



## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

October 14, 2025  
2:00 pm  
Council Chambers of City Hall  
1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh, on whose land we live, work, and play.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Tim Bennett  
Councillor Garth Frizzell  
Councillor Ron Polillo  
Councillor Cori Ramsay <via Zoom>  
Councillor Kyle Sampson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Walter Babicz, City Manager  
Andy Beesley, Director of Civic Facilities and Events  
Eric Depenau, Director of Administrative Services  
Ethan Anderson, Manager of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer  
Leslie Kellett, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Renata Ribas, Legislative Services Assistant

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### A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Moved By** Councillor Frizzell  
**Seconded By** Councillor Bennett

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for October 14, 2025, BE ADOPTED.

**Carried Unanimously**

### B. MINUTES

#### B.1 Adoption of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – June 25, 2025

**Moved By** Councillor Sampson  
**Seconded By** Councillor Frizzell

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held June 25, 2025 be adopted as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all the business before Committee of the Whole at that meeting and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by Committee of the Whole at that meeting.

**Carried Unanimously**

Councillor Klassen joined the meeting via Zoom at 2:02 p.m.

**C. REPORTS**

**C.1 Community Grants Program 2025 Annual Review**

**Moved By** Councillor Sampson  
**Seconded By** Councillor Frizzell

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch including:

1. Council to identify and confirm 1-2 priority focus areas to ensure targeted impact and alignment with community needs
2. Limit eligibility to organizations with an operating budget under \$100,000
3. Limit eligibility to organizations directly impacting over 100 residents annually through programs or services
4. Limit eligibility to organizations directly offering programming and services on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis
5. Limit eligibility to organizations that do NOT have a low-cost, subsidized lease agreement or an existing Multi-year Standing Grant Agreement with the City of Prince George
6. Limit eligibility to organizations that demonstrate partnership with at least one other organization on an ongoing basis
7. Introduce a Letter of Intent (LOI) stage to streamline initial screening and reduce administrative burden for both applicants and staff
8. Commit to allocating the full amount requested by each successful applicant, enhancing impact and reducing the need for partial funding decisions (between 5 and 8 organizations per cycle if we fund full amounts),

as outlined in the report dated October 1, 2025, from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events titled “Community Grants Program 2025 Annual Review.”

Council requested division of the question.

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

1. Council to identify and confirm 1-2 priority focus areas to ensure targeted impact and alignment with community needs.

**Carried**

**Councillor Ramsay opposed.**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

2. Limit eligibility to organizations with an operating budget under \$100,000.

**Carried**

**Councillor Bennett and Councillor Ramsay opposed.**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

3. Limit eligibility to organizations directly impacting over 100 residents annually through programs or services.

**Carried**

**Councillor Bennett opposed.**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

4. Limit eligibility to organizations directly offering programming and services on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis.

**Carried Unanimously**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch including:

5. Limit eligibility to organizations that do NOT have a low-cost, subsidized lease agreement or an existing Multi-year Standing Grant Agreement with the City of Prince George.

**Carried Unanimously**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

6. Limit eligibility to organizations that demonstrate partnership with at least one other organization on an ongoing basis.

**Carried Unanimously**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

7. Introduce a Letter of Intent (LOI) stage to streamline initial screening and reduce administrative burden for both applicants and staff.

**Carried Unanimously**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECT Administration to implement the proposed improvements to the Community Grants Program in time for the 2026 program launch:

8. Commit to allocating the full amount requested by each successful applicant, enhancing impact and reducing the need for partial funding decisions (between 5 and 8 organizations per cycle if we fund full amounts).

**Carried**

**Councillor Polillo and Councillor Ramsay opposed.**

**C.2 Multiyear Standing Grants**

**Moved By** Councillor Polillo  
**Seconded By** Councillor Scott

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMEND that Council:

1. APPROVE transitioning the existing grant agreement holders to Standing Grant Agreements (Stream A) under the Multiyear Funding Grants Council Policy, excluding the Prince George Native Friendship Centre for storage services at the homeless hub, as identified in the October 1, 2025 report from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events titled “Existing Grant Agreements”; and
2. REFERS to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs for advocacy for provincial funding in support of the funding agreement for the Prince George Native Friendship Centre for storage services at the homeless hub.

Council requested division of the question.

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMEND that Council APPROVE transitioning the existing grant agreement holders to Standing Grant Agreements (Stream A) under the Multiyear Funding Grants Council Policy, excluding the Prince George Native Friendship Centre for storage services at the homeless hub, as identified in the October 1, 2025 report from the Director of Civic Facilities and Events titled “Existing Grant Agreements”.

**Carried**

**Councillor Bennett and Councillor Frizzell opposed.**

That the Committee of the Whole RECOMMEND that Council REFERS to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs for advocacy for provincial funding in support of the funding agreement for the Prince George Native Friendship Centre for storage services at the homeless hub.

**Carried Unanimously**

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Councillor Frizzell  
**Seconded By** Councillor Bennett

That there being no further business the Committee of the Whole meeting, BE ADJOURNED.

**Carried Unanimously**

**THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:26 P.M.**

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CHAIRPERSON

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CERTIFIED CORRECT