



Proclamation

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

- Whereas:* a healthy, professional news media is essential for the proper functioning of civil society and democracy at the local, regional, federal, and international levels; and
- Whereas:* UNESCO has declared “World Press Freedom Day” as an annual observance each May 3rd; and
- Whereas:* communities across Canada have lost more than 250 established news outlets due to closings or mergers between 2008 and 2022; and
- Whereas:* Canada’s federal government acknowledged in its 2019 budget that “A strong and independent news media is crucial to a well-functioning democracy”; and
- Whereas:* the City of Prince George is among at least 29 municipalities – home to roughly 13 million people in nine provinces across Canada – that have passed motions voicing support for journalism.

Now therefore, as Mayor of the City of Prince George,

I proclaim that **May 3, 2022** be observed as:

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

in the City of Prince George.

Mayor Lyn Hall
City of Prince George