



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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March 14, 2023

Prince George Community Foundation
1584 7th Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3P4

Re: Letter of Support for the YMCA Childcare Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Prince George, I am pleased to write a letter of support for the YMCA and their application for a grant from the Prince George Community Foundation (PGCF) to increase transportation options for childcare programs.

The City's Child Care Action Plan provided several recommendations regarding the development of new childcare spaces. The BC New Spaces Creation Fund and the Union of BC Municipalities Childcare Space Creation Fund have - together - provided approximately \$9.3 million to the City of Prince George to enable the development of a total of 228 new childcare spaces on three sites, one of which is the YMCA Park House Care and Learning Centre. The Park House Care and Learning Centre features 85 spaces: 12 spaces for infants and toddlers, 25 spaces for children aged 30 months to school-age and 48 spaces for school-aged children.

The YMCA uses the "YMCA Playing to Learn" national curriculum for children aged zero to six and the "YMCA - A Place to Connect" curriculum for children six to twelve years. These guiding frameworks align well with the new BC Early Learning Framework, and the curricula provide a focus on play-based learning in a home-like environment. By carefully observing each child, providers can extend opportunities to enhance unique learning and development needs at every stage.

Families benefit from these YMCA childcare programs in Prince George and funding for a bus will ensure access for all families in our community, and ensure children are able to participate in these important programs.

The City of Prince George is proud to provide its continued support to the YMCA Childcare Programs and we hope that their grant application will receive favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Simon Yu
City of Prince George