



CITY OF  
PRINCE GEORGE

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# Presentation Outline

- The purpose of the annual report
- The annual report structure:
  - myPG “pillars”
  - Highlights from 2019
  - Financial information

# City of Prince George

2019 Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2019

The Annual Report is prepared by the External Relations and Finance Departments of the City of Prince George, in cooperation with other City departments and the City's two controlled entities: the Prince George Public Library and Tourism Prince George.

The annual report is compiled in accordance with Sections 98 and 99 of the Community Charter. Prince George, British Columbia, Canada





# SOCIAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

## myPG Goals

- Affordable, accessible housing
- Clear identity and pride
- Cultural richness
- Equity and inclusion
- Health and wellness
- Safe environment
- Supportive and engaged community

## Council Focus Areas

- Support and promote initiatives that facilitate healthy and active living
- Collaborate with local organizations and partners to enhance quality of life, cultural vitality, local heritage, and inter-cultural understanding
- Celebrate community successes in order to foster community pride
- Make Prince George accessible and enjoyable for everyone, regardless of their age or ability
- Enhance safety and security throughout Prince George with a focus on downtown
- Support initiatives that provide access to safe housing, healthy food, and community services

## 2020 Workplan Priorities

- Implement provincial orders and recommendations related to limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people, encouraging physical distancing, enhanced cleaning of civic properties, and closure of certain civic facilities.
- Install temporary public washroom facilities downtown to increase access to proper handwashing facilities during the pandemic.
- Complete construction of a new Fire Hall #1 that will enhance the City's emergency response capabilities.
- Work with the Government of BC, Regional District, RCMP and Prince George Fire and Rescue Services to deliver messaging related to individual/family emergency preparedness during Emergency Preparedness Week.
- Complete construction of a new entrance to the Bob Harkins Branch of the Prince George Public Library to enhance access and improve service to Library patrons.
- Begin construction of a new downtown pool that will enhance accessibility to aquatic programming.
- Provide Council with the recommendations from the Select Committee on a Safe, Clean, and Inclusive Community.
- Work with Northern Health and BC Housing to advance an integrated health and housing project for Prince George and work together to provide information about the project to the public.
- Begin to develop a downtown arts strategy that informs other initiatives in the Civic Core area.
- Pending grant funding, facilitate child care developments in the downtown and the Hart.
- Identify strategies and associated actions that will contribute to the enhancement and expansion of the City's social health and well-being program and service delivery model.
- Collaborate with the Lheidli T'enneh and local cultural organizations to celebrate diverse cultures and foster intercultural understanding.
- Continue to implement priority actions identified in the Social Development, Age-inclusive, and Parks Strategies.
- Pursue accessibility and facility upgrades at Masich Place Stadium, Ron Brent Park, and with the Elder Citizens' Recreation Association.



# ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION

## myPG Goals

- Clean air
- Clean water
- Green city, green practices
- Green energy
- Reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change
- Reduce waste

## Council Focus Areas

- Pursue operations and activities that conserve water and energy, improve air quality, enhance the urban forest and green spaces, reduce waste, and consider environmental sustainability
- Monitor and work to decrease greenhouse gas emissions from City operations and from the community as a whole
- Incorporate adaptation to climate change in relevant operations
- Enhance and integrate various transportation options, including transit, cycle routes, sidewalks, and trails
- Protect and enhance public access and enjoyment of riverfront areas

## 2020 Workplan Priorities

- Recommend climate change mitigation and adaptation plans to Council, along with priority actions that have been informed by public input.
- Initiate updates to the 45-year old storm sewer bylaw that will include an integrated storm water plan for managing drainage and water run-off.
- Implement the recommendations and actions identified in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- Expand the City's Downtown Renewable Energy System to include connections for the new parkade, new downtown pool, and possibly for the private sector, and work to highlight the DRES as the City's most successful greenhouse gas reduction initiative to date.
- Continue to participate in the Charge North consortium of local governments working with the Community Energy Association to install additional charging infrastructure for electric vehicles.
- Complete and implement a salt management plan that minimizes the environmental impact of the storage and use of salt used for road de-icing and dust suppression.
- Initiate planning for the Wastewater Treatment Centre and the City's five lagoons to ensure they will meet new wastewater effluent regulations by 2030.

# ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT



## myPG Goals

- Diversified and vibrant economy
- Employment diversity and accessibility
- International connections
- Sustainable business

## Council Focus Areas

- Enhance local conditions that support existing businesses and attract new ones, with a focus on clean technology
- Target development at community commercial, housing, and transportation nodes, and in the downtown
- Prioritize infill developments and diverse housing options in targeted growth areas
- Enhance Prince George's attractiveness to visitors, especially for meetings and sporting events
- Enhance Prince George's position as a centre for education, training, research, and innovation
- Explore opportunities for collaboration with other cities and countries, and enhanced international trade

## 2020 Workplan Priorities

- Begin the implementation of the City of Prince George 2020-2025 Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan with a focus on tactics and initiatives that will accelerate COVID-related response and recovery, such as participating in SupportPG to promote local businesses.
- Provide recommendations to Council concerning the use of incentives and/or tax exemptions to attract priority developments.
- Continue to support the expansion of downtown housing by completing a new parkade off of George Street and related street, plaza, and infrastructure upgrades.
- Plan for the upgrade and/or replacement of critical infrastructure in the downtown that is currently at maximum capacity or at high risk for failure.
- Plan for the 2022 BC Summer Games and work with event organizers who had to delay events that were scheduled for 2020. This includes potentially hosting them in 2021 instead.

# CITY GOVERNMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## myPG Goals

- Sustainable infrastructure
- Sustainable fiscal management
- Organizational excellence
- Healthy workplace
- Effective governance

## Council Focus Areas

- Prioritize infrastructure re-investment and renewal to ensure the delivery of critical recreation, emergency, transportation, and utility services
- Maintain fiscal sustainability and balance service levels with affordability of City services, facilities, and operations
- Provide a workplace where employees are safe and healthy and committed to excellence, service, accountability, and transparency
- Foster respectful dialogue and knowledge exchange between Council and City staff
- Advance reconciliation and relationship-building with the Lheidli T'enneh
- Encourage meaningful public participation in the City's processes and procedures, including Council's committees
- Communicate with employees, citizens, local organizations, other governments, and targeted constituencies outside of Prince George to increase public awareness of City operations and advance the community's interests

## 2020 Workplan Priorities

- Implement provincial orders and Government instructions with regards to the operation of City Council in ways that allow for the business of the City to proceed while ensuring the safety and health of staff, members of Council, and the public.
- Document financial and employee-related outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to ensure the continued operation of the municipality and the delivery of essential services.
- Plan, design, and construct priority stormwater drainage, water, and sanitary sewer capital projects identified in the City's Financial Plan along with the identified roads, sidewalks, trails, and cemetery projects. Defer previously approved capital projects worth approximately \$25 million.
- Implement initiatives outlined in the asset management strategy so that decisions made about infrastructure investment can be informed by cost, risk, and service levels; incorporate information about the historic development of Prince George into public information about infrastructure priorities.
- Enhance capital project accountability and public transparency by implementing a project portfolio management system and use the City's existing public GIS system to display capital projects.
- Enhance community emergency preparedness and build staff capacity to respond to threats that could affect the community; review and update the City's Emergency Program Bylaw in response to a revised provincial Emergency Programs Act.
- Review and update the Standards of Cover for Prince George Fire and Rescue Services and recommend an action plan to Council.
- Extend the City's fibre-optic network to the new fire hall and construct network service redundancy.
- Implement a City employee training program focused on Indigenous awareness and broadly enhance online access for employees to training and orientation materials.
- Update the Council Procedures Bylaw.
- Review and update processes to deliver effective and efficient customer service.
- Implement an e-procurement system to enable online acquisition of goods and services.
- Begin a review of City communication, public engagement, and marketing channels.



There were more than 350 bookings of Masich Place Stadium in 2019, roughly double the number of events and activities that had been happening prior to the Stadium's renovation.

**Community Arenas**  
**1.18 million**  
 estimated users/visits in 2019

## Supporting Community Groups

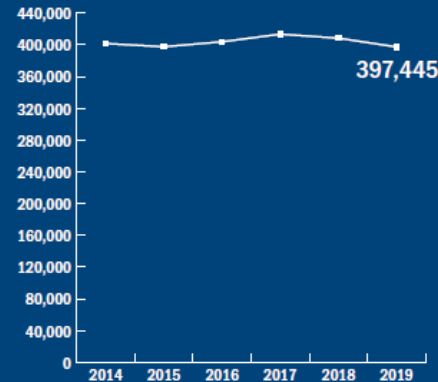
### Community Grants



The City provides financial support directly to community organizations through five funding programs: the myPG Community Grant, the Community Enhancement Grant, the Celebrate Prince George Community grant, MeetingsPG to support local conferences, and SportPG for the hosting of tournaments and competitions.

## Encouraging and Enabling Physical Activity

### Visits to the Aquatic Centre and Four Seasons Pool



## Prince George Public Library

The Prince George Public Library has two branches: the Bob Harkins Branch downtown and the Nechako Branch on the Hart Highway.

### Library Card Holders

**61,494**

### Items loaned in 2019

**762,946**

### Library Visits in 2019

**318,172**

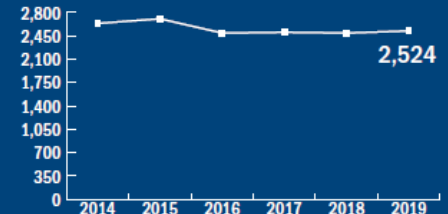
An average of

**967 people**

every day the Library is open

### Participation in the Leisure Access Program

The goal of the Leisure Access Program is to improve quality of life and decrease the level of inactivity for low-income households, through access to publicly funded leisure services. The City receives applications from clients and referral agencies.

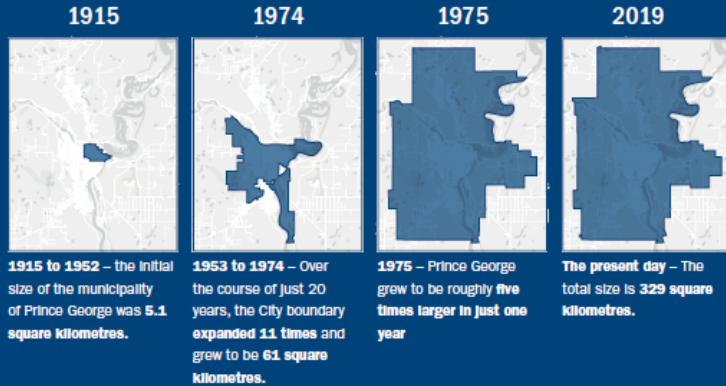


In 2019, local residents in the Leisure Access Program visited Prince George's pools 17,364 times.



## OUR INFRASTRUCTURE STORY

Prince George was incorporated as a municipality in 1915 and had a population of a few thousand people until after World War II. By the 1960s, it was one of the fastest-growing cities in BC. It grew in size to accommodate the growing population and economic development that was occurring related to forestry, transportation, and government services.



Most of the City's current infrastructure was installed during the boom times of the 1960s and 1970s. In fact, the average age of all of the City's infrastructure – pipes, roads, buildings, bridges, etc – is 42 years. The growth in population started to flatten in the 1980s, despite predictions in the 1970s that Prince George's population would be about 200,000 by now. Instead, Prince George's population is relatively small for a city of our geographic size, with extensive infrastructure to serve a population that is spread out.

Approximate Replacement Value of Civic Infrastructure:

**\$3.21 billion**

Buildings  
City-owned buildings:

**55** Totaling  
**154,000** square metres

### Underground Infrastructure

Water pipes  
**805km**

Sanitary sewer pipes  
**692km**

Stormwater pipes  
**423km**

Downtown Renewable Energy System:  
**3.6km**

connecting Lakeland Mills with  
**11** downtown buildings

The total length of City pipe infrastructure is nearly equal to the distance between Prince George and Winnipeg

### Roads

#### Road Rehabilitation



Roads  
**1,567** lane kilometres

Street lights  
**4,684**

# Some highlights from 2019

- Prince George's first-ever world championship: Para Nordic – economic impact about \$4.4 million
- New city parks: Wood Innovation Square downtown and Nechako Riverside
- Advancement of a health and housing project on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. with Northern Health and BC Housing
- Public washroom and storage pilot projects downtown
- Progress in emergency planning
- \$52.5 million in infrastructure projects: roads and sidewalks, fire hall, parkades, downtown water/sewer/storm/energy, Library entrance, Masich

# More from 2019 – Building Permits

**Another record year  
for Prince George**

Highest number ever:  
611

Highest value ever:  
\$223 million



# More from 2019 – Other Records

- **Transit:** highest ridership ever in a single year (2.3 million)
- **Masich Place Stadium:** 353 bookings - nearly double the number that had been normal for the facility





# FINANCIAL INFORMATION



# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Report from the Financial Officer
- Consolidated Financial Statements
- Tax Exemptions:
  - Revitalization Tax Exemptions
  - Permissive Tax Exemptions

# Accessing the 2019 Annual Report

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# QUESTIONS?

