CITY OF VICTORIA SUPPORTS World Space Preservation Treaty

June 26, 2003

It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Fleming, that:

Whereas, the termination of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty on June 13, 2002, permits research, development, testing, manufacturing, production and deployment of space-based weapons, thereby promoting an arms race in space;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty will establish a permanent ban on all space-based weapons, on the use of weapons to destroy or damage objects in space that are in orbit; and the permanent termination of research and development, testing, manufacturing, production and deployment of all space-based weapons;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty will establish an outer space peacekeeping agency to monitor outer space and enforce the permanent ban of space-based weapons;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty permits space exploration, space research and development, testing, manufacturing or deployment that is not related to space-based weapons or systems, including civil, commercial, or defence activities such as communications, navigation, surveillance, reconnaissance, early warning, or remote sensing;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty facilitates investment in clean, safe and sustainable technology, products and services to support expanded, cooperative, non-weapons space ventures and the consequent stimulation of the national and world economy;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty preserves the peaceful, cooperative uses of space for all residents of Victoria and prevents harmful health and safety impacts on residents from space-based weapons testing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Victoria City Council urge the Prime Minister of Canada to sign the Space Preservation Treaty and have the House of Commons of Canada ratify it; and

2. That the Victoria City Council urge the Government of Canada to convene a treaty-signing conference for the Space Preservation Treaty, as Canada did in the treaty-signing conference in December 1997, where 122 countries signed the Convention Banning Land Mines, known as the Ottawa Convention; and

3. This resolution of Victoria City Council be sent to the President and Executive of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for information.

Carried (unanimous) June 26, 2003