From:cityclerkSubject:FW: Letter for inclusion in Agenda

From: Kelly Hurley Redacted Sent: Monday, April 10, 2023 12:51 PM To: Mayor and Council <<u>mayorandcouncil@princegeorge.ca</u>> Subject: Letter for inclusion in Agenda

For inclusion in the Council Meeting Agenda From: Kelly Hurley, **Redace**Burden Street,**Redacted**

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Kelly, and I work downtown where I see people struggling on the streets daily. I am writing in regards to Parks and Open Space Bylaw No. 7370, 2002, Amendment Bylaw No. 9389, 2023.

I would like to express my frustration with the City's stubborn commitment to the unsafe and unjust downtown unhoused 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 unhoused population rather than actually helping them survive as the housing crisis across the province continues to deteriorate.

As any online comment section demonstrates, there are many people in this city who think of our unhoused 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.

It is simply inhumane to force people into one location where existing social tensions could further flare up. Further, the plan would not offer basic sanitation and resources at Moccasin Flats, which could lead to disease outbreaks and is simply an inhumane way of treating our most vulnerable community members.

Sincerely, Kelly Hurley