

Date: March 21, 2025

To: **Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs**

Name and title: Councillor Garth Frizzell, Chair, Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

Subject: Veteran and Families Community Covenant Update

Attachment(s): Report dated December 13, 2023 from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, titled "City of Prince George Veteran and Families Community Covenant"

Recommendation(s):

That the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report titled "Veteran and Families Community Covenant Update" from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs, dated March 21, 2025.

Purpose:

This report advances a committee work plan item to review the status and work related to the Veteran and Families Community Covenant.

Background:

The Veteran and Families Community Covenant was adopted on January 8, 2024, and pledges to:

- Reaffirm our willingness and commitment to maintaining an actively supportive environment where veterans and their families are recognized.
- Work to support and showcase partnerships, organizations, programs, and services within the community that support veterans and their families.
- Seek opportunities to encourage initiatives and programs that support the veteran community.
- Celebrate and recognize veteran contributions to the community.
- Preserve and invest in our community's heritage and community history.

The Committee Report to Council which proposed the Covenant included Appendix A (attached), listing several tangible actions to be considered.

Discussion:

To date, the following Appendix A items have been actioned:

- Reaffirm our willingness and commitment to maintaining an actively supportive environment where veterans and their families are recognized:
 - The Veteran and Families Community Covenant was adopted and presented to The Rocky Mountain Rangers and the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion;
- Work to support and showcase partnerships, organization, programs, and services within the community that support veterans and their families:
 - Proclamation of April 7-13, 2024 as “Ranger Week”;
 - Proclamation of March 24-31, 2025 as “Ranger Week”, with flag raising at City Hall.
- Advocacy for British Columbia to join the Support our Troops license plate program was undertaken in late 2023 and early 2024. ICBC and the Province of British Columbia requested feedback on expanding the specialty license plate program and the City wrote in response, and encouraged other municipalities to join in, advocating for the program. Results of this feedback have not yet been released by the Province and ICBC.

Work described in Appendix A is ongoing. Appendix A is provided as an attachment to this report to identify possible priorities to be undertaken by Administration with relation to the Veteran and Families Community Covenant.

Summary and conclusion:

The Veteran and Families Community Covenant was adopted by Council on January 8, 2024, committing the City to the above-mentioned pledges. Commitment to this covenant is an ongoing item.

Respectfully submitted:

Councillor Garth Frizzell, Chair, Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

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Approved:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: 2025/04/01