and assist and empower those who have been marginalized; and
- WHEREAS, volunteers have played an integral part in the City of Vancouver's proud history, they are at the foundation of our community life. They contribute their time and talents to organizations that promote and support the arts, philanthropy, historical preservation, civic engagement, business and education, and efforts to protect and support our environment. These contributions improve the lives of all citizens and help maintain our local economy. Volunteers collectively demonstrate their power to make a difference and are an inspiration for all of us to follow; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver recognizes that community volunteers are key to assisting the City meet the needs of our diverse community while accomplishing our community goals; we acknowledge that volunteers help unite our great City through their selfless service. While the City supports opportunities for people to get involved in all aspects of community life by developing public and private partnerships, encouraging creative leadership, and civic engagement, we also challenge and encourage all people to get involved and connect to the myriad of opportunities available, and to be the catalysts at the center of the change they want to see; and
- WHEREAS, during this week we call on all community members and organizations to help us thank, celebrate, and recognize the contributions of all volunteers.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, do hereby proclaim April 16th through April 22nd, 2023, as:

## **"National Volunteer Week"**

and encourage community members of all ages and abilities, to follow the example of our neighbors, friends, and family, by saying "Yes" to service. By volunteering we gain knowledge, compassion, and understanding and create a spirit of friendship and connectedness with our neighbors and our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 17th day of April, 2023.

  
ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR