# The HUB Prince George







## **Design Rationale**

The main building has been designed as a double loaded bar that follows the natural crest of the ridge that bisects the site. The building bends and curves breaking down its overall length while conforming to the natural landscape. This design strategy reduces the impact to the site while providing **below-grade parking** (covered and semi-heated) for the students. It also allows the building to sit almost a full storey below the elevation of Ospika Blvd., allowing it to appear smaller in scale from the street. The building is well setback from the street providing plenty of space for the required surface parking and some landscape buffering between the road and residences.

The amenity space is located at the center, the heart, along the ground floor level. Visually it travels up the building as glazed lounges, study spaces and elevator lobbies. This glazed mass timber feature links the levels while visually breaking up the mass of the building into east and west wings. **The east wing steps down** to be sensitive to the adjacent single family fabric to the north. The roof of the west wing has been designed to accommodate ovoltaic panels to take advantage of the abundance of year round sun.

The orientation and site location minimizes shadowing on the adjacent properties while providing excellent solar orientation, for passive heat gain and daylighting, to the project and amenity spaces. The main amenity space opens to the south along a raised terrace which cascades down to a sheltered landscape courtyard. The west wing embraces this courtyard shielding it from the northerly winds and creating a microclimate increasing the year round outdoor comfort on sunny days.

Connectivity from the site to the city road network is from two driveways along Ospika Boulevard South, in order to create a natural flow of visitors/cars through the site and provide proper connection to the underground parkade

## **Project Team**

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# **Drawing List**

A0.00	Coversheet
A1.01	Site Plan
A1.03	Context images
A1.04	Artistic Renders
A2.03	Level P1 Plan
A2.04	Level 1 Plan
A2.05	Level 2 Plan
A2.06	Level 3 Plan
A2.07	Level 4 Plan
A2.08	Level 5 Plan
A2.09	Roof Plan
A5.01	Elevations / Materia
A6.01	<b>Building Sections</b>
Total: 13	

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## **Zoning Summary**

Legal Address: LT 147 DL 2003 PL 28774 (Parcel ID 005850355)

Civic Address 4500 Ospika Boulevard, Prince George, BC Zoning: Allowed Building Height: 15m above building grade Proposed Building Height: Site Area: 22,834.32 sq.m Proposed Number of Units: 254 (7 accessible units) Proposed Unit density: 112 per hectare Max Site coverage: Proposed Site Coverage: Front Yard Setback: Min. Exterior/Interior side yard setback:

Proposed Gross Building Area: Proposed Net Building Area: 6,235 sq.m Proposed FAR:

#### Code Summary

Major Occupancy: C (Residential)/ F3 (Parking Garage) below ground Building Area: 1,987m2 (Building Area A: 1472m2; Building Area B: 515m2) Building Height 5 storeys P1 - 60

Average Building Grade Along Ospika Blvd:692.8m (see A1.01 for calculation)

L1 - 56 (res.) + 25 (amenity) L2 - 56 (res.) + 25 (amenity) L3 - 56 (res.) + 25 (amenity) L4 - 56 (res.) + 25 (amenity L5 - 30 (res.) + 25 (amenity Total: 379

Firewall Rating (3.1.10.2): FRR 2hr Streets Facing (3.2.2.10): 1
3.2.2.50: Group C up to 6 storeys sprinklered:
building area not more than 1,800m2 (building separated by firewall) Floor and supporting structure FRR 1hr Roof and supporting structure FRR 1hr

Sprinklered: Yes NFPA 12-2013

Floor FRR parkade 2hr

# **Areas**

Gros	Gross Building Area	
Name	Area	
Gross L1	1905 m²	
Gross L2	1948 m²	
Gross L3	1959 m²	
Gross L4	1959 m²	
Gross L5	1174 m²	
	8944 m²	

Gross L5	1174 m²
	8944 m²
	Net Area
Level	Area
Level 1	1286 m²
Level 2	1394 m²
Level 3	1405 m²
Level 4	1405 m²
Level 5	745 m²
	6235 m²

# <u>Units</u>

U	Init Count
Unit Type	Count
studio A	18
studio A-1	9.
studio A-2	9
studio B	89
studio C	129
Grand total: 254	

# **Parking**

Parking Requirements  1.0 / Studio unit = 254 Stalls  Visitor Parking Requirements		Parking Totals	
		Type	Provided
		RESIDENTIAL	
1.0 / 7 Units = 36 Stalls	ACCESSIBLE STALL	2	
Total Required: = 290 Stalls	= 290 Stalls	REGULAR STALL	188
	- 200 Ottailo	SMALL CAR STALL	30
		Grand total: 220	

Surface Parking Landscape Allowance: 0.4 sq.m per stall SP1 - 12 sq.m required; 18.1 sq.m provided SP2 - 26 sq.m required: 142.1 sq.m provided

Bicycle Parking Requirements Class I	Bicycle Parking Summary	
5% of req'd parking stalls = 13 Stalls	Туре	Count
Class II 5 / building = 5 Stalls	Bicycle Stall (Class I)	52
	Bicycle Stall (Class II)	16
	Grand total: 68	

### Variance Rationale

#### **Building Height**

We request a variance to permit a 5-storey building within the permitted height of 15m.

The RM5 Zoning sets both a height limit of 15m and the maximum number of floors to 4-stories. As part of this variance application, we are requesting the City to allow us the opportunity to density our footpinft and add a 5th story to a section of our building. The site is significantly impacted by the sloped topography and we propose to locate the building massing along the crest of the ridge and away from the residential neighbours to the east. This allow us to take advantage of the unique site conditions and lower our total building height, while protecting some of the natural surroundings and environmental areas. To further minimize the impact on the site the project footprint is kept as small as possible and locates some of the floor space on a 5th storey. Additionally, the change in number of storeys allows the massing to be broken into smaller volumes making the building more visually compelling. As a whole, the unique site conditions allow us to introduce the 5th story without exceeding the permitted height of 15m while minimizing our impact on site and the

We request a variance to permit a parking reduction from 1 stall per 10 studio unit + 1 visitor stall per 7 studio units to 1 stall per 1.32 studio units + 1 visitor stall per 10 studio units.

The project is a student residence and not a multi-family condominium project. The Micro Unit Design targets students seeking efficient and environmentally sustainable living options with a significant number of them not expected to own their own vehicle. Therefore, the students are relying less on private vehicles to ensure they reduce their environmental footprint and more on existing public systems and emerging private ride options, walking or biking.

Recently built student housing projects that we have reviewed have provided as much as 1 stall per 4 units to no parking for students. They include: Prince George; Kelowna; UBC;
University of Alberta and others. We have also seen compelling evidence from across the country to suggest that students are ditching the car in favour of public transit. For example,
The City of Regina has recorded a 225% increase in Post Secondary ridership on their bus network in the last 4 years. Regina continues to add buses to the main student routes and

the continue to fill up. Additional rational and trends in other jurisdictions may be found in the attached report from Burst and Associates specifically written in support of this project.

New generational choices, including emerging options provided by private sector innovation, continues to provide additional options for students to lessen their dependence on vehicles. Student housing models focused on sustainable options provide less and less parking. As rent models evolve and typically include expensive and limited parking, students look at other options to reduce their cost.

This project tries to align with Canada's Federal Government's vision of a carbon neutral economy and the growing trend of lowering human's carbon footprint. The HUB Residence business model promotes sustainability and environmental responsibility in all aspects of the design and our operating model considers our total environmental impact. As for parking, the on-site parking provided will not be a free amenity and will require payment for use. This will limit vehicles as not all students will pay, or even want, parking. Further to the cost impact, parking will only be available on a first come first serve basis. Once the available parking is filled, rental options will change to "No Parking" and a student with a personal vehicle will likely not rent from the property.

For those students who do not have a private vehicle, the site has easy access to public transit, blike paths as well as walking trails. We anticipate that less vehicles will have to be

accommodated in the summer months as students will use the less expensive options during those periods. Winter months will see an increase in need for vehicle transport. This will move students without vehicles to public transit and other ride share or carpool services.

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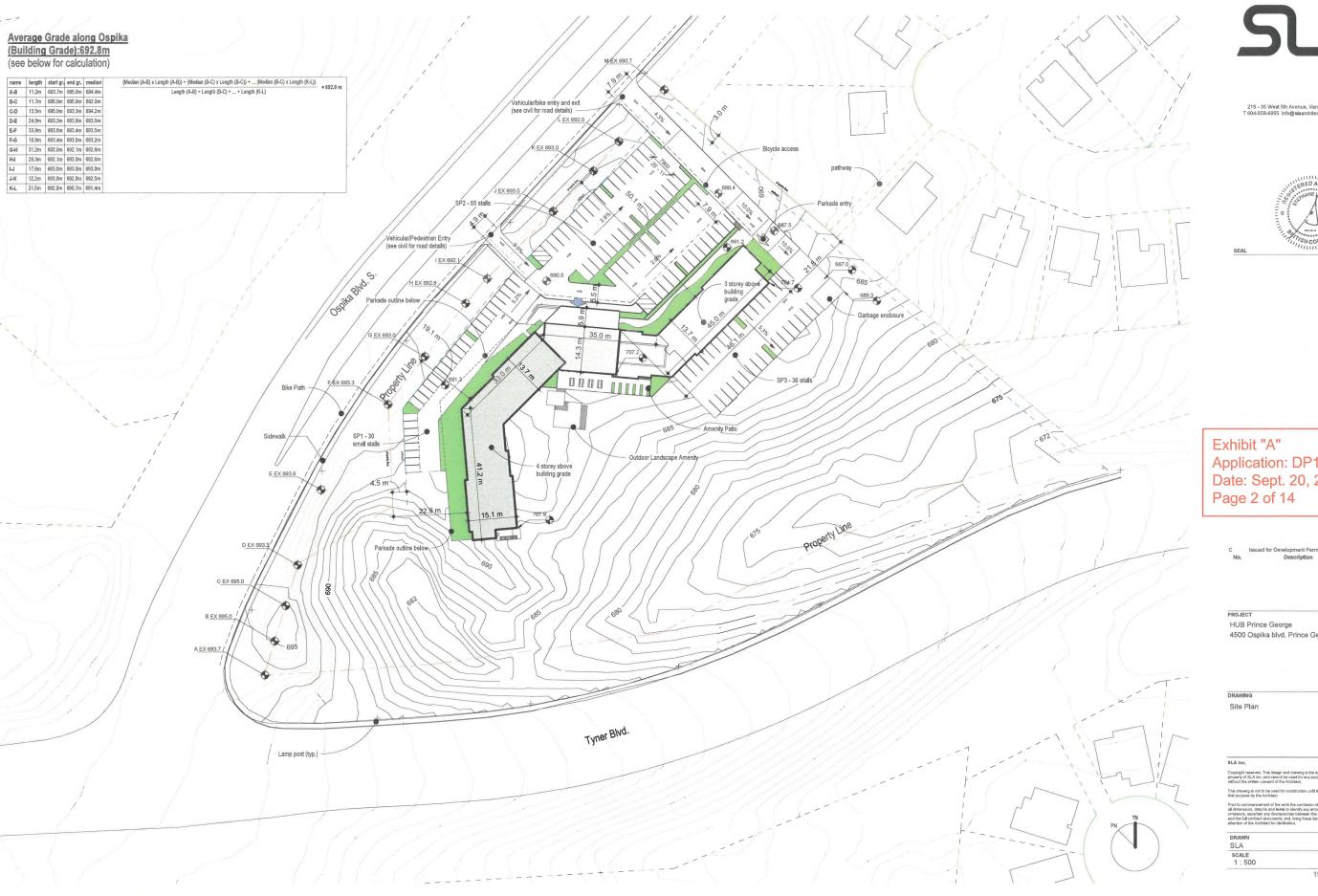
HUB Prince George 4500 Ospika blvd, Prince George, BC

Coversheet

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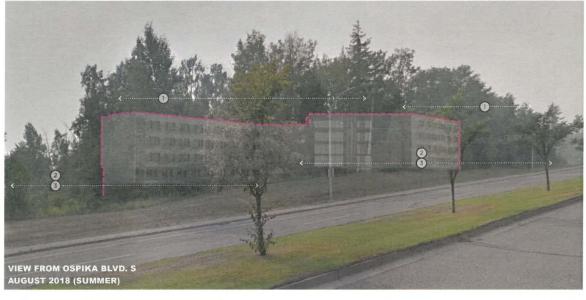
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3 Strategic bolstering of understory planting in key buffer areas

(2) Multi-layered reforestation (canopy, understory, groundcover) 4 Use of native local species to support the existing ecological conditions of the site



(3) Strategic bolstering of understory planting in key buffer areas

2 Multi-layered reforestation (canopy, understory, groundcover) 4 Use of native local species to support the existing ecological conditions of the site







3 Strategic bolstering of understory planting in key buffer areas

(2) Multi-layered reforestation (canopy, understory, groundcover) (4) Use of native local species to support the existing ecological conditions of the site



1 Protection of undisturbed forest

3 Strategic bolstering of understory planting in key buffer areas

4 Use of native local species to support the existing ecological conditions of the site



(4) Use of native local species to support the existing ecological conditions of the site

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HUB Prince George 4500 Ospika blvd, Prince George, BC

Context images

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Exhibit "A" Application: DP100787 Date: Sept. 20, 2021 Page 4 of 14

4500 Ospika blvd, Prince George, BC



PROJECT HUB Prince George

Artistic Renders

Issue Date
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View 1 - Main Entrance/ Amenity Space



View 2 - Main Entrance/ Amenity Space



View 5 - Outdoor Landscape Amenity/ West Wing

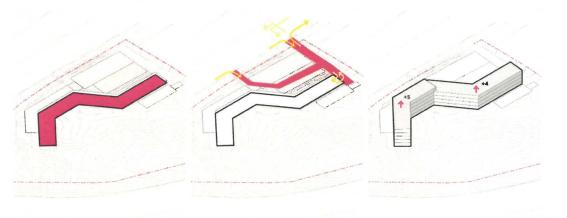


View 5 - Aerial/ Massing

View 3 - Outdoor Amenity/ Amenity Space

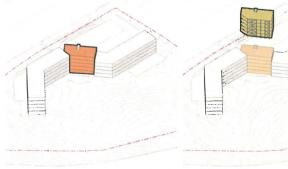


View 4 - Outdoor Landscape Amenity/ West Wing



Massing follows topography

Massing steps down to North



Amenity Hub joins N + S wings

Mass timber Showcased in Amenity Hub

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Exhibit "A"
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Level P1 Plan

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Exhibit "A"
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A Issued for rezoning
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Level 3 Plan

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Exhibit "A"
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DRAWI

Level 4 Plan

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Exhibit "A"
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HUB Prince George 4500 Ospika blvd, Prince George, BC

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Level 5 Plan

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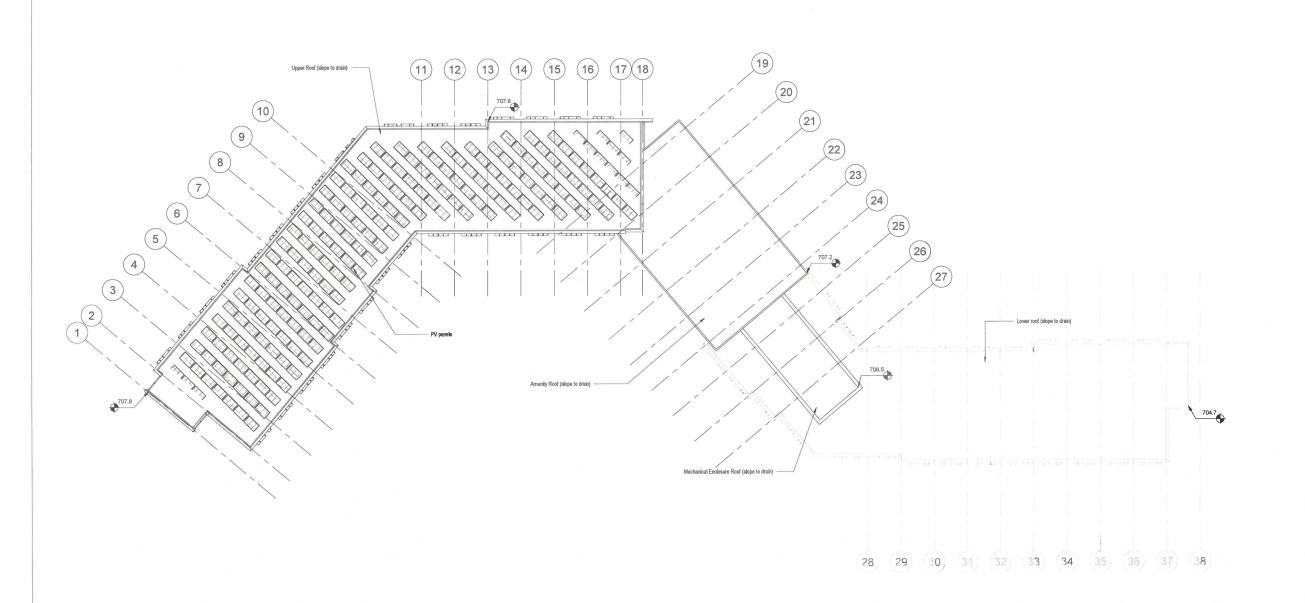
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Roof Plan

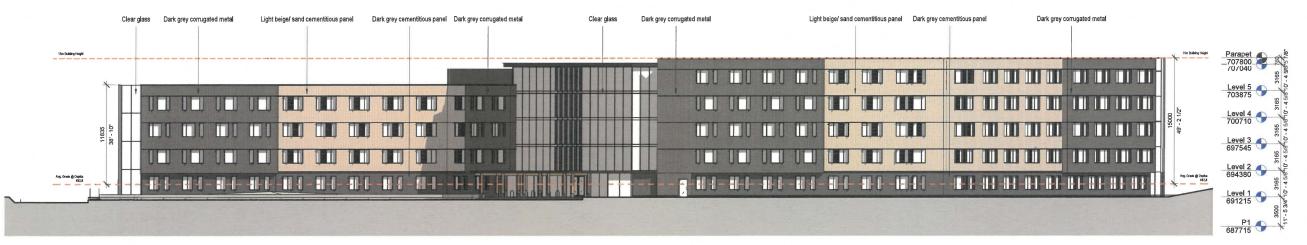
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1 North Elevation

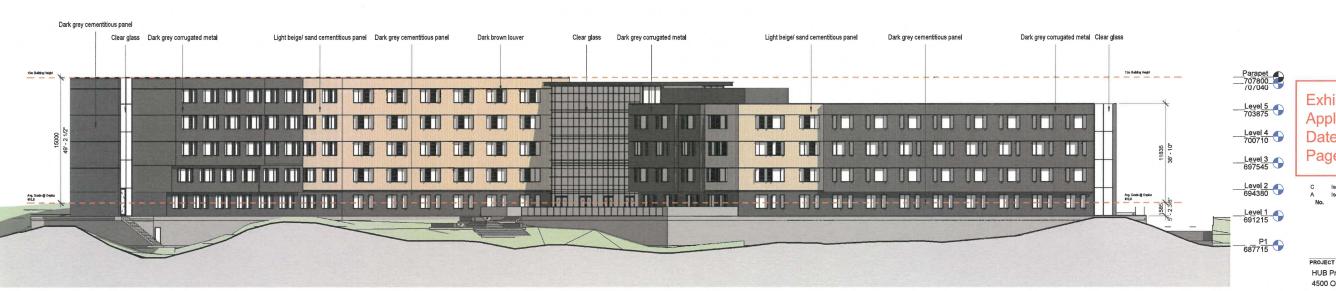


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Elevations / Materials

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2 South Elevation 1:200



Dark grey cementitious panel









Light beige/ sand

Dark grey corrugated metal

Dark brown louver

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Exhibit "A"
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**Building Sections** 

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