



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- The purpose of the Annual Report
- The Annual Report structure:
 - myPG “pillars”
 - Highlights and measures from 2020
 - Financial information



City of Prince George

2020 Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2020

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



A view of Cottonwood Island Nature Park along the Nechako River



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

2021 Workplan Priorities

- Support Northern Health in the delivery of a public COVID-19 vaccination program at the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre.
- Prepare re-opening plans for civic facilities that have been closed as a result of COVID-19. In addition, resurrect the City's capacity to host concerts and other entertainment, in line with the possible elimination of pandemic-related restrictions on gatherings.
- Undertake a housing needs study that will document existing housing, predict future needs, and identify gaps in supply.
- Collaborate with BC Housing and Northern Health to initiate construction of an integrated housing and health care facility on First Avenue.
- Continue to implement, and monitor related progress of, recommendations provided by the Select Committee on a Safe, Clean and Inclusive Community. These include the establishment of a downtown Community Safety Hub and the addition of four Bylaw Enforcement Officers to be based at the Community Safety Hub.
- Build off of the downtown arts strategy to seek government funding for a downtown arts hub that will enable the move of the Community Arts Council and its programming to 1310 – 3rd Avenue.
- Initiate an Arena Needs Assessment to inform planning for the continued access to ice for recreation.
- Complete Ron Brent Park with amenities conducive to seniors' health and well-being.
- Enhance accessibility by improving trails at Ferguson Lake, Wilson Park, Ginter's Meadow, and Forests for the World. Install accessible washrooms at Wilson Park and Forests for the World.
- Create Fraser River Benchland Park with a playground, benches, and picnic table.
- Pending grant approval, facilitate implementation of the Strengthening Community's Program Grant activities to support the unsheltered homeless population and address associated community impacts.
- Facilitate implementation of recommendations provided by the Select Committee on Poverty Reduction.
- Oversee completion of approved child care developments funded by Government, including the new facility being built downtown that will be operated by the YMCA.
- Bring a report to Council recommending an update to the City's delivery of recreation services.
- Continue reconciliation initiatives aligned with the City's Reconciliation Framework; opportunities include a Community Service Hub at Nus Deh Yoh School funded by external grants.
- Implement actions in the Transit Future Plan to support equitable, safe, and healthy community through access to transit.





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 to, and enjoyment of, riverfront areas

2021 Workplan Priorities

- Complete a Climate Forward Implementation Strategy that incorporates climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives into a single action plan for 2021-2025.
- Complete an inventory of natural assets (such as aquifers, forests, and watersheds) within the City that provide vital services that would otherwise need to be engineered and constructed.
- Complete an Integrated Stormwater Management Plan that enhances the City's ability to manage rainfall and snowmelt in order to prevent flooding and erosion, and protect natural ecosystems.
- Install electric vehicle charging stations at City properties as part of the Charge North consortium involving the Community Energy Association and municipalities and regional districts across Northern BC.
- Establish connections from the Downtown Renewable Energy System to the new downtown pool and the new parkade at 6th and George.
- Continue to implement the recommendations of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and finalize a program to remove wildfire fuel in the Malaspina, Pidherry and Broddy areas.
- Seek government funding to enhance the energy efficiency of the Kin Arena ice plant.
- Implement actions of the Transit Future Plan to help reduce local carbon emissions associated with transportation.
- Communicate with staff, developers, and the local construction community to facilitate the implementation of step 3 of the BC Energy Step Code in 2022.

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 target clusters:
 - Forestry, Wood Products, and Bio-products
 - Transportation, Warehousing and E-Commerce
 - Manufacturing: Machinery, Chemical, and Food
 - Professional Services: Engineering, Environmental Services, and Resource Management
 - Construction: Commercial, Industrial, Residential and General Contractors
- 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, including for meetings/conferences 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

2021 Workplan Priorities

- Oversee the continuity of the SupportPG COVID-19 response, recovery, resilience projects that support businesses through the pandemic.
- Continue to implement the 2020 – 2025 Economic Development Strategy, with priority on completing a forestry cluster development strategy and a business retention and expansion study for the local manufacturing sector.
- Collaborate with Downtown Prince George on the development of a Downtown Strategy.
- Work with the BC Games Society to establish the volunteer Board of Directors who will develop the plans for Prince George to host the 2022 BC Summer Games.
- Work with Curling Canada and the World Curling Federation to confirm Prince George as the host for the 2022 Women's World Curling Championships.
- Support Tourism Prince George in its efforts to enhance the attractiveness of Prince George as a destination for visitors, specifically focusing on visitor services and event attraction as key ingredients of COVID-recovery in the local tourism sector.



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
- In response to the recent parkade construction cost over-runs, implement policies and support practices that contribute to the effective, affordable, and predictable delivery of capital projects
- Provide a workplace where employees are safe, 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.

2021 Workplan Priorities

- Adapt to evolving circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and adjust operations accordingly in order to safeguard the health and safety of staff and the general public; present Council meetings and public hearings in ways that facilitate remote participation by members of Council and the public alike.
- Conduct a review of the City's capital project management process and work to incorporate improvements across the multiple City departments that are engaged in capital projects.
- Renew the City's operating agreement with FortisBC for the sale of natural gas within the municipal boundaries. Also, facilitate FortisBC's option on the Lease In/ Lease Out agreement concerning the natural gas distribution system in the City that expires in October, 2021.
- Continue construction of the new downtown pool, and plan for the demolition of Four Seasons Leisure pool and Fire Hall #1.
- Develop in-house virtual courses for City employees that enhances access to skills training.
- Update the City's language and practices for acknowledging the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh.
- Present options to Council for enhancing the City's cyber security.
- Complete the first of two phases of a project to establish communications redundancy across several City facilities, including the new Fire Hall, via a new 5km fibre-optic telecommunications backbone. The redundancy enhances reliability of core City services, including emergency services.
- Engage employees in reviews of departmental processes in order to improve efficiency and service to residents as part of a two-year pilot project starting in 2021.
- Seek funding to review and revise the processes involved with the City's most common land use applications: rezonings, development permits, variance permits, temporary use permits, building permits, subdivisions, and business licenses. This review would aim to improve service and communication with applicants, while increasing the efficiency of the application review process, and include online application options.

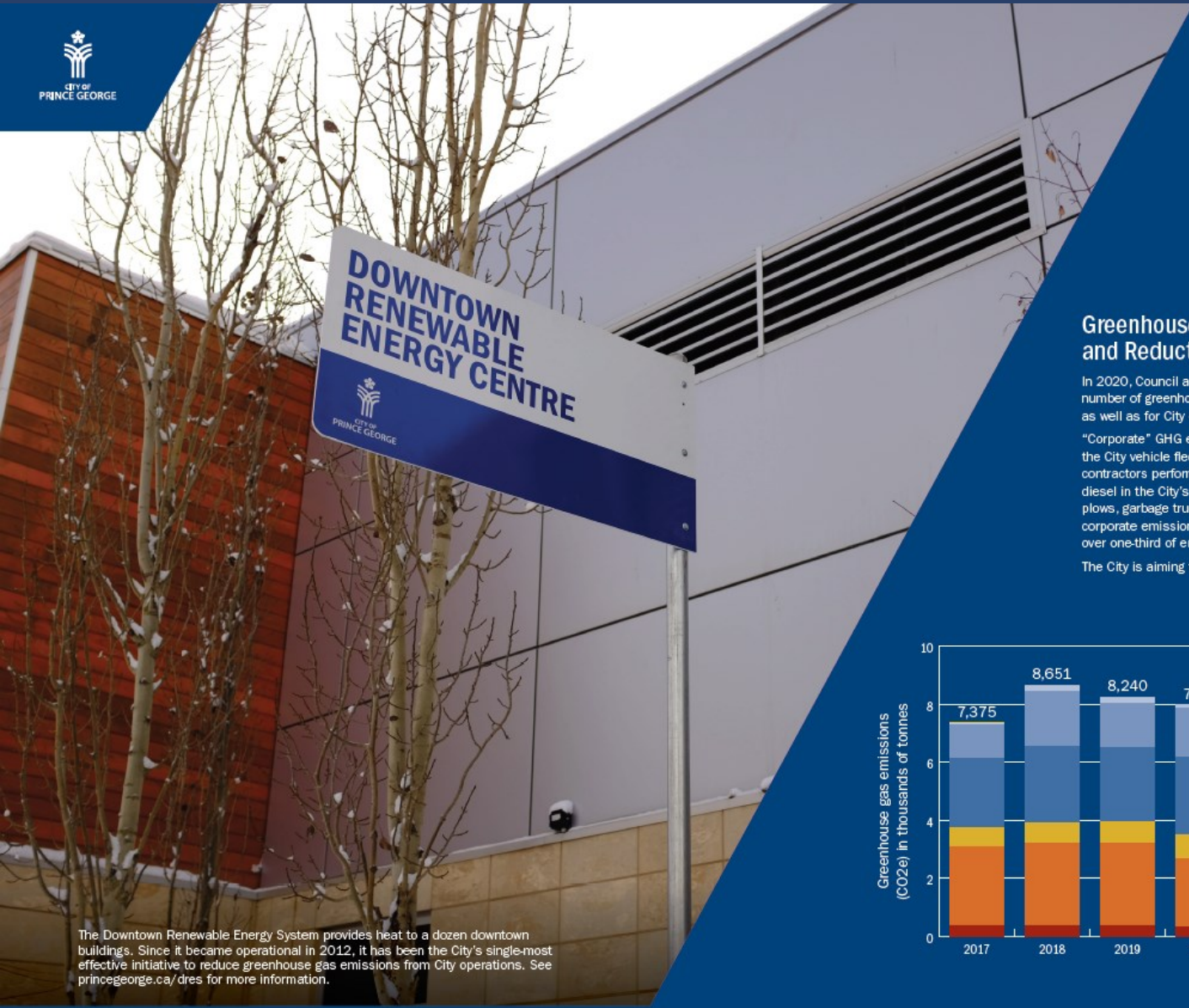


Downtown student housing project – Summer 2020

Percentage Of Building Permits For Private Sector Projects
96.2%

Business and Construction
Number and Value of Building Permits





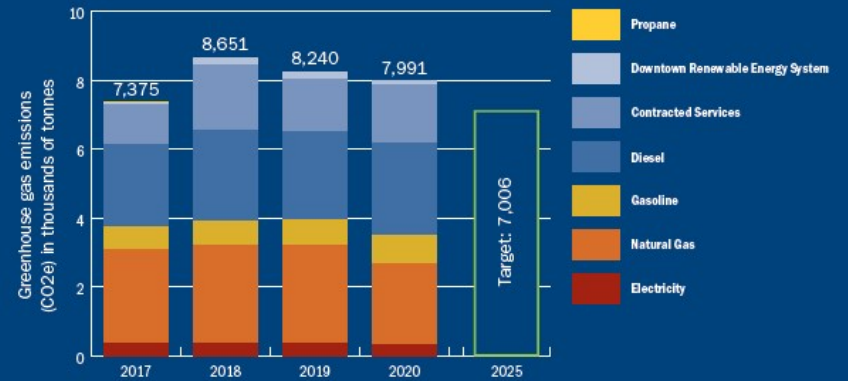
The Downtown Renewable Energy System provides heat to a dozen downtown buildings. Since it became operational in 2012, it has been the City's single-most effective initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from City operations. See princegeorge.ca/dres for more information.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Reduction Targets

In 2020, Council approved a Climate Change Mitigation Plan that included a number of greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the whole community as well as for City operations specifically.

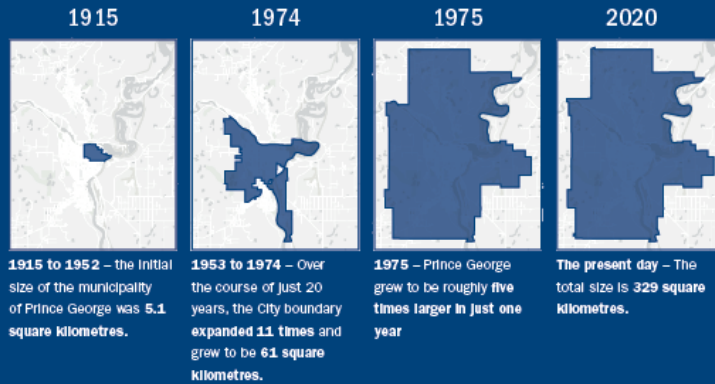
"Corporate" GHG emissions come from the heating of civic buildings, operating the City vehicle fleet, electricity consumption, and the fuel consumption of contractors performing services on behalf of the City. The burning of gas and diesel in the City's fleet of about 230 vehicles, which includes light-duty vehicles, plows, garbage trucks, fire trucks, and lawn mowers, accounts for just over half of corporate emissions. Burning natural gas to heat civic buildings accounts for just over one-third of emissions.

The City is aiming to reduce its GHG emissions by 5% by 2025 and 80% by 2050.



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:

\$3.71 billion

Buildings
City-owned buildings:

57 Totaling
161,000 square metres

Underground Infrastructure

Water pipes

810km

Sanitary sewer pipes

699km

Stormwater drainage pipes

427km

Downtown Renewable Energy System:

6.9km

of supply and return pipe connecting Lakeland Mills with **12** downtown buildings

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

Roads

Road Rehabilitation



Roads

1,561 lane kilometres

Street lights

4,712



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Annual Report and Corporate Plan

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The City of Prince George's 2020 Annual Report is available for viewing in the City Hall Service Centre at 1100 Patricia Boulevard or as [PDF download](#).

Accessing the Annual Report:

www.princegeorge.ca/annualreport

QUESTIONS?

