

January 6, 2020

January 6, 2020 Budget Council Meeting
Report Item C - Handout 1

His Worship, Mayor Lyn Hall & City Council

CC: Ms. Kathleen Soltis

Mr. Walter Babcz

City of Prince George

1100 Patricia Boulevard

Prince George, BC V2L 3V9

Via Email: mayor@princegeorge.ca

Dear Mayor Hall and members of Council,

On behalf of the members of the Prince George Chamber of Commerce, we were hoping to be present today to make a brief presentation during the public participation component of the budget meetings of Monday January 6, 2020 in Council Chambers.

Unfortunately, I have been hit with the flu and am unable to attend. However, I am hopeful that this letter, while late, will be included in the public record for said presentations.

It is our hope, further to our presentation to Council during the December 16, 2019 Regular Council Meeting, that budget decisions will be deferred until such time as the Mayors Select Committee on a Safer, Cleaner and Inclusive Community has met and discussed options and opportunities to help enhance the safety of all business and property owners, residents and patrons/visitors to our city.

We have noted some significant increases to the proposed budget and, given legislated timelines, hope that Council will strongly consider the need to mitigate existing and proposed expenses as opposed to levying additional tax increases on businesses and residents.

Through our joint membership discussions and surveys with Downtown Prince George and the Gateway BIA - representing more than 1200 members - respondents resoundingly called for additional RCMP resources, not Bylaw Enforcement officers, as noted in the budget package.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this truncated and late submission.

Sincerely,

Todd Corrigan

CEO

Prince George Chamber of Commerce