

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS, women's history is everyone's history, and our history is what shapes us as a city, state, and a nation; and
- WHEREAS, the AAUW (American Association of University Women) has worked to advance women nationally since 1881 and in the City of Vancouver since 1931, through advocacy, such as supporting women's right to vote, education at every level, including post-graduate work and philanthropy, and through fund raising for grants, scholarships, and fellowship awards for women. The Vancouver branch of AAUW has awarded local scholarships since inception; and
- WHEREAS, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. The following year, the U.S. Congress followed suit passing a resolution establishing a national celebration; and
- WHEREAS, women of every race, class, religion, sexuality, national origin, educational level, age, gender identity and expression, disability, familial status, military status, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our nation, state, and the City of Vancouver in countless recorded and unrecorded ways, particularly in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions; and
- WHEREAS, women are instrumental, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the Abolitionist Movement, the Industrial Labor Movement, the Civil Rights Movement, the Environmental Movement, the Peace Movement, LGBTQ2S+ Rights, the #metoo and Black Lives Matter Movements, and many other movements that create a more fair and just society for all; and
- WHEREAS, women have called not only for the absence of oppression, but for the presence of opportunity. We acknowledge the determination, hard work, and perseverance made by all women, and especially women of color, LGBTQ2S+ women, Trans\* women, and low-income women to culture, education, military, politics, arts, literature, science, sports, technological developments, and our economy. This hard work was despite of inequitable institutional and systemic injustices designed to prevent and limit their achievements and contributions; and
- WHEREAS, both of Washington's U.S. Senators are women, and in serving Southwest Washington, a woman is a U.S. Representative, three women serve as State senators, three women serve as State representatives, four women serve on the Vancouver City Council as the community members of Vancouver elected the first woman mayor in 2017; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver is committed to recognizing and eliminating institutional and systemic sexism and genderism and the consequences thereof within the City; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver continues to work toward becoming an inclusive and just community in which all citizens are respected and recognized for their real and potential contributions to our community, state, country, and world.
- WHEREAS, we are immensely proud of the history as well as thankful for the countless contributions of Women in the City of Vancouver and throughout this nation; this month, and throughout the year, we urge our community to celebrate the history and continue to fight for equality and opportunity for all.

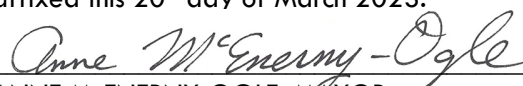
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as:

## **"Women's History Month"**

in the City of Vancouver and call upon the people of Vancouver to honor this observance with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

  
ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR