

MAYOR REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: September 2, 2020

TO: COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Mayor Lyn Hall

SUBJECT: Tall Wood Mass Timber Construction Early Adoption Initiative

ATTACHMENT(S): Call for Expression of Interest
Eligibility for Participation

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council SUPPORTS the City's expression of interest to the province to be an early adopter of the Initiative for Tall Wood Mass Timber Construction.

PURPOSE:

For Council consideration

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This initiative aligns with the *myPG* goals to Reduce Carbon Emissions and Adapt to Climate Change, Clean Air and Green Energy. Being an early adopter of the Initiative for Tall Wood Mass Timber Construction would also support several actions identified in the 2020 Climate Change Mitigation Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The Province of British Columbia announced in 2019 that it will provide opportunities to build taller buildings with engineered wood products (encapsulated mass timber) in advance of provincial adoption of the 2020 National Building Code. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is inviting expressions of interest from local governments to participate in such an opportunity. This voluntary early adoption initiative will allow participating local governments to enable innovative tall wood buildings in their communities two to three years before adoption in the BC Building Code.

Investing in energy-efficient building technologies and renewable energy supports local economic development opportunities, and can lead to jobs. Furthermore, the City's 2020 Climate Change Mitigation Plan identifies the utilization of wood in construction as having a high impact on reducing GHGs based on modeling work.

The City of Prince George is a viable candidate for this initiative with initial conversations involving Fire Services, Building Inspection, and the Planning Division supporting the City's potential participation. A Council resolution supporting participation in the initiative is required as part of the expression of interest.

A letter of invitation from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, dated March 18, 2019, and the eligibility criteria for the initiative are attached to this report for Council consideration.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Lyn Hall, Mayor

Meeting Date: 2020/09/14