
From: cityclerk
Subject: FW: Letter for inclusion in Agenda

From: Emilee Wells **Redacted**
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 9:53 AM
To: cityclerk <cityclerk@princegeorge.ca>
Subject: Letter for inclusion in Agenda

For inclusion in the Council Meeting Agenda

From: Emilee Wells, 4313 1st ave **Redacted**
Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Emilee Wells. I have lived in Prince George on and off for my entire life, and I have been working downtown with unhoused people for the last two and a half years. I am writing in regards to Parks and Open Space Bylaw No. 7370, 2002, Amendment Bylaw No. 9389, 2023. I have friends and family who would be directly affected and harmed by this proposed plan.

I would like to express my frustration with the City's stubborn commitment to the unsafe and unjust downtown dehoued centralization plan. As Federal Housing Advocate Marie-Josée Houle has pointed out, "the proposed plan will violate Indigenous rights and the human rights of people experiencing homelessness."

As such, it is extremely disappointing to see the city's renewed commitment to a strategy that will enact violence on our dehoued population rather than actually helping them survive as the housing situation across the province continues to deteriorate.

As any online comment section demonstrates, there are many people in this city who think of our dehoued as valueless and disposable. Those private citizens may offend me, but to see the full power of the Corporation of The City of Prince George continually leveraged in service of the most inhumane attitudes in the community is more than I can stand in silence.

The time has come to accept that living on the street is simply the only viable option for some people in the short term. There are many experts advocating for different approaches that would make the streets safe for everyone, including the people forced to shelter themselves in public spaces, and I hope you will pause this plan to collaborate with them on a new way forward.

Our unhoused community is worth the time and effort it will take to find a valid and humane solution to the housing crisis in Prince George. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Emilee Monica Joy Wells