

Proclamation

WHEREAS, November is National Runaway Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 4.2 million young people experience some sort of homelessness – couch surfing, staying in a shelter, living on the streets – each year; and

WHEREAS, National Runaway Prevention Month began in 2002 and is presented each year by the National Runaway Safeline, the federally designated national crisis and communication system for youth ages 12 to 21 who have run away, are considering leaving home, or are experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, runaway youth are often expelled from their home, have experienced trauma, struggle to meet basic needs, and are at increased danger of falling into high-risk situations, including becoming a victim of violence and/or human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, housing instability can have detrimental and long-term effects on youth, including limited access to education and poor physical and mental health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, National Women’s Coalition Against Violence & Exploitation (NWCAGE) is working to raise awareness, provide support, and offer resources for vulnerable young people in the community through NWCAGE’s Missing Children’s Division under their Advocacy Center for Justice.

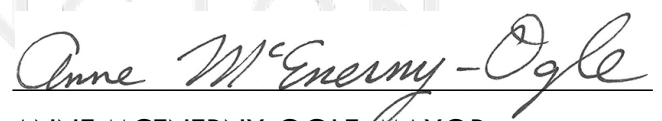
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, do hereby proclaim November 2023, to be

“National Runaway Prevention Month”

in the City of Vancouver and I encourage all people in our community to appreciate the role that we can play in advocating for and providing safe alternatives to this vulnerable population of young people.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 6th day of November, 2023.


ANNE MCENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR