

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: September 7, 2021

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Adam Davey, Director of Community Services & Public Safety

SUBJECT: Prince George Playhouse: Reopening Update

ATTACHMENT(S): None

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the September 7, 2021 report titled, "Prince George Playhouse: Reopening Update," from the Director of Community Services & Public Safety.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the reopening progress of the Prince George Playhouse. A public request for proposal (RFP) process to find a suitable facility operator is set to open shortly. The intent is to have a tenant operating the facility around December. Exterior repairs are nearing completion and interior and parking lot work continues (details below).

DISCUSSION:

The Playhouse closed as a result of the Covid-imposed lockdown in March, 2020. Background report presented at the June 14, 2021 Council Meeting is found at **Item E7** here:

<https://pub-princegeorge.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=d883362c-2da3-4e97-a549-fdb46e8397e7&Agenda=Merged&lang=English&Item=18>

Repairs to the exterior cladding ought to be complete by the end of month. It is important to note that further exterior cladding damage may occur to other areas of the envelope, as the repairs were not comprehensive but rather achieved the minimum requirement to commence operations again. It is unknown how long the facility may operate without needing further repairs. At present, the facility can now be safely operated.

Other works include:

- *Interior rigging systems* and fire curtain replacements and repairs are expected to occur over the coming months.¹ The winning bidder ought to be able to operate the facility concurrent to the interior repairs (scheduling shall be de-conflicted to prevent potential disruptions to future performances / shows, etc.; and

¹ A specialist contractor will be hired via a separate tender process.

- *Parking lot and entranceway.* The existing parking lot is smaller than the previous one due to the substantial apartment development adjacent to the Playhouse. The existing parking lot has had all existing curbed islands, irrigation and vegetation removed to create more areas for parking. Staff have brought these areas to grade in preparation for placement of asphalt millings that will interface with existing paved portions of the original lot. Surface works, drainage and lot layout will likely be complete in mid to late October.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The PG Playhouse repairs are nearing completion. A public RFP is about to begin to find a suitable tenant / operator. It is anticipated that the Playhouse will have an operator in the facility by December.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Adam Davey, Director of Community Services & Public Safety

APPROVED:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: September 20, 2021