

DATE: March 12th, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

NAME AND TITLE: Lisa Haslett, Associate Vice-President Administration, University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)

SUBJECT: Application to Northern Development Initiative Trust under the Recreation Infrastructure Grant for refurbishment of gymnasium floors and replacement of outdated equipment

ATTACHMENT(S): None

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project encompasses the refurbishment of the gymnasium floors and the replacement of old, heavy sports equipment with modern, lighter and more durable alternatives. Such enhancements are anticipated to notably elevate the facility's safety and functionality. The improved floors will offer a safer environment for activities, minimizing the risk of injuries, and the new equipment will streamline setup and handling processes, boosting operational efficiency. These upgrades will not only prolong the lifespan of NSC's assets but also promote a healthier, cost-effective environment, delivering tangible benefits to both staff and the wider community. It will also open new avenues for sport tourism, contributing to the local economy and positioning our city as a premier destination for sports and recreational events.

GRANT AMOUNT and NDIT PROGRAM:

We are submitting an application for a grant of up to \$100,000 through the Recreation Infrastructure Program. The overall cost of the project is projected at \$138,235, with the grant expected to cover approximately 70% of the total project expenses.

FUNDING ACCOUNT:

Should our application succeed, the funds would be disbursed from the "Prince George Regional Development Account", ensuring the resources are directly invested in our local economy.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

We kindly request the City Council to consider and support the following resolution:

That Council SUPPORTS UNBC's application for a financial grant up to \$100,000 from the Prince George Regional Account from the Northern Development Initiative Trust. The purpose of this funding is to upgrade the gymnasium floors and sports equipment of the Charles Jago Northern Sport Center (NSC), ensuring this facility remains safe, functional, and relevant to the evolving needs of the Prince George community.

We are confident that with the endorsement of the City Council, our application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) will be significantly strengthened, thereby enhancing the potential benefits to the community of Prince George. We remain at your disposal to engage in further discussions regarding this request or to provide any additional information that may be required.

We extend our gratitude for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,

Lisa Haslett



Associate Vice President Administration
University of Northern British Columbia