Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATIONS 2018
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MESSAGE FROM MURRY
THE CHAIR OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON A HEALTHY CITY FRAMEWORK

In 2010, an integrated community sustainability plan for Prince George, branded myPG, was completed to help Prince George realize a sustainable and prosperous future.

myPG captures the results of extensive public and stakeholder engagement that created a vision of the long-term future of Prince George and outlines what the community needs to do to achieve that vision.

At the beginning of its term, Council considers how the City of Prince George can contribute to the vision and establishes priorities in four areas including: Social Development; Environment; Economic Development and; City Government.

The myPG Social Development Strategy includes seven broad goals, noted below.

- Affordable, Accessible Housing
- Clear Identify and Pride
- Cultural Richness
- Equity and Inclusion
- Health and Wellness
- Safe Environment
- Supportive and Engaged Community with Strong Neighbourhoods

Achievement of these goals depends on the collaborative and progressive contribution of many sectors and partners. The City of Prince George is committed to fulfilling the role of local government in relation to these goals.

This commitment prompted Council’s establishment of a Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework. The Select Committee, with its diverse membership, was asked to advise Council how the City might best contribute to the achievement of myPG Social Development goals. Its recommendations are captured in this report. As Committee Chair, I’d like to thank members for their much appreciated contribution to this important work.

Councillor Murry Krause
Chair, Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework

June 2018
COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER BIOGRAPHY AND PHOTOS

COUNCILLOR MURRY KRAUSE
Murry Krause served as Chair of the Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework. He is a six term City Councillor, and serves as a Director of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. Murry was the Executive Director of the Prince George and District United Way for 13 years, before assuming the role of Executive Director of the Central Interior Native Health Society, a position he held for 22 years.

COUNCILLOR SUSAN SCOTT
Susan Scott is a City Council appointee to the Select Committee. She worked for 22 years in the college and university bookstore system in the lower mainland. It was an opportunity to establish the University of Northern BC’s bookstore that brought her to Prince George in 1992. She is an active community volunteer having served as Assistant Chaplain at the University Hospital of Northern BC, and as a Spiritual Advisor at the Prince George Rotary Hospice House.

KERRY PATEMAN
Kerry Pateman is a professional planner who served as a Senior Planner with the City of Prince George. Since 2001, she has worked as an independent consultant for various northern communities. Kerry is the Coordinator for the Prince George Community Partners Addressing Homelessness, has served as a faculty member at the University of Northern British Columbia in the Bachelor of Planning program, and is a volunteer board member for AWAC – Association Advocating for Women and Children.
SEAN FARRELL
Sean Farrell earned his Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto in piano performance at the age of 14, at which time he also commenced his studies at Queen’s University in Kingston where he earned Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Economics degrees. He then obtained a Masters in Music degree from the University of Ottawa. Sean currently serves as Executive Director of the Prince George & District Community Arts Council at Studio 2880.

AMANDA ALEXANDER
Amanda Alexander is Chief Executive Officer for the YMCA of Northern BC. She is passionate about designing and developing new programs and initiatives that help build healthy communities. Her social work background has led her to appreciate the importance of supporting the health and well-being of marginalized community members, while also investing upstream in holistic prevention services.

CHRISTY KUBERT
Christy Kubert has been employed at the Child Development Centre of Prince George and District for 26 years. She’s currently the Manager of Supported Child Development and Supported Child Development Consultant. Christy is also a member of the Children & Youth Family Network (CYFN), and was appointed by this body to serve as a member of the Select Committee.
DR. ANDREW GRAY
Dr. Andrew Gray, MD MSc FRCP, is Northern Health’s Medical Health Officer for the Northern Interior of BC, which involves providing medical oversight and leadership to protect and improve the health of the region’s population. He completed his public health training and Master’s in epidemiology at McGill University in 2016, medical school at UBC in 2011, and a BSc in math and computer science at UBC in 2005.

SUPT. WARREN BROWN
Superintendent Warren Brown is the current officer in charge of the Prince George Detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. His diverse policing career has spanned nearly 30 years and three police forces. He is a proud third generation Mountie who loves his job, and loves serving the people in our community.

JOANNE RANSON
Since 2016, Joanne has been involved in the Hart Community Association (HCA) as a Board Member. She joined as a means of advocating for recreation spaces and opportunities for her two children, aged 3 and 7. Her volunteer work with the HCA now includes organizing community events, such as the Ferguson Lake Family Day, facilitating recreation programs, and advocating for recreation space on behalf of Hart residents.
WENDY POLLARD
Wendy Pollard is the General Manager for Volunteer Prince George. She has demonstrated her passion for the community by actively serving in the event management industry for more than 20 years. Her roles have included Manager of Athlete Services for the 2015 Canada Winter Games, and Bid Coordinator for the PG 2015 Canada Winter Games Bid Committee.

TERRI McCLYMONT
Terri McClymont is the Executive Director of the Recycling & Environmental Action Planning Society (REAPS). She has been with REAPS for twenty-three years actively engaging students, individuals, businesses and local government in environmental issues with a focus on solid waste and composting. She has a passion for her community whether it is leading initiatives, participating in events or sitting on many community boards.

DR. FIONA MacPHAIL
Fiona MacPhail is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Economics at UNBC. Her research program focuses upon gender, employment and public policy, as well as poverty and inequality. She has a special interest in development issues in resource-oriented communities.
MYPG SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HOUSING
Prince George has eliminated homelessness and offers all of its citizens accessible, affordable, and safe housing.

CLEAR IDENTITY AND PRIDE
Citizens of Prince George share a clear identity that the community can be proud of, with a strong downtown and connection to its rivers and natural surroundings.

CULTURAL RICHNESS
Citizens enjoy a rich cultural life, with more events, facilities, education and community involvement in the arts.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION
People of all backgrounds, ethnicities and income levels can access services that help to meet their needs and improve their quality of life.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
Price George is a community that encourages and supports health and wellness.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT
Prince George is a community where all citizens feel safe.

SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY WITH STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS
Prince George is a friendly and engaged community with strong social connections that recognizes, celebrates, and protects neighbourhood identities.
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
A FOREWORD FOR MYPG GOALS AND POLICY

In late 2016, Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework. During the early months of 2017, representatives were recommended by agencies comprising the committee membership approved by Council. The committee convened its first meetings on June 29, 2017, and met eight times. It concluded its work on May 17, 2018.

With facilitation support initially from Mr. Andy Beesley and subsequently from Chris Bone, the staff liaison, the Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework utilized meetings to develop recommendations regarding City actions to advance myPG Social Development goal. For each myPG Social Development goal, the facilitated process involved reviewing related City policies, overviewing current City actions, considering options proposed by Administration, and discussing additional and/or alternative actions based on the input of committee members.

This section of the report presents the work of the Select Committee on a Healthy City Framework. For each myPG Social Development goal, related Council policies and City initiatives are presented together with the Committee’s recommendations on what more the City could do to contribute to goal achievement. Committee recommendations are grouped according to one or more City roles including Act, Advocate, and/or Facilitate.
ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

"Prince George has eliminated homelessness and offers all of its citizens accessible, affordable and safe housing"

ASSOCIATED POLICIES

City of Prince George Housing First Policy ●
City of Prince George Housing for Affordability Policy ●

*Please refer to PG.46 for full policy information
ACTION ITEMS

ADVOCACY

Continue to advocate, at Provincial and Federal government levels, for housing development and services that contribute to poverty reduction.

FUNDING FLOWS

Appeal to government to structure funding and service contracts in a way that ensures coordinated and integrated efforts to house the most vulnerable populations.

ENCOURAGE HOUSING DIVERSITY

Develop policy and practice to enable the development of diverse housing types, including co-op and “tiny” housing options.

DOCUMENTATION

Prepare a compendium of City efforts to provide accessible, affordable, and safe housing.

DEVELOP AMENITIES

As conditions permit, encourage new developments to provide affordable housing options and access to park and green space.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Evaluate climate change risks and vulnerabilities in relation to housing, particularly for vulnerable and disadvantaged populations, and implement actions to address these vulnerabilities.

Incent housing development designed to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HOUSING

The 2017 seniors housing development represents a major contribution to increasing the stock of apartment dwellings in Prince George and the City has received numerous applications for more multi-family developments for 2017.

The City’s Multi-Family Housing Incentives Program (2016) offers incentives for multi-family projects where 50% of the units achieve Adaptable Housing Standards and are located in walkable neighbourhoods and close to transit (contributed to the creation of a seniors-housing apartment development with 173 units in a centrally-located, infill neighbourhood).

In 2011 the City developed a Visitable Housing Checklist. Visitable Housing allows people of all abilities to visit the home and include features such as: no-step entrance, wider doors and hallways, and a bathroom and living area on the main floor. The City’s Visitable Housing Checklist serves as a resource to developers and contractors.

The City’s “Adaptable Housing Checklist” incorporates design features like wider doors and hallways and a bathroom, bedroom, and kitchen unit on the main floor. Other features highlighted by the City of Prince George’s Adaptable Housing Standards include:

- Bathroom, kitchen, and door hardware use a lever-type system.
- No steps are required to access the adaptable housing unit.
- Blocking is installed in the main floor bathroom walls.
The City’s Downtown Incentives Program offers reduced development costs/incentives for new multi-family, mixed-use, commercial, and green projects and upgrades to existing development in the downtown area.

The City’s Official Community Plan (2012) and the myPG Sustainability Plan support the creation of affordable, accessible housing across the housing continuum. One of the City of Prince George’s key goals is to provide affordable and accessible housing. The City works with developers, builders, and residents to realize this objective by offering resources to help with the construction of accessible homes in PG.

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility advises and assists Council, staff, and other committees with formulating and promoting strategies and actions to create and maintain a barrier-free community. The objective of the Committee is to remove physical and social barriers which impede the full participation of all citizens in every aspect of community life.

The Housing Contribution Program, provided through partnership between Northern Development Initiative Trust and the City of Prince George, offers an additional incentive of $10,000 per door for projects that meet a minimum investment of $500,000 and/or density requirements as set out in the Downtown Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw 8370, 2011.

The City has a Service Agreement with Community Partners Addressing Homelessness (CPAH) and supports such initiatives as Homeless Connect Day. The City has representation on the Committee and participates in Committee work, including the Point in Time Count.

The City sponsored a Housing Need and Demand Study. The research conducted provides information and insight into the key characteristics that will shape housing need and demand into the future.
Citizens of Prince George share a clear identity that the community can be proud of, with a strong downtown and connection to its rivers and natural surroundings.

**ASSOCIATED POLICIES**

**Note**: There are no Council policies regarding clear identity and pride.
**ACTION ITEMS**

**PROMOTION**

**ACT** Promote the capacity (skill sets, abilities, etc.) of Prince George through existing City channels (i.e. Move Up Prince George, Facebook, etc.).

**RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT**

**ACT** ADVOCATE Continue to utilize diverse opportunities to recognize the achievements of Prince George residents and agencies.

**INNOVATION**

**FACILITATE** Explore how the City can serve as a facilitator of innovation (through mechanisms such as dialogues, opportunity banks, etc.).

**INFORMATION GATEWAYS**

**ACT** Consider how the City can support the growth, development and promotion of information portals like BC 211.

**VOLUNTEERISM & PARTNERSHIPS**

**ACT** FACILITATE Build pride through the implementation of initiatives that position residents as partners in the care of our community (Partners in Parks, Adopt a Block, etc.).
The Prince George Heritage Commission works with the City of Prince George to identify, recognize, and/or protect local historic properties.

The City works in partnership (through grants, service agreements, and third party service delivery) with organizations to deliver services, and implement initiatives that contribute to creating clear identity and a sense of pride in the community.

City grants facilitate community celebrations, festivals that enhance civic pride and contribute to building a strong identity.

The City is implementing a seasonal initiative, focused on enhancing downtown safety and cleanliness, during the months of May - September.

The City will be developing a Cultural Plan throughout 2017 that will provide opportunities for initiatives through art and culture, that help convey our community’s identity and pride.

The City’s “Move Up Prince George” website enhances perceptions of Prince George and showcases why Prince George is a livable community (ways in which Prince George provides a high quality of life, job opportunities, key community resources, and education programs etc.).
The City’s Park Strategy Action Plan includes initiatives to support Riverfront Parks and Trails, Neighbourhood Park Improvements, Destination Parks and Trail Connectivity. Natural green spaces and parks are valued features in the City that help create pride in City amenities.

Presented annually, in partnership with the Prince George Recycling and Environmental Action Planning Society (REAPS), Spring Clean-Up encourages residents to join together and collect litter from parks, school yards, and along streets and trails. The City provides free access to bins in a number of areas to help with the collection of garbage bags from various neighbourhoods.

The City’s Public Art Advisory helps promote and develop public art (and related) programs. Prince George has a growing public collection featuring works created by local artists and pieces from sculptors and painters from across British Columbia and Canada.

The City, and its many partners organizations, host events and programs throughout the year to build civic pride and showcase Prince George’s amenities.

The City’s new website enhances the City’s appeal, and builds a strong identity through the use of local imagery.

The City’s response to the Summer 2017 Cariboo Regional District Fire Evacuation demonstrated the community’s strong volunteer commitment (i.e. over 2600 volunteers), and created a sense of pride.

The City has a Service Agreement with Volunteer Prince George that supports the important contributions volunteers make to the fabric of our community.
CULTURAL RICHNESS

“Citizens enjoy a rich cultural life, with more events, facilities, education and community involvement in the arts”

ASSOCIATED POLICIES

Public Art Policy

*Please refer to PG.49 for full policy information
ACTION ITEMS

PUBLIC ART POLICY

ACT  Review and update the Public Art Policy with consideration of a comprehensive definition of the arts, and reflection of the desire to establish Prince George as a cultural centre.

FUNDING AND RECOGNITION

ACT  Contribute to cultural richness by ensuring adequate funding for the arts.

ACT  Ensure grant recipients acknowledge the contributions of the City of Prince George.

ACT  Continue to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers to the advancement of cultural richness.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ADVOCACY

ADVOCATE  Identify and promote the utilization of mechanisms enabling non-profits to request local government advocacy (to secure funding and/or lobby for change to Provincial or Federal government policies with adverse community impacts).

FACILITATE  Facilitate opportunities for community organizations to share and respond to government policy change.

ROLE OF THE ARTS IN ADVANCING RECONCILIATION

FACILITATE  Consider and support the role of the arts in addressing reconciliation priorities.

ENABLING ACCESS AND ADDRESSING PERCEPTIONS

ACT  Support expansion of the community’s capacity to enable access to and participation in the arts for residents of all ages and abilities, representing the full range of socio-economic positions.

ACT  Utilize the City’s communication platforms and funding criteria to address perceptions of cultural accessibility through the promotion of inclusive programming and opportunities.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

ACT  Continue to collaborate with the Regional District of Fraser Fort George to fund agencies working to establish Prince George as a creative centre of excellence.
The City's Public Art Advisory helps promote and develop public art and related programs.

Prince George has a growing public collection featuring works created by local artists and pieces from sculptors and painters from across British Columbia and Canada.

The City maintains an inventory of public art that includes public art, indoor art collection, markers, memorials, and other items of interest.

The City provides a “guide” on how to take a walking public art tour of downtown Prince George.

The City works in partnership with organizations to deliver services, and facilitate the implementation of community celebrations and events. These initiatives are designed to create cultural learning and entertainment opportunities for all residents.
The City will be developing a Cultural Map and a Cultural Plan throughout 2018/2019 that will provide opportunities for participation and engagement in the arts.

The City is acting on its Reconciliation Framework which includes, among many initiatives, the development of a Pavilion in Lheidli T’enneh Memorial Park that utilizes art and photography to celebrate Lheidli T’enneh culture, and the First Nation’s partnership with the City of Prince George.

The City promotes and hosts concerts and cultural activities at the CN Centre and the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre.

Facilities like Two Rivers Gallery, PG Playhouse, Railway and Forestry Museum, Studio 2880, Canada Games Plaza, and the Bob Harkins Branch of the Public Library operate on City owned land and/or in City owned buildings.
“People of all backgrounds, ethnicities and income levels can access services that help to meet their needs and improve their quality of life”

ASSOCIATED POLICIES
City of Prince George Equity and Inclusion Policy

*Please refer to PG.48 for full policy information.
ACTION ITEMS

RECONCILIATION

ACT Establish and implement a comprehensive professional development and training program for City of Prince George staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations.

FACILITATE Together with partners and interested organizations, play a leadership role in facilitating communication and acting on opportunities to raise awareness of the significance of reconciliation as a means to redress the impacts of colonization.

ACT Continue to undertake actions to strengthen the City’s relationship with the Lheidli T’enneh First Nation.

ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE Promote respect, understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity and the inclusion of Aboriginal and racialized communities into the cultural fabric of the municipality (Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination – CCMARD).

POVERTY

ACT FACILITATE Facilitate the creation and retention of a diverse housing stock (including “tiny homes”) that accommodates people of different ages, life stages, incomes, and abilities.

ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE Support the development and implementation of the Province’s poverty reduction strategy.

ACT FACILITATE Support opportunities for sustainable food sources including community gardening.

INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT

ACT Plan and execute public engagement/consultation exercises in a way that enables the participation of marginalized populations.

ACT Seek input from service recipients when developing City social development policy and strategies.
Prince George City Council (May 2010), resolved that the City of Prince George join the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CCMARD) and sign the Declaration.

City grants support programs, events and initiatives aligned with equity and inclusion goals. In 2016, grants were awarded to 34 organizations and totalled more than $350,000.

The City promotes access to recreation opportunities through: the Leisure Access Program, Facilitation of PGKidsport; aquatic programming (free adaptive program, toonie swims on Pro-D Days, etc.) and; physical accessibility initiatives.
The City has service agreements with organizations, like the Prince George Council of Seniors, that promote inclusion of seniors in the community.

Council has adopted and is acting on a reconciliation framework.

The City hosts an annual International Student Welcoming Barbecue.

In 2016, Spinal Cord Injury B.C. audited the City’s most popular parks to identify accessibility amenities and barriers as part of their Access North project. The information in these audits is being utilized to prioritize accessibility improvements in City parks.

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility audited civic buildings for accessibility in 2016 and worked with staff to implement improvements.

The City offers a number of incentives to encourage affordable housing development.
“Prince George is a community that encourages and supports health and wellness”

ASSOCIATED POLICIES
City of Prince George Community Health Policy •
City of Prince George Healthy Food and Beverage Sales •
- Recreation Facilities Procedure

*Please refer to PG.50 for full policy information
**ACTION ITEMS**

**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**

**ACT FACILITATE** Partner with the RCMP to educate and enforce bike lane rights and responsibilities.

**ACT** Continue implementation of the Prince George Active Transportation Plan.

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

**ACT ADVOCATE** Eliminate barriers to physical activity by advocating for increased access to a range of spaces (parks, schools, facilities, churches, etc.), for a range of hours, and during all seasons.

**ADVOCATE FACILITATE** Continue to facilitate implementation of the Prescription to Get Healthy initiative by advocating for the full participation of integral stakeholders.

*Action Items continued on next page*
Further Action Items

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**EMOTIONAL, SPIRITUAL & MENTAL WELL-BEING**

**ACT ** Support community programming focused on the emotional, spiritual, and mental well-being of residents.

**ACT ** Consider revising the Community Health Policy to include wording that reflects the importance of a holistic approach to the health and wellness of residents.
ACTION ITEMS

MITIGATE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

ACT Utilize regulatory tools (bylaws, zoning, etc.) to mitigate the negative impacts of substance use (including tobacco, cannabis, illicit drugs, and alcohol).

AIR QUALITY

ADVOCATE FACILITATE Facilitate community-wide action to limit idling in school zones, shopping areas, drive-thru service windows, etc.

ACT Continue to participate and actively contribute (through City policy, programs, and communication channels) as a member of the PG Air Roundtable.

HEALTHY FOOD

ACT Utilize City levers (policy, grants, zoning, etc.) to support further development of community gardens and access to healthy food.
The City works in partnership (3rd party delivery models, service agreements, shared use agreements, etc.) with organizations and volunteers to provide recreation services that promote health and wellness.

The City supports Community Associations in the delivery of affordable, neighbourhood-based programs and celebrations. For example, Community Associations in partnership with Engage Sport North are providing “Try It” programming for a variety of age groups to introduce new physical activities.

City grant programs fund events and initiatives aligned with health and wellness goals.

The City promotes access to recreation opportunities through: the Leisure Access Program, Facilitation of PGKidsport; aquatic programming (free adaptive program, toonie swims on Pro-D Days, etc.) and; physical accessibility initiatives.

The City is facilitating Raise Up Our Kids, a Collective Impact initiative to improve children’s health by improving connections to school and community (enabling access, promoting safety, and building relationships).
The City’s Park Strategy Action Plan which includes initiatives to support Riverfront Parks and Trails, Neighbourhood Park Improvements, Destination Parks and Trail Connectivity is being implemented and encourages city residents to utilize parks/trails/sports fields as part of healthy living.

The City’s 2016 Pedestrian Network Study Update prioritizes sidewalk improvements City-wide and encourages active transportation.

2016 brought significant improvements in cycling infrastructure with the removal of parking in bike lanes on main arterials, painting and signage to clearly designate bike lanes, and the production of a Prince George Bikeways pocket map.

The City of Prince George’s "Kids in PG Parks Passport Program" hosted free Park Play Days (hosted by Engage Sport North) for children ages 2-12 that introduced kids to games, group play, and physical activities.

The City partners with the Prince George Cycling Club to annually present Bike to Work Week in the Spring. Individuals and teams join together to bike to work and participate in social events.

The People in Motion Walking Program at the CN Centre and Rolling Mix Concrete Arena is a free way to stay active from September to April every year and keep moving during the winter.
SAFE ENVIRONMENT

“Prince George is a community where all citizens feel safe”

ASSOCIATED POLICIES

City of Prince George Crime Prevention through Social Development Policy

*Please refer to PG.52 for full policy information
ACTION ITEMS

PARK AND TRAIL SAFETY

ACT FACILITATE Develop an action plan to encourage trail and park safety that focuses on keeping green spaces clean and safe.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

ACT Conduct a crosswalk audit and address any resulting safety concerns.

ADVOCATE FACILITATE Work with partner organizations, like SD 57 and ICBC, to encourage pedestrian and motorist education and awareness initiatives focused on improving pedestrian safety.

*Action Items continued on next page
Further Action Items

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

ADDRESS PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME

**ADVOCATE**  
Support efforts to de-stigmatize issues of vulnerability (poverty, homelessness, mental health and/or substance use).

**ACT**  
Provide training for City of Prince George staff that encourages de-stigmatization of homelessness, mental health and substance use and provides practical tools for managing associated behaviours.

**ADVOCATE**  
In partnership with UNBC, implement actions to address students’ negative perceptions of downtown safety.

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SAFETY WITH A GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

**ACT**  
Duplicate comprehensive approach to safety in the downtown (i.e. graffiti management, cleanliness, security, etc.) in other geographic locations within the City.
ACTION ITEMS

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH TO SAFETY

ADVOCATE Advocate for increased access to safe and supported housing, as well as to treatment options for those with mental health and/or substance use issues.

ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE Act on commitment #10 of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination Declaration which calls for the development of an action plan to combat racism and discrimination in a way that promotes respect, understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity and the inclusion of Aboriginal and racialized communities.

ADVOCATE FACILITATE Continue to work with partner organizations to pursue implementation of a comprehensive youth crime prevention initiative that builds on current community initiatives.
The City, working with key partners, facilitates delivery of the Strengthening Families Program. This program aligns with Council’s Crime Prevention through Social Development Policy.

The City works in partnership (through grants, service agreements, and third party service delivery) with organizations to deliver services, and implement initiatives that contribute to the development of safe environments.

The City is implementing a seasonal initiative, focused on enhancing downtown safety and cleanliness during the months of May - September.

The City of Prince George works with partner organizations and agencies to deliver emergency response and public safety programs.
The City participated as a member of the Indigenous Court Working Group. The Prince George Indigenous Court opened in April 2018.

• The Community Policing section of the RCMP offers a variety of crime prevention programs including: Auxiliary Constable Program; Bike Theft Prevention Program - 529 Garage online bike registry; Block Watch; Citizens on Patrol - includes Speed Watch, Cell Watch, and Stolen Auto Recovery; Crime Prevention Education; Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED); Enforcement; Home and Business Security Evaluations; Restorative Justice; Rural Crime Watch; Safety Bear; Special Events; Subpoena Service; Two Rivers Crime Prevention Society; and Youth Mentoring.
MYPG Goals

SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY WITH STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS

“Prince George is a friendly and engaged community with strong social connections that recognizes, celebrates, and protects neighbourhood identities”

ASSOCIATED POLICIES

Note: There are no Council policies regarding a supportive and engaged community with strong neighbourhoods.
ACTION ITEMS

COMMUNITY HUB MODEL

ADVOCATE FACILITATE Continue to serve as the backbone organization facilitating a collective impact approach focused on the improvement of children’s health through the development of community hubs with integrated services.

PAY ATTENTION TO VULNERABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

ACT FACILITATE Promote and enhance safety and celebrate a sense of community within the VLA Neighbourhood in a way that prevents displacement of residents.

ACT FACILITATE Continue supporting the McIntyre Crescent Neighbourhood enhancement initiative, led by the Mennonite Central Committee.

*Action Items continued on next page
**Further Action Items**

**SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY WITH STRONG NEIGHBOURHOODS**

**BUILD SOCIAL CONNECTIONS**

**ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE**
Enhance programs and service delivery in selected neighborhoods and/or with target groups (i.e. seniors or children ages 9-13) to build social connections.

**ACT FACILITATE**
Continue to offer City grant opportunities that encourage neighbours to connect through the sharing of food, fun, and/or friendship.

**FACILITATE**
Pursue local government funding sources that build the capacity, through the provision of training and resources, of Community Associations and other organizations to act on initiatives that build social connections.
ACTION ITEMS

CREATE COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND PRIDE

- **ACT FACILITATE** Ensure the City’s grants criteria encourage community celebration and enhanced social interaction.
- **ACT FACILITATE** Continue with the City’s graffiti management program, focused on private residential and business properties.

CLEAN, GREEN AND SAFE

- **ACT FACILITATE** Facilitate the creation of initiatives to enhance perceptions of neighborhood safety.
- **ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE** Explore ways to engage/empower families, schools and neighborhoods in community clean-up efforts.
- **ACT ADVOCATE FACILITATE** Support events that promote safety, clean-up efforts, and/or celebrate a sense of community.
The City has a Service Agreement with Volunteer Prince George that supports and signifies the community’s strong volunteer commitment (i.e. over 2600 volunteers responded to Cariboo Regional District Fire Evacuation Response).

The City supports Community Associations in the delivery of affordable, neighbourhood-based programs and celebrations. The 2016 Community Association’s Strategy provides the framework for the ongoing, sustainable operation of Community Associations.

City grants facilitate community celebration and enhance social interactions.

The City works in partnership with organizations and volunteers to deliver various services including recreation services.
The City of PG Park Strategy Action Plan which includes initiatives to support Riverfront Parks and Trails, Neighbourhood Park Improvements, Destination Parks and Trail Connectivity is being implemented.

The City has implemented a graffiti management program focused on private residential and business properties.

The City implemented a seasonal initiative to enhance bylaw services in the downtown to help ensure a clean and safe neighbourhood for all to enjoy.

The City is supporting the McIntyre Crescent Neighbourhood enhancement initiative - led by the Mennonite Central Committee.

Community Policing leads a Restorative Justice Program.
The Select Committee on A Healthy City Framework is a select committee of Council established in accordance with the Community Charter and “City of Prince George Council Procedures Bylaw No. 8388, 2011”.

**PURPOSE AND MANDATE**

The Select Committee on A Healthy City Framework, hereafter referred to as the “Committee”, is to advise Mayor and Council of the City of Prince George, here after referred to as “Council”, and City Staff on matters regarding the priorities, policies and strategies affecting quality of life in Prince George, in accordance with these Terms of Reference. Specifically the committee will:

- inform the development of City strategies to achieve myPG Social Development goals;
- endeavor to strengthen communication and collaboration between the City of Prince George and its respective social/community development partners;
- support the City’s role as the backbone organization for the community’s collective impact initiatives;
- consider and integrate the advice and activities of other Council Committees with mandates aligned with quality of life matters and;
- contribute to the development of myPG Community Grant criteria to ensure alignment with strategic social development priorities.
MEMBERSHIP AND COMPOSITION

The Committee shall be comprised of a maximum of thirteen (13) members including:

1. Two (2) members of Council for the duration of the Council Term
2. Up to seven (7) members appointed as representatives of the following bodies:
   a. Community Partners Addressing Homelessness (CPAH)
   b. Community Arts Council (CAC)
   c. Child, Youth and Family Network (CYFN)
   d. YMCA of Northern BC (YMCA)
   e. Northern Health (NH)
   f. School District 57 (SD 57)
   g. RCMP - Prince George Detachment (RCMP)
   CPAH, CAC, CYFN, and YMCA, NH, SD 57, RCMP shall each deliver annual notice of their appointed Committee members by way of a letter addressed to Mayor and Council, delivered by November 30th of each year.
3. Up to three (3) members will contribute to the advancement of shared vision for healthy community development through their affiliation with:
   a. A Community Association (1 member)
   b. Volunteer Prince George (1 member)
   c. Social Research and Evaluation (1 member)
4. One member from the general public, who is a resident of Prince George, will be appointed by Council. Committee appointments, deliberations, and advice will reflect consideration of the critical importance of Indigenous perspectives and voice.
5. Select Committees are chaired by an appointed Council member to preside over meetings and Committee business.
City of Prince George Housing First Policy:

Purpose: Housing First is an approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing homeless people with housing quickly and then providing services as needed. What differentiates a Housing First approach from traditional emergency shelter or transitional housing approaches is that it is “housing-based”, with an immediate and primary focus on helping individuals and families quickly access and sustain permanent housing. Housing First programs share critical elements including:

- A focus on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible and;

- The provision of tailored services following housing placement to promote housing stability and individual well-being.

This policy is intended to guide intergovernmental advocacy and deliberations related to the provision of enhanced access to sustainable housing for Prince George individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

This policy will be implemented through comprehensive regulations, guidelines and programs that address the broad range of factors and conditions that influence health.

The City of Prince George supports a Housing First approach to ending homelessness.
City of Prince George Housing for Affordability Policy:

Purpose: The Local Government Act and Community Charter provide local governments with a variety of tools to contribute to the provision of housing options for residents across the income spectrum. These tools allow local governments to participate in the development of affordable housing as a facilitator, advocate, and partner. This policy, aligned with Official Community Plan objectives and policies, provides direction to the City of Prince George with respect to the creation and retention of affordable housing. This policy also reflects the complexity of housing affordability and the role of multi-sectoral partnerships. The City can help facilitate the development of these innovative partnerships to proactively address current and projected affordable housing need across the housing continuum.

1. The City will develop policies that reduce the barriers to constructing new affordable housing and encourage affordability in market housing development.

2. The City will monitor the stock of affordable housing and utilize this data to inform housing programs and policy.

3. The City will consider neighbourhood revitalization, through the redevelopment and renovation of existing buildings, as an option to provide affordable housing development.

4. The City will leverage its assets and facilitate partnerships focused on the development of affordable housing options.
City of Prince George Equity and Inclusion Policy:

Purpose: To improve the quality of life for all residents by fostering a community that is equitable and inclusive.

The City of Prince George is committed to ensuring all Prince George residents have equitable access to services, programs, and opportunities for participation in community life. Barriers impeding equitable access and inclusion will be addressed through the application of a range of community development principles including:

- **Inclusiveness**: A welcoming and accessible community initiates opportunities for all individuals, particularly those who are marginalized;

- **Connectedness**: A connected community results when all people feel supported, valued and have a sense of belonging;

- **Capacity Development**: A supportive community shares information and resources that enable innovative local solutions;

- **Partnerships**: A collaborative community works to foster relationships built on shared vision, trust, and respect;

- **Responsiveness**: A proactive community takes action that builds on community initiatives, is responsive to needs and strengthens community well-being.
CURRENT COUNCIL POLICIES BY GOAL AREA

Goal: CULTURAL RICHNESS

Public Art Policy:
Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to contribute to Prince George as BC’s Northern Arts Capital, to contribute to the excellent quality of life of its citizens and to help develop and enhance social, environmental and economic opportunities by promoting art in public places.

1. The City recognizes the importance of publicly accessible art for the enrichment of community life in Prince George and encourages public art initiatives.

2. The City will provide leadership in public art planning including the promotion and development of public art in its own facilities and grounds as well as encouraging the development of public art in private and other public sectors.

3. The City will support the arts, encourage public art partnerships and promote excellence in all public art projects.

4. The City will establish and protect public art through management policies and guidelines.

5. The City will endeavor to make space available for public art.
City of Prince George Community Health Policy:

Purpose:
To encourage and enable Prince George residents to make positive choices with respect to physical activity, healthy eating and overall wellness.

Policy: The City of Prince George is committed to fostering a community environment that aims to improve the health of all Prince George residents. This commitment will be acted upon with a population health approach. Population health is an approach to health that aims to improve the health of the entire population and to reduce health inequities among population groups by:

- Basing decisions on evidence
- Increasing investment in prevention
- Considering multiple strategies
- Collaborating across sectors
- Involving the public
- Demonstrating accountability for outcomes

This policy will be implemented through comprehensive regulations, guidelines and programs that address the broad range of factors and conditions that influence health.
City of Prince George Healthy Food and Beverage Sales – Recreation Facilities Procedure:
The procedure supports the Health and Wellness Policy by providing for the management of healthy food and beverage sales on City Property which will lead to the improvement of the nutritional content of items sold and/or served.

Objectives:
To prescribe procedures that create a supportive environment that makes the healthy choice the easy choice.

1. To prescribe procedures relating to education, which promote an increase in public and staff awareness of the benefits of healthy eating.

2. To provide procedures and programs relating to the nutritional content of items sold and/or served in Civic Facilities by establishing and monitoring minimum standards for product choices based on provincial guidelines.

3. To provide procedures and programs relating to the nutritional balance of items sold and/or served in Civic Facilities by establishing and monitoring pricing, display of products, preparation methods and contractual commitments.

4. To encourage City Council and Administration to provide leadership in the sale of healthy food and beverages in Civic Facilities.
City of Prince George Crime Prevention through Social Development (CPSD) Policy:

Purpose:

Crime Prevention through Social Development (CPSD) is an approach to preventing crime and victimization that recognizes the complex social, economic, and cultural processes that contribute to crime and victimization. CPSD seeks to strengthen the “bridge” between criminal justice policies and programs and the safe, secure, and pro-social development of individuals, families, and communities.

CPSD does not function in isolation from traditional crime prevention and crime control measures.

A comprehensive crime prevention approach for a safer community includes measures to address the immediate objective of protecting the public through the efforts of the police, courts, and corrections. At the same time, it also directs resources to reduce the availability and attractiveness of opportunities for criminal activity. CPSD strategies form the third component of this comprehensive approach to crime prevention/community and can be characterized as:

- Proactive;
- Long-term;
- Guided by social and economic factors that give rise to crime;
- Targeted at those who are at high risk for future offending;
- Coordinated with other crime prevention initiatives and programs that are already available in the community;
- Accessible to individuals and families.

The purpose of this policy is to guide the design of comprehensive solutions to public safety issues.

The City of Prince George recognizes that many of the key elements of CPSD strategies are found within the responsibilities of local governments including policing, transportation, housing, recreation, urban planning, economic development and community health. As such, the City of Prince George supports initiatives utilizing a CPSD approach as part of its comprehensive community safety strategy.
SELECT COMMITTEE ON A HEALTHY CITY FRAMEWORK
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS 2018

For more information about the myPG process or about the social development strategy, please visit princegeorge.ca