

# STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

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**DATE:** September 17, 2020

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**NAME AND TITLE:** Chris Bone, Associate Director Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

**SUBJECT:** Terms of Reference Amendment for the Select Committee on Poverty Reduction

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

## RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council APPROVES an amendment to the Terms of Reference for the Select Committee on Poverty Reduction to extend the term and membership appointments until June 30, 2021.

## PURPOSE:

Administration requests Council's authorization to amend section 3.2 (Length of Term) of the Terms of Reference for the Select Committee on Poverty Reduction. Committee members were originally appointed for a nine month term concluding June 30, 2020, but due to COVID-19 restrictions the Committee was not able to complete its work by this date. The revised timeline of Committee activities requires that the length of term for Committee members be extended to June 30, 2021.

## BACKGROUND:

In October 2019, Prince George City Council approved the formation of a Select Committee on Poverty Reduction. The committee is utilizing a topic-based approach to develop recommendations regarding the City's role in implementation of the Province's **TogetherBC** strategy. Priorities include affordability of housing, childcare, transportation, food security planning, and reducing household food insecurity.

A comprehensive public engagement process (funded by a UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning & Action Grant) is planned to gather feedback, particularly from those with living or lived experience, regarding the recommendations proposed by the Committee. Following the consultation period, the Committee will reconvene to consider feedback and amend recommendations as necessary. A final set of recommendations will be presented to Council later in 2021.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Council has identified supporting initiatives that provide access to safe housing, healthy food, and community services, as a Social Health and Well-being focus area. The Select Committee on Poverty Reduction will deliver its recommendations to Council concerning the City of Prince George's role in the implementation of a provincial poverty reduction strategy, informed by those living in poverty or with lived experience, as one means to address this focus area.

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

Administration requests Council's authorization for an amendment to the Terms of Reference for the Select Committee on Poverty Reduction to extend the term and membership appointments until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021, so that meetings and decisions are valid within the term and with an active membership.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Chris Bone, Associate Director Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

PREPARED BY: Sarah Brown, Supervisor, Community Well-being and Partnerships Division

**APPROVED:**

Walter Babicz, Acting City Manger

Meeting Date: 2020/10/19