File: 0410-31

November 30, 2020

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Premier John Horgan
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Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Selina Robinson, Minister of Finance
email: Fin.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
PO Box 9050 ST PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Harwinder Sandhu, MLA Vernon-Monashee
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Council, at their Regular meeting held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, passed the following resolution:

*"WHEREAS cost is a significant barrier to people accessing contraception, particularly to people with low incomes, youth, and people from marginalized communities; and*

*WHEREAS providing free prescription contraception has been shown to improve health outcomes for parents and infants by reducing the risks associated with unintended pregnancy, and is likely to reduce direct medical costs on the provincial health system; and*

*WHEREAS contraceptive methods such as condoms or vasectomies are available at low cost, no cost, or are covered by BC's Medical Services Plan, whereas all contraceptive methods for people with uteruses (such as birth control pills, intrauterine devices, or hormone injections) have high up-front costs, making access to contraception unequal and gendered;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*

*THAT the City of Vernon write to the Provincial Minister of Finance, the Provincial Minister of Health, the Premier of BC, and the local MLA supporting universal no-cost access to all prescription contraception available in BC under the Medical Services Plan; and*

*THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support as well*

***CARRIED."***

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Victor I. Cumming
Mayor

Copy: Mayor & Council
W. Pearce, CAO
BC Municipalities