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“The Newspaper Wars in Prince George, B.C., 1909-1918.” 2004.

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ABSTRACT

One of the most interesting aspects of early Prince George history is the ongoing feud between the city's first two newspapers. On the surface this feud seems to exist only because of the confrontational and opinionated people who edited these newspapers. On deeper inspection it becomes clear that both of Prince George's founding newspapers argued as surrogates for the local interest groups they represented. They both articulated positions that would benefit their particular interest group, and their reporting and writing was designed to support this end.

Despite this, historians of Prince George have done little to explain this ongoing battle, particularly how it was fought through local newspapers. This thesis aims to show that in its early days Prince George was not a unified community, but was instead a competing group of small communities, fighting bitterly among themselves for dominance. Furthermore, this fight was conducted through the local newspapers primarily over the issues of the location of the station and the incorporation and the promotion of Prince George.