

# Bylaw Service Enhancement

## Description:

Requesting the addition of 4 Bylaw Officer positions in anticipation of the Lower Patricia Encampment transitioning from an entrenched encampment to an overnight sheltering model on one or more designated sites. Currently, there are 8 Bylaw Officers dedicated to downtown Prince George who work in teams of 2. These officers are not tasked with calls for service in the Lower Patricia Encampment but remain consistently busy with calls downtown.

Should the model of overnight sheltering change and the decampment of temporary shelters be required first thing each morning, the availability for servicing the downtown will be drastically reduced. Resources will instead be occupied with clearing the shelter space each morning.

To maintain current service levels, it is proposed that 4 additional Bylaw 1 Officers be hired. This allows for 1 extra Officer on each of the 4 existing bylaw teams. With 5 people on each team there will be 2 available every morning for shelter assistance and 3 remaining officers to deal with downtown and complaints throughout the city.

Hiring these positions would ideally occur after a successful return to the Supreme Court and before physical decampment and transition takes place.

## Financial Cost of Enhancement:

The estimated annual cost for the four Bylaw 1 Officers is \$370,672 (\$92,668 x 4 positions). An additional \$25,000 should be set aside for uniforms, equipment and training. This brings the total enhancement ask to \$395,672.

## Measurement of Service Level Increase:

The service level increase is meant to maintain current service levels once a new overnight sheltering model for the marginalized population is adopted in Prince George.