



Mayor Report to Council

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada, V2L 3V9 | PrinceGeorge.ca

Date: February 26, 2025
To: Council.
Name and title: Mayor Simon Yu
Subject: Mayor Decision to Postpone Attending the Smart City Summit & Expo in Taipei, Taiwan

Attachment(s):

Recommendation(s):

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated February 26, 2025, from Mayor Yu, titled, "Mayor Decision to Postpone Attending the Smart City Summit & Expo in Taipei, Taiwan"

Purpose:

For Council information.

This report outlines the decision to postpone this year's visit to the 2025 Smart City Summit & Expo (SCSE) in Taipei, Taiwan. This decision has been influenced by several factors, including the threat of potential tariffs, existing obligations under the Mayor's Border Alliance, and our commitment to fiscal prudence. Additionally, time-sensitive obligations such as upcoming Official Community Plan (OCP) meetings and public hearings, along with scheduled engagements with the Mayor's Housing Task Force, necessitate a focus on local priorities currently.

Strategic Priorities:

Participation in the SCSE traditionally aligns with our Council's focus on fostering innovation and sustainable development. It supports our priority of leveraging smart technologies to enhance urban sustainability, build global partnerships, and explore innovative solutions for Prince George's long-term economic and environmental goals. However, given:

- **Tariff Uncertainties:** Potential tariffs could significantly impact travel costs and overall participation expenses.
- **Regional and Time-Sensitive Commitments:** Our obligations with the Mayor's Border Alliance, upcoming OCP meetings and public hearings, and critical engagements with the Mayor's Housing Task Force demand our immediate attention.
- **Cost Sensitivity:** Maintaining fiscal responsibility in the current economic climate is paramount.

In light of these factors, postponing the physical attendance at SCSE allows us to concentrate on these high-priority local initiatives while still engaging with international partners through digital platforms.

Summary and conclusion:

Although the delegation's visit to the SCSE in Taipei has been postponed, our commitment to smart city initiatives and international collaboration remains steadfast. By leveraging digital platforms and maintaining strategic communications, we will continue to explore and develop opportunities that support our objectives in green and digital transformation while safeguarding our fiscal responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted:

Mayor Simon Yu

Meeting date: 2025/03/10