



EXTERNAL FACTORS INTERVIEW

City Of Prince George ICSP

Introduction for Interviewees

About this interview: This interview will inform myPG's upcoming Scenarios workshop. As you know, we have asked you to help us prepare for the workshop in place of directly participating. Thank you for taking the time.

About the workshop: The workshop will create a few "scenarios" as a way to explore what the future may hold for Prince George. "Scenarios" are a set of simple, compelling stories that describe alternate possible futures, each of which is reasonably possible. They focus on the context – "external factors" that will affect our community and our ability to achieve our vision. We will use the scenarios when we develop strategies in later workshops: we will test the strategies by asking if they will work in any scenario, and select those strategies that will over those that would not.

The "ask": We would like to know about external forces that you think will drive change in PG over the next years and decades.

"What is an external factor"? These are outside forces that will affect PG over the next 30 years. You might identify either trends – that seem inevitable or predetermined – or uncertainties – forces that are important, but you are unsure of what will happen to them. Usually these will truly be external and therefore out of our control entirely, but in some cases organizations in Prince George MAY be able to affect them somewhat. Examples fall into 5 broad categories and include:

- Political forces – the rise of conservatism at the federal level in Canada, and resulting tone of the policy environment;
- Environmental forces – climate change and resulting regional impacts;
- Social forces – the degree of community spirit and social support (this is a force that will influence change in Prince George, but that could be influenced somewhat by PG organizations);
- Technological forces – the move to wireless and electronic communications; and
- Economic forces – the US housing market, the growth of the Chinese economy.

