



## BRITISH COLUMBIA

August 28, 2024

Reference: 69067

His Worship Simon Yu and Council  
Mayor of the City of Prince George  
1100 Patricia Boulevard  
Prince George BC V2L 3V9  
Email: [simon.yu@princegeorge.ca](mailto:simon.yu@princegeorge.ca); [mayoradmin@princegeorge.ca](mailto:mayoradmin@princegeorge.ca)

Dear Mayor Yu and Council:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 20, 2024, regarding the joint work underway by the City of Prince George, BC Housing, and the Ministry of Housing to provide safe, stable housing to individuals in your community. I appreciate your perspective toward resolving the Lower Patricia Boulevard (Moccasin Flats) encampment and transitioning encampment residents to other supported shelter arrangements; including those with daytime spaces. I apologize for the delay in responding.

I am pleased with the collective efforts and collaboration of City, Ministry, and BC Housing staff to implement the Homeless Encampment Action Response Team (HEART) and Homeless Encampment Action Response Temporary Housing (HEARTH) programs. These programs reflect the shared commitments made in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Province and City of Prince George to provide people living in encampments with supports to come inside and access suitable housing options.

As you are aware, through the HEARTH program, the Victoria Street Supportive Housing facility (former North Star Inn) will provide 96 supportive homes; 60 now and 36 in fall 2024. Tenanting began in May of this year, and a gradual move-in plan is underway to assist both the tenants and operator. Additionally as part of HEARTH, the 43 new temporary modular supportive homes at 397 3rd Avenue are on track for fall 2024 completion. Each modular home will have two units and a shared washroom, for a total of 43 private rooms, including two accessible units. The site will also include an amenity trailer with a dining area, offices, meeting room, and commercial kitchen trailers as well as a designated outdoor smoking area.

Page 1 of 2

These sites are available to their residents 24/7, with operators offering residents supports, services, and amenities, including meals, laundry, and shower facilities, on-site staff support, health care referrals, wellness checks, and connection and referral to community services and support groups.

The Province understands the City's perspective on providing overdose prevention services for the 397 3rd Avenue site and appreciates your ongoing work to locate new appropriate spaces for overnight sheltering. I encourage the City to continue working with BC Housing and Northern Health Authority to discuss suitable supports.

I welcome further discussion of progress and opportunities to build on the collaborative work already in progress, including a future discussion on short-term rentals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ravi Kahlon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ravi Kahlon  
Minister of Housing