

January 5, 2023

City of Prince George  
1100 Patricia Boulevard,  
Prince George, BC  
V2L 3V9

**Attention: Mayor and Council**

**Re: Invasive Plant Management within the city boundary**

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC) is requesting re-instating the budget item for managing high priority invasive plants (noxious weeds as listed in the *BC Weed Act*) within the City of Prince George (the City). Since 2008, the City had annually awarded funding for invasive plant management to the NWIPC. The amount of funding received in 2018 and 2019 was \$18,300 annually. That funding ceased in 2021. The funds previously awarded to the NWIPC provided training in invasive plant identification, data collection and mechanical treatment on high priority species; along with meaningful seasonal employment for individuals at risk or having intellectual challenges. It was rewarding for the NWIPC, the City and the public to see the workers and the results of their labours.

For the past two years, the NWIPC has received numerous calls from your constituents concerned about the increase in infestation size and the spread of invasive plants within the City, in particular, it's public parks and walkways. We have referred all calls to 311 as we are not aware if the City has had invasive plant management in place over the past two years.

At the 2022/2023 budget consultation meeting, the NWIPC presented to the Mayor and Council requesting re-instatement of the long-standing program managed by the NWIPC for the benefit of the City as well as AiMHi (prior to 2017) and D.A.R.T. (2018-1019). The matter was referred by Mayor Lyn Hall to the Director of Civic Operations. No further communication was forthcoming.

The NWIPC respectfully requests presenting this letter at the January 2023 Regular Council and that consideration be given to partnering with the NWIPC by approving funding for invasive plant management within the City. We are more than willing to be a delegation to Council to further expand on past accomplishments and the current state of invasive plant infestations in the City to support our request.

On behalf of the Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC),



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Cc: NWIPC Board of Directors  
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