

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

DEC - 6 2017

His Worship Lyn Hall
Mayor of the City of Prince George
1100 Patricia Blvd
Prince George BC V2L 3V9

Dear Mayor Hall:

I would like to thank the City of Prince George for such an informative meeting at this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention held in Vancouver. I am writing to follow up on our discussion regarding the updating of the Emergency Social Services (ESS) program, funding to include an emergency operations centre into the replacement fire hall and funding the at-risk youth program.

I understand from ministry staff that the City took part in the wildfire debrief sessions held by Emergency Management BC and BC Wildfire Service in November and the one-day facilitated ESS-specific debrief session in Prince George that occurred on December 6, 2017. Feedback and contributions from communities affected by the wildfires of this past summer will assist the provincial government's future responses.

Regarding funding sources for the building of a new emergency operations centre, the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their residents in responding to emergencies. Funding is provided by the Province and is administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

I appreciate your sharing the City's report on its at-risk youth program. Should you wish to follow up further on this issue, please contact Ms. Elise Handley, Senior Policy Analyst from the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch by email at: Elise.Handley@gov.bc.ca.

For a number of years the ministry has supported innovative crime prevention and intervention initiatives through Civil Forfeiture grants. Since 2011/12, over \$4.4 million in civil and criminal forfeiture grant funding has specifically targeted youth gang prevention projects; over \$330,000 of this funding was provided to youth gang prevention initiatives in Prince George.

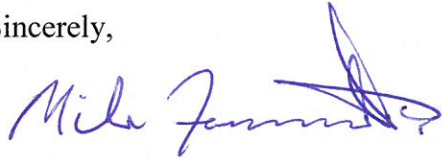
.../2

His Worship Lyn Hall
Page 2

If you would like additional information on upcoming opportunities to apply for Civil Forfeiture grants, please contact Mr. Brett Banks, Senior Policy Analyst from the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch by email at: Brett.Banks@gov.bc.ca.

I appreciate these important opportunities to exchange ideas and share information. Through a continued partnership, I am confident that we can work together to increase the well-being of the City of Prince George and its citizens.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: Ms. Jennifer Rice
Mr. Robert Turner
Ms. Patricia Boyle
Ms. Elise Handley
Mr. Brett Banks