

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

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DATE: August 11, 2023

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Walter Babicz, City Manager

SUBJECT: Support of Grant Application to UBCM Community to Community Program

ATTACHMENT(S): Letter dated August 8, 2023 from Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council SUPPORTS an application being submitted by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George under the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) 2023 Regional Community to Community (C2C) Program in the amount of \$10,000 to initiate implementation of two C2C forums between the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, City of Prince George and Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, and CONFIRMS that the City of Prince George will participate in the two planned C2C forums.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution in support of a grant application being submitted by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, in partnership with the City and the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation to plan two Community to Community Forums.

BACKGROUND:

As described in the attached letter, the City of Prince George has been working with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George to plan two Community to Community (C2C) forums in fall of 2023.

The first forum is scheduled for September 29 and will bring together elected officials from the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, City of Prince George and Regional District of Fraser Fort George to further mutual understanding of local government/First Nations relationships and discuss shared challenges and priorities to identify further opportunities to work together. The second forum is scheduled for October 27 and will bring together senior staff from the three governments to establish and build working relationships at the administrative level.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This initiative aligns with the following priorities in Council's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan:

- I. **City Government and Infrastructure Priorities**
Focus on meaningful communication and relationship development to advance shared priorities.

- Build and maintain the relationships necessary to ensure coordinated advocacy, responsive service delivery, and the acquisition of external funding to meet the diverse needs of all residents.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The grant funding is expected to cover the majority of costs of the two proposed events. Any remaining costs will be shared amongst the three partnering organizations. The City's portion of the remaining balance (if any) will be paid from the approved operating budget.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

Administration is seeking Council's support of a grant application to plan two Community to Community Forums with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting Date: 2023/08/16