



June 9, 2026

## UNIVERSITY OF FRASER VALLEY PRACTICUM REPORTS

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In late August 2025, Council approved a work plan to update the Official Community Plan. The plan included expanding the engagement to individuals *that “may potentially be interested in moving to Lytton.”* In early 2026, the Director of Development contacted Dr. Cherie Enns at the University of the Fraser Valley to determine if there were students that could undertake this research.

Dr. Enns, with input from the interested students, prepared a program which included a literature review to determine what a younger demographic (under 40 years) would consider in a decision to move to a community such as Lytton. Students were also asked to pursue the question within their group as well as with their colleagues and friends of a similar demographic. The students undertook extensive research and visited Lytton, with a tour by former Kanaka Bar Band Chief Patrick Michell and Village Planning Assistant Maggie Cross.

The following is an overview of the compilation documents submitted by the students:

- **Strategic Directions for Expanding the Village of Lytton’s Younger Demographic** – This report provides strategic recommendations *“focused on supporting long-term growth and attracting new residents, especially younger people, families and business owners.”* The report (that was presented to Council on May 26, 2026) focused on placemaking, resilience, housing, services, mobility, and economics. The Strategic Directions will be considered with community priorities and enabling legislation, in the drafting of the Official Community Plan policy directions.
- **Lytton Revitalization Literature Review** – This comprised an annotated bibliography to share research findings of amenities that attract a younger demographic. The themes of the research focused on the interests as provided in the Strategic Directions. A wide range of small communities were considered.
- **Outreach Report** – The report details the student’s methodology including engagement with other students, the site visit, and the results. The students were also asked to share



their personal reflections from the visit to Lytton. The personal reflections were very interesting and insightful.

The information provided by the students, further emphasized that despite many opportunities for residents in the Lytton area to engage in the OCP Update (Launch, Workbook and Community Conversations) few local young adults participated.

The next phase of the OCP Update includes targeted engagement with local students as well as the young adult demographic as it is vital that the younger residents see a future for themselves in the Lytton area. The information provided by the UFV project will not only inform the OCP Update but also the engagement with local young adults to learn if there are similarities in needs and desires.

The Director of Development has reviewed the report and has provided additional comments. The Village has not edited the reports as the information compiled was based on the students' understanding of the project, and did not have the time or role to dig deeper on matters such as provincial and federal legislation (i.e. Memorandums of Understanding). The submission had repeated references to Lytton First Nation rather than all area Nlaka'pamux communities. The following notes additional comments on the certain references within the reports:

**Strategic Directions:**

- **Placemaking/Work Space** – The proposed Village Offices will provide some shared work space. The proposed Hub will be a welcoming place with a big lobby, chairs, tables and Internet.
- **Resilience/Relationships** – The Village has reached out to the surrounding Nlaka'pamux communities to invite conversation regarding formal partnerships with limited success to "initiate formal discussions with the Lytton First Nation (Nlaka'pamux Nation), with the goal of establishing joint protocol and standards agreements defining a shared relationship for resilience through an MOU...".

- **Resilient/Residential Development Officer** – The Village has provided most of the information on the Village website with a contact to the Director of Development. There are a steady stream of inquiries but the PacifiCan program is implemented by the Federal government and despite frequently telling representatives from PacifiCan our concerns with their program (such as requesting a locally based contact), this has not been provided (note Jasper's program was implemented by the local Community Futures and has given out much more funding in a much shorter time). Most of the funding programs, although sometimes administered locally, are tightly overseen by senior governments, with limited opportunity for local input.
- **Resilience/Building Standards** – The Village opted not to introduced more expensive fire resilient building standards in their Building Bylaw, however the PacifiCan grant does allow non-refundable grants to cover these costs. Rather than downloading this regulation to local governments, the BC Government is better suited to introduce fire resilient building standards into the BC Building Code. The local Council rejected these higher standards, as it would add significant costs to the rebuild.

**Outreach Report:**

- The maximum building height in the downtown is limited to 2 storeys but not because of the ladder. Our firefighters (being volunteer) only fight exterior fires (hoses). The OCP will be amended to clarify that fact, which in turn there will be a corresponding amendment to the Zoning Bylaw.
- The Hub will not have the Visitor Information Centre. This is proposed in the Village Office, as this will ensure maximum visual exposure and shared staffing.