



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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March 24, 2020

Via email

Dear Mayor and Council:

At the City of Prince George regular Council meeting held March 9, 2020, Council endorsed the following resolution titled **Sharing Payments from Opioid Class Action Lawsuit** for submission to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for consideration at their annual convention this year.

Sharing Payments from Opioid Class Action Lawsuit

WHEREAS under the Opioid Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act (the “Act”) the provincial government may sue a manufacturer or wholesaler of an opioid product to recover the costs of health care benefits on an aggregate basis, for a population of persons who have suffered damage caused or contributed to by the use of or exposure to an opioid product;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to the Act and other legislation, the provincial government has launched a class action lawsuit on behalf of all federal, provincial and territorial governments to recover the costs of health care benefits from manufacturers and wholesalers of opioid products, whose marketing practices have had devastating impacts on the lives of thousands of British Columbians;

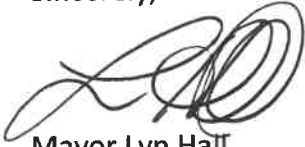
AND WHEREAS the definition of “health care benefits” under the Act includes “other expenditures by the government, made directly or through one or more agents or other intermediate bodies, for programs, services, benefits or similar matters associated with disease, injury or illness” and local governments have faced substantial “health care benefits” costs due to the opioid crisis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to share any recovery of damages from the class action lawsuit with local governments, to further enable local governments to continue offering services and support programs that aim to reduce harm and stigma, address the root causes of the opioid crisis, and support people struggling with mental health and addiction.

On behalf of Prince George Council, I am requesting your favourable consideration and support for this resolution should it be accepted for debate at the 2020 Annual Convention of UBCM.

If you have any questions or would like more information please feel free to contact my office at Mayoradmin@princegeorge.ca or 250-561-7609.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lyn Hall', written in a cursive style.

Mayor Lyn Hall

c.
North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA)
The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention
British Columbia Municipalities and Regional Districts
Shirley Bond, MLA
Mike Morris, MLA