Subject:

Webform submission from: Written Comments Submission Form

From: City of Prince George <<u>noreply@princegeorge.ca</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 10:27 AM
To: cityclerk <<u>cityclerk@princegeorge.ca</u>>
Subject: Webform submission from: Written Comments Submission Form



Written Comments Submission Form

Submitted on Wed, 03/26/2025 - 10:26

Contact Info

Contact Info Dr. Tristan Pearce 2513 Ridgeview Drive Prince George



Comments

For which application would you like to provide comments? (One form per application) Official Community Plan - BL9525

Comments

Honorable Mayor and Council,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the Prince George Draft Official Community Plan – BL9525. My name is Dr. Tristan Pearce and I am a Professor of Geography and the Canada Research Chair in the Cumulative Impacts of Environmental Change at UNBC. I grew up in Prince George and moved back 5 years ago. I thank the Mayor, Council, and city staff for facilitating an Official Community Plan review process that has been open, engaging, and responsive to feedback. I have attentively followed the proceedings to now. I will comment specifically on sections 7.0 Growth Management and 18.0 Land Use Plan.

A strong sentiment that I take away from the review process is that Prince George residents are steadfast in sustaining a city that protects natural space and ecological systems from urban sprawl, and encouraging the re-development of downtown and nearby residential areas to enhance safety, accessibility, health and wellbeing. The Growth Management plan (Schedule 1, p. 71) and Land Use Plan (Schedule 12, p. 83) could be better aligned with this sentiment. The area currently coloured blue future development along University Way and Tyner Boulevard, and adjacent to Forest for the World and the north-end of Moore's Meadow, Foothills and Ospika, currently coloured green—growth priority, are opportunities to protect natural space and ecological systems from further urban sprawl and contribute to the liveability, health and wellbeing, of our city. Many residents assume that these lands are already protected as part of Forest for the World and Moore's Meadow, but they are not, and the Official Community Plan is an opportunity to address this.

Using tools like the Official Community Plan, we should promote smart development within the urban containment boundary that upholds the values of our community. This includes developing in ways to protect natural areas and greenspaces, and natural assets that are vital to the resiliency of our city in a changing climate. Ultimately, developers don't care where they make their money, so if we can point them to development opportunities that align with our community values as articulated in the OCP, we can be economically sustainable too. Development does not have to come at the expense of our environment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tristan Pearce

I acknowledge and agree that my submission, including my full name and address, will be published on the City's website as part of the Council meeting agenda. This information will be part of the official public record, and once published, it cannot be removed or edited. Additionally, my submission may appear in internet search engine results. Yes

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