
Subject: Feedback regarding city annual plan

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From: Sean Kealy Redacted

Sent: Saturday, June 19, 2021 8:53 AM

To: cityclerk <cityclerk@princegeorge.ca>

Subject: Feedback regarding city annual plan

Sean Kealy
7155 Harvard Prince George

Dear city council:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the annual plan.

I would like to address the tax deferrals being provided to some of the downtown businesses as an incentive. I am not opposed to supports and or tax deferrals for some of the smaller "mom and pop" type businesses downtown. However I am very opposed to the tax deferrals being provided to some of the larger businesses. One of many examples is RBC. RBC was given a \$700,000 tax deferral. This equates to a free loan from the city of Prince George to a large corporation that has already received financial aid from the federal government. City council has an obligation to ensure tax incentives are being used as just that, incentives, not a transfer of wealth from residential property owners to business property owners. It is important to note residential taxes and fees have steadily increased over a 20 year period, while commercial and industrial tax rates have remained stable, with minor decreases and deferrals. It is not part of council's mandate to act as an extension for the chamber of commerce.

Second, I thank council for their work, I know it can be difficult to endure the various criticisms and sometimes abuse from the public.