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Snakeheads

Migrants at jail charged with people smuggling

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Goodbye

Ed Savoie retires after a lifetime on the rails

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Hit Time

Organizers hope the WLA embraces Prince George

B7



Soirée

Take in some fine dining and fine music with the PGSO

Quotable

"Heck, we can't even control prostitutes, but we can control backyard barbecues."

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▼ From Front

Tool needed to fight hate crimes: RCMP

implementation of some limitation to free speech through denial of access to public space, according to provincial hate crimes team member Les Flewelling, in town to speak in support of the task force.

"There needs to be a tool to stop those people, especially when they are known to the law enforcement community," says Corporal Flewelling.

It's a matter of balancing the threat to public safety posed by protests that greet knowingly hateful groups against the right to free speech, he says.

It's also about upholding the community standards of the majority, while maintaining respect for diversity and the rights of minority groups.

"That's precisely why we have the Charter of Rights and Freedoms," argues the BCCLA's Mr. Westwood, "to protect the minority on the fringes of society from being disadvantaged because of their lifestyle or opinions."

Mr. Westwood says the BCCLA will evaluate the task force's recommendations before deciding if it will intervene in the implementation of them as official city policy.

City council unanimously endorsed "in principle" the task force report's four main recommendations.

It will not become policy, however, before reviews and fine-tuning have been completed.

Other recommendations in the task force on hate activities report: that Prince George designate itself a "hate-activities free zone"; that the city continue and expand its intercultural committee; that city council demonstrate leadership in regards to ongoing education of community leaders and others in the community; and that the city demonstrate leadership through proactive measures such as creating a hate-free workplace, allocating proper resources to respond to hate activities, and encouraging investigations by the Attorney-General's Ministry and the Human Rights Commission into complaints about discrimination.

Aryan Nation seeks recruits/Page A3



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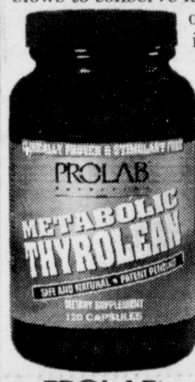
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▼ From Front

Eight priorities set by council

during last fall's civic election.

The eight priorities include: marketing the city; encouraging growth and development within the city; improving infrastructure; planning effective transportation systems; implementing efficient corporate processes; rejuvenating the downtown; improving safety and security in the city; and growing civic pride.

The general thrust of the plan is similar to many municipalities, and little different from stated objectives of past councils.

The difference in this current package is

that it puts together strategies and planned objectives.

It also offers a way to measure the success or failure of the city in reaching its stated goals.

For example, it suggests the city partner with other stakeholders in providing a cohesive marketing plan for outside investors. A desired result is the creation of productive partnerships between different levels of government and the business community as well as increased numbers of foreign visitors and outside investors.

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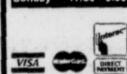
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