
Subject: FW: FW: Wildfires and the 2025 OCP

From: Ed Dylke **Redacted**
Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2025 2:19 PM
To: Councillor Scott, Susan <Susan.Scott@princegeorge.ca>
Subject: Wildfires and the 2025 OCP

You don't often get email from **Redacted**

Dear Ms. Scott,

I sent an email to you and other councillors several days ago regarding the Official Community Plan (OCP) and my perception of lack of action regarding, potentially, the most critical issue that could face our community, Wildfire. Since then, you referred me to Eric Depenau who in turn referred me to Tanya Spooner, the City's Manager of Emergency Programs. I could not find the proposed 2025 OCP so all my comments are from the most recent approved OCP and discussions with Tanya.

My concern is that the OCP and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan are just plans when we need action to prevent wildfires. I would like to see items in the OCP that provide definite mitigation items to help guide Council.

A major issue that I have is the scope that is and can be controlled by Council. To put this into perspective – the City is composed of about 32,000 hectares of which 22,000 is privately owned, 5000 is owned by the Provincial Government (Crown Land??), 3000 is rivers, riparian zones, etc. and the remaining approximately 2000 is owned and managed by the City. It is obvious to me that somehow the City needs to have control of the overwhelming 27,000 hectares which can burn as vigorously as the 2000 hectares owned by the City.

If nothing else, Council needs to address how to deal with all the hectares within the City Boundaries excluding the river and riparian zones. I suggest that the address of this issue, not just the 2000 hectares owned by the City, be an integral part of the OCP.

I am confident that many other communities within BC are as concerned as the Councillors of our city should be. We've all seen the devastation suffered by Jasper, Fort McMurray, Kelowna, etc. so we should easily get good support for any action towards the issue at the UBCM. This group, obviously, has a lot of influence on the government of BC.

The above is just one example of an action item that should be included in the OCP. I will not include more because I don't wish to make this email too lengthy.

I look forward to seeing some real mitigation steps towards wildfires in the 2025 OCP. It will be a huge disappointment to us all if we can do something and we don't take advantage of the opportunity and then have a wildfire attacking our city.

Ed Dylke
Prince George Resident for 53+ Years

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