



**Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 04, 2021**

To: Committee of the Whole

Date: February 26, 2021

From: Sharmarke Dubow

Subject: Support for Laid-off Hotel and Tourism Industry Workers

BACKGROUND

WHEREAS the covid pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities and its social, health, and economic impacts are particularly devastating for women and racialized communities; and

WHEREAS the tourism and hospitality industries have been drastically impacted; and

WHEREAS of the 50 000 hotel workers workers that were laid of in March 2020, the majority are women and people of colour; and

WHEREAS the duration of the pandemic means that recall rights require extension; and

WHEREAS there are reports of hotels in British Columbia refusing to commit to bringing workers back to their jobs when business returns; and

WHEREAS the City of City of Victoria is committed to a COVID recovery plan that takes better care of people, the environment, and the community than the systems we had before the pandemic; and

WHEREAS the City of City of Victoria recognizes hotel workers and people who work in the tourism industry as valued and valuable members of our community;

and Union of BC Municipalities encouraging them to host future conferences and events in venues that respect worker rights and pay at least a living wage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of City of Victoria affirms that people should not lose their livelihoods due to the pandemic; and

THAT the City of Victoria write to the Ministers of Labour and Tourism expressing our support for the right for laid off workers to return to their jobs when the pandemic eases; and

THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support; and

THAT the City of Victoria writes to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Dubow', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Dubow