



Office of the Mayor
CITY OF VANCOUVER
BRITISH COLUMBIA

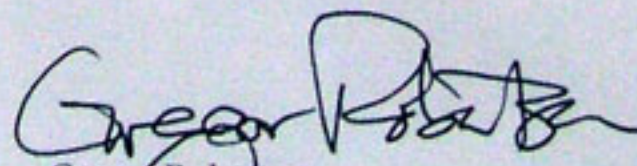
Proclamation

"SAVE THE FROGS DAY"

- WHEREAS *Amphibians are in considerable peril here in Vancouver and around the world;*
- AND WHEREAS *Nearly one-third of the world's 6,468 amphibian species are threatened with extinction and at least 150 species completely disappeared since 1979, making amphibians the most threatened group of animals on Earth;*
- AND WHEREAS *Amphibians are critical components to our ecosystems, especially of the land and waters in and around Metro Vancouver, and because amphibians provide ecosystem services to nature and to humans including cleaning waterways by eating algae during their tadpole stage; serving as a vital source of food to other animals; consuming large quantities of ticks, mosquitoes and other pest species that serve as disease vectors that can transmit fatal illnesses to humans;*
- AND WHEREAS *Approximately 10% of Nobel prizes in physiology and medicine have resulted from investigations that used amphibians - implying that when an amphibian species disappears, so does any promise for important new human pharmaceutical discoveries;*
- AND WHEREAS *Amphibians face a multitude of threats including pollution, pesticides, habitat destruction, climate change, invasive species, infectious diseases (the spread of which are facilitated by human activities), and over-harvesting for the pet and food trades;*
- AND WHEREAS *We believe in the right of all children to see, hear and catch amphibians in their native habitat;*
- AND WHEREAS *Amphibian conservation efforts will not be successful without an educated and informed public;*
- AND WHEREAS *The Pacific Treefrog (*Hyla regilla*), an original inhabitant of these lands now known as the City of Vancouver, could be encouraged to co-habit backyard gardens, urban forests and city parks:*
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gregor Robertson, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM Tuesday, April 28th, 2009 as

"SAVE THE FROGS DAY"

in the City of Vancouver.


Gregor Robertson
MAYOR

