

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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May 12, 2023

Forestry Innovation Investment (FII) 1130 W Pender St Vancouver BC V6E 4A4

Re: Letter of Support for UNBC for Upgradable Buildings Systems for Social Housing and Post-Disaster Facilities FII application.

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Prince George, I am pleased to write a letter of support for UNBC for their funding application for Buildings Systems for Social Housing and Post-Disaster Facilities.

The University of Northern British Columbia is in the heart of the British Columbia Forestry industry, UNBC one of Canada's best small universities; UNBC is ranked #2 by Maclean's magazine University Rankings 2022, and consistently ranks in the top 5. UNBC provides outstanding undergraduate and graduate learning opportunities that explore cultures, health, economies, sciences, and the environment. As one of BC's research-intensive universities, they bring the excitement of new knowledge to their students, and the outcomes of their teaching and research to the world. In addition to fostering and celebrating academic excellence, UNBC is a welcoming place, with a learning environment that is friendly, inclusive, and supportive.

The proposed project is aimed at developing efficient building structural systems with small footprints. The primary purpose of the buildings is to provide spaces for vulnerable communities in need. Optionally, they can be used for short and mid-term accommodation in emergency and post-disaster scenarios. The lightweight structures will be easy to transport and fast and cost-effective to construct. This initiative is the first step leading to a proposed comprehensive program to develop and implement the idea in practical applications.

The City of Prince George is proud to provide its continued support for UNBC and we hope their application receives favourable consideration.

Sincerely.

Mayor Simon Yu City of Prince George