

UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES



ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS

TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE UBCM ANNUAL CONVENTION
VANCOUVER, B.C.

SEPTEMBER 25 - 28, 2007

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU

2006- 2007 UBCM EXECUTIVE



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PRESIDENT



DIRECTOR SUSAN GIMSE
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT



CHAIR ROBERT HOBSON
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT



MAYOR SHARON HARTWELL
THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT



COUNCILLOR MARVIN HUNT
PAST PRESIDENT



COUNCILLOR KIM CAPRI
VANCOUVER REPRESENTATIVE



MAYOR DON McLEAN
GVRD REPRESENTATIVE
*until April 2007



MAYOR ELLA BROWN
SMALL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE



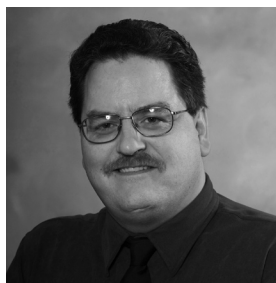
DIRECTOR TERRY RAYMOND
ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE



ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY &
BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



COUNCILLOR SHARON GAETZ
LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



COUNCILLOR CRAIG CARUSO
NORTH CENTRAL MUNICIPAL
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COUNCILLOR RHONA MARTIN
SOUTH INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION



COUNCILLOR BEA HOLLAND
ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND &
COASTAL COMMUNITIES



MAYOR TERRY LAKE
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



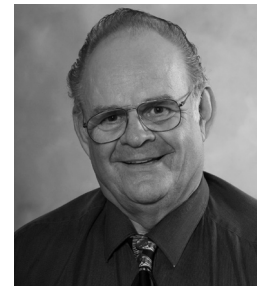
DIRECTOR HARRY NYCE
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



MAYOR HERB POND
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



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DIRECTOR AT LARGE



MAYOR JOE SNOPEK
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UNION OF
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ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 2007 ANNUAL CONVENTION

DATES:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2007
to
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

LOCATION:

VANCOUVER CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
VANCOUVER, B.C.

REGISTRATION:

COMMENCES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CONTINUES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 7:00 a.m.

FORUMS FOR:

- ELECTORAL AREAS
- SMALL TALK
- MID-SIZED COMMUNITIES
- LARGE URBAN COMMUNITIES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2007
COMMENCES at 9:00 a.m.

OPENING RECEPTION:

COMMENCES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 7:30 p.m.
AT VANCOUVER AQUARIUM

BUSINESS SESSIONS:

COMMENCES WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 8:30 a.m.
VANCOUVER CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

UBCM ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS BOOK

for the period July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO UBCM MEMBERS

It is our pleasure to present the Annual Report to the membership. As CEO and CAO, it is our task to distill the essence of a year's work onto one page.

We concluded two things - it is impossible to produce a "one-pager" given the amount of work produced and second, there is an even more important message we'd like to address. The accomplishments are important to capture as a key accountability report and the Accomplishments in Brief that fill nearly 10 pages are rich with detail about what has been achieved this past year.

The message we want to communicate is the value and strengths of the organization that was able to deliver these results. Outcomes are important but you need a superior organization to deliver superior results. We have an organization that we can be proud of - a former Mayor and Premier called it the "best municipal organization in Canada"; and we are regularly visited by international groups eager to learn what we do right.

Simply put - the "how" we have managed to achieve what we have done is as, or more important, than the "what". This needs to be celebrated and to be nurtured for continued success. We see five key ingredients in our successes:

- a full and engaged membership: 100% membership for 30 years gives our voice strength in numbers - it is a voice that is informed by an engaged membership as is reflected in the record number of resolutions this year, record attendance at the convention and in the enthusiastic participation in a record number of UBCM conferences this year.
- an executive structure that is reflective of a diverse membership and that allows Committees to tackle the wide range of issues: environment, health, First Nations relations, community safety and community economic development. The Committees that work on these issues all can report on progress and do so in a following section.
- staff secretariat - a core group of 15 staff and an additional six for the Gas Tax and provincially funded programs help to deliver what you see in the communication and conference organization - and what you don't see is they effectively deliver on time and on budgets.
- productive relationships - at the local, regional, provincial and federal levels, give us the access we need - and we put more effort this year into keeping those relationships strong.
- a policy based organization - having member driven policies as the basis for our directions - not ad hoc reactions.

Our message is to celebrate the successes but be stewards of the important engines that drive and deliver the results.

In closing both of us will be ending our terms with UBCM. There are many different positions in public service at the local or provincial levels, but being UBCM President and Executive Director is a unique opportunity.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve UBCM, local government and the Province of British Columbia.

Brenda Binnie
President

Richard Taylor
Executive Director



UBCM STAFF

BACK ROW (left to right): Ted Willmer, Mgr. Finance & Operations; Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst; Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor.

MIDDLE ROW (left to right): Alison McNeil, Senior Associate, Policy & Programs (no longer with UBCM); Harmony Folz, Policy Analyst (no longer with UBCM); Joslyn Young, Executive Coordinator; Richard Taylor, Executive Director; Susie Koivu, Financial Services Officer; Errin Morrison, Information & Resolutions Coordinator.

FRONT ROW (seated left to right): Raelene Adamson, e-Office Services; Shannon McAvella, Member & Association Services Asst; Anna-Maria Wijesinghe, Mgr., Member & Association Services; Marie Crawford, Associate Executive Director; Rose Hayes, Office Services; Marlene Wells, Policy Analyst. NOT PRESENT: Lesley Arsenault, Policy Analyst.

VICTORIA OFFICE STAFF

Eydie Fraser	Executive Coordinator
Sue Clark	Programs Officer, Provincial Programs
Beverly Crooks	Administrative Assistant, LGPS
Danyta Welch	Policy and Programs Officer
Brenda Gibson	General Manager, Gas Tax/Public Transit
Iris Hesketh-Boles	Gas Tax Administration
Paul Taylor	Relationships and Communications Advisor
Jodi Mucha	Director, BC Healthy Communities



UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF INCORPORATION

Union of BC Municipalities was incorporated by an Act of the provincial legislature in 1959. The “objects” of the UBCM set out in the legislation include: securing united action by members on issues of common interest; representing members on issues affecting them or their citizens; cooperating with other groups on matters under federal jurisdiction; cooperating with government ministries on the development of legislation; discussing and dealing with municipal issues; representing and assisting members in maintaining municipal autonomy; distributing information; holding meetings and fostering a “fraternal spirit among those engaged in municipal work”; and encouraging and promoting local associations.

MISSION STATEMENT

The **values** we want associated with UBCM as an organization are:

- Credibility and accuracy in what we do.
- Timely and effective in how we respond.
- Valuing teamwork and respecting diversity in everything we do.
- Being non-partisan and objective in how we present ourselves.

Our **vision** is to most effectively represent and serve all local governments in BC.

Guided by our values and to achieve our vision the purpose of UBCM is:

To **represent and serve** all local governments in BC by:

- Being the recognized advocate for their common interests.
- Meeting the members’ common needs.

We will be the recognized **advocate** for local government in BC in:

- Policy development and implementation
- Government relations
- Communications externally
- Liaison with other groups

Our priorities for meeting the **members’ common needs** are through:

- Communication to members
- Advice and training for local government officials
- Convention
- Information sharing

We strive for **continuous improvement** in all that we do.

ADOPTED BY UBCM EXECUTIVE 2003

2006-2007 UBCM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN BRIEF¹

TOP ACTIVITIES OR INVOLVEMENTS

- 100% membership maintained for the 28th consecutive year
- record attendance at 2006 convention
- received \$52 million from the province in federal Public Transit Infrastructure Program funding.
- second year in the doubling of Small Community and regional district grants
- won Supreme Court of Canada intervention on the status of municipal employees in RCMP detachments
- four-year Gas Tax extension announced in the federal budget - UBCM applauded this announcement and set plans to secure the investment
- introduction of new small community and rural areas police tax - UBCM was able to negotiate mitigation measures - for Electoral Areas and small municipalities these were worth \$10 million
- near doubling of BC Hydro grants in lieu of taxes
- provincial government does not pursue recommendations of the Competition Council to cap industrial taxes
- new grant programs for Local Motion, Towns for Tomorrow, Spirit Squares and Green Cities Awards announced at UBCM Convention (estimated \$95 million)
- traffic fine revenues increase again this year and all flows directly to local government - small communities and Electoral Areas receive the benefit for the first time this year
- Local Government Leadership Academy launched this year - a UBCM vision realized
- very ambitious UBCM conference schedule this spring to engage members - five conferences
- Municipal House - Victoria property rezoned and transferred from BC to UBCM
- Launched a second \$12.5 million for the Community Tourism Program; \$14 million in other new funded programs (West Nile and Fuel Management)
- received provincial funding for Green Cities and treaty related Public Education (\$600,000)

ADVOCACY

Policy Development and Implementation

A top priority is to advocate on behalf of BC local governments for the development of policies that support their needs and to see them implemented in legislation, regulations, programs or policies. UBCM participates in policy development in a number of ways: independent initiatives and making representations directly; participating in Ministry-UBCM or multi-party policy development processes. The issues are many and varied and some have required sustained involvement while others may have only required limited intervention.

Policy Development

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

Some of the issues UBCM was consulted on or involved with in the past year as provincial policies included:

Statutory framework for local government

- response to Green paper on Limitation Period
- UBCM continued to push back on Bill 30 amendments to the Utilities Act that concerned land use powers over IPPs

Justice/Community Safety

- expansion of bylaw adjudication process
- BC211 initiative
- costs for the introduction of PRIME
- began work on mandate and structure for RCMP contract renewal and hosted a workshop
- introduction of new small community and rural areas police tax
- worked on police tax accountability framework
- met with transportation officials to discuss highways road maintenance standards
- attended meeting of the federal-provincial/territorial RCMP Contract Advisory Committee to scope out issues for discussion in renewal of contract
- organized Modernization of Building Regulatory Process workshops and coordinated provincial participation
- coordinated seven regional workshops on building code enforcement
- participated in a workshop on hate crimes
- seismic building policy review

- flood hazard management policy review
- integrated policing model
- integrated crime prevention strategy
- reviewed Cameron Report on first responder program for firefighters

Finance

- Increase to Home Owner Grant
- second year four-year expansion of small community and regional district grants
- Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund Program applications process launched and project evaluations reviewed

Assessment

- changes to ports, STOCAPs and ski hill assessment but major overhauls to the assessment system not pursued

Health

- Reported on survey of local governments, Regional Hospital Districts and Health Authorities relationships
- Gathered information and conducted survey on Ambulance Service in small and remote communities
- Continued to house the BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- Developed Terms of Reference for the Local Governments and Food Access Resource Project
- Approved 51 projects for Community Health Promotion Fund Round 2 Funding; 49 projects currently being funded
- Continuing input to Ministry of Health on Public Health Act re-write
- Ambulance service report reviewed

Environment

- Riparian Areas Regulation
- West Nile Regulation (indemnity agreement)
- Recycling Regulation (Tires and Electronic Waste)
- Environmental Management Act Codes of Practice
- Contaminated Sites
- Sewage System Regulation
- Municipal Wastewater Effluent Strategy
- Subdivision Regulation
- Ongoing development of an emergency planning program for mass livestock carcass disposal

Trade

- BC Alberta Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)
- Single Business License initiative
- monitor impact of new softwood lumber agreement

Economic Development

- continue to seek coordinated provincial and federal funding and assistance to combat both Mountain and Western Pine Beetle and to request assist for private land owners with severe pine beetle damage
- log export review
- participate in best practices study of 2% hotel tax

Infrastructure

- \$52 million Public Transit Infrastructure Program (PTIP) received
- MRIF application process initiated and first grants announced.
- launched all Gas Tax application based funding programs
- total funding received by UBCM reaches \$205 million (before PTIP) and over 80% already delivered to local governments

Energy Policy

- BC Hydro Integrated Electricity Plan
- MOU working group on offshore oil and gas
- Bill 30 amendment to Utilities Commission Act re: IPPs
- Oil and Gas Regulatory Improvement Initiative
- new provincial energy plan reviewed
- Off Shore Oil and Gas Working Group MOU renewed
- mini guide for local government and public participation in provincial IPP regulatory processes

Aboriginal

- Advocated for treaty adjustment funding program for local governments
- Analysis of concluded Agreements in Principle and draft final agreement chapters
- Commissioned legal review of specified lands approach to additions to treaty settlement lands
- Analysis of three Final Agreements – Lheidli T'enneh, Tsawwassen, and Maa-nulth
- Advocated for sufficient funding for local governments participating in treaty negotiations

Transportation

- assisted in the reporting out on the BC Transit governance and funding review
- ATV/ORV licensing

Other Policy Matters Reviewed

- reviewed Community Opportunities Task Force Report
- Local government surveillance bylaws
- investigated a proposal for a 2.33 accrual rate for Police/Fire Pensions

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- Pine Beetle Funding to eradicate infestation and assistance to private land owners
- Citizenship and Immigration – new immigrants integration into communities
- Bill C-45 renewed Fisheries Act
- Childcare funding
- Successful intervention before the Supreme Court of Canada concerning Federal Court of Appeal decision on RCMP support staff
- 2006 Resolutions conveyed to new federal government
- submission to federal review of infrastructure programs (and the fiscal imbalance)
- accepted a \$52.5 million Public Transit Investment Program (federal government funding) that was previously transferred to the Province
- participated in federal-provincial/territorial RCMP Contract Advisory Committee meeting
- reviewed federal regulation on hours of service for commercial vehicle operators

MEMBER INITIATIVES: RESOLUTIONS

UBCM's policy initiatives are primarily derived from resolutions submitted by members. During 2007, UBCM reviewed over 260 resolutions in the course of preparing the Annual Report and Resolutions Book. All Area Associations submitted their resolutions for UBCM comment prior to their annual meetings and subsequently conveyed endorsed resolutions to UBCM for consideration at the 2007 Convention.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Policy work over the last year which involved UBCM included:

LEGISLATION (IN ORDER OF DEGREE OF UBCM INVOLVEMENT)

Among the legislation reviewed by UBCM:

- Police Act amended to facilitate introduction of new police tax for small municipalities and electoral areas
- Mineral Tenure Act amended to expand notice requirements before entering private land and/or beginning mining activity
- Multi-phased development legislation
- Resort developments/resort municipality finance and governance
- Expansion of the scope for revitalization tax exemptions
- Financial plans must now include objectives and policies on revenue sources, distribution of taxes among classes subject to taxation and use of permissive tax exemptions
- New valuation process for short-term occupancy

- tourist accommodation, ports and ski hills
- Changes to governance responsibility for BC Assessment Authority
- Legislation to prohibit smoking in public places

REGULATIONS (IN ORDER OF DEGREE OF UBCM INVOLVEMENT)

UBCM contributed to the development of many regulations including:

- supported WorkSafe BC regulatory change for volunteer fire fighters
- supported amendments to bylaw ticket regulation under the Community Charter

UBCM RESOLUTIONS RESPONSES

A total of 141 resolutions were forwarded to the provincial government for consideration following the 2006 UBCM Convention. In addition, 32 resolutions were conveyed to the federal government and five were conveyed to the FCM. Responses have been conveyed to the resolution sponsors.

The Province has indicated that 43 issues raised in the 2006 resolutions have already been addressed in whole or in part by provincial initiatives and noted that it was not willing to consider changes proposed in 42 of the resolutions. Provincial support was noted in the case of nine resolutions and the Province indicated it is willing to consider the changes/suggestions/concerns expressed in 18 other resolutions. Further review and/or action will be undertaken on the changes suggested in an additional 18 resolutions. As well, UBCM is already working with the Province on four resolutions, and will monitor provincial action in several other policy areas.

UBCM PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Health Programs

- Community Health Promotion Fund – 30 pilot projects funded in Round 1 (2005/06) and 50 pilot projects funded in Round 2 (2006/07).
- Participation in BC Healthy Living Alliance including Call to Action conference and planning related to \$25 million provincial grant
- Local government employee health promotion project and “Active Civic Employees” website launch with 2010 Legacies Now

First Nations

- 2006 Province-wide Community to Community Forum- largest year ever for Community to Community funding program.
- 37 communities applied to host 45 Community to Community Forums across the province through

- regional program
- reviewed C2C administration
- funding for C2C best practices guide
- increased provincial funding for C2C and federal funding maintained
- Treaty Advisory Committee support including joint meetings and policy advice
- successful allocated \$100k in additional funding for Treaty Advisory Committees
- received \$300k for Final Treaty related work

Gas Tax

- see report in the Annual Report

Local Government Program Services

- Launched second phase of Community Tourism Program valued at \$12.5 million
- \$4 million funding renewed for West Nile programs
- launch of operational fuel management funding with base of nearly \$10 million
- launch of Integrated Emergency Planning Pilot Project program for Local Governments and First Nations
- Initiated enhanced reporting procedures for four programs: Community Tourism, Community Health Promotion, Seniors Housing and Support and Emergency Planning. Also used enhanced format for Premier's year-end report
- continue work on emergency planning program for mass livestock carcass disposal
- also see report in the Annual Report

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON WITH OTHER GROUPS

Government relations is much more than dealing with policy issues reviewed in earlier sections – it is UBCM acting as a contact point on any number of issues. It extends to UBCM's role in communicating local government's messages and liaising with other groups.

Our contacts in the past year include:

- provincial Premier, Ministers, Ministry and agency staff at federal & provincial levels
- BC Treaty Commission and the First Nations Summit
- Ombudsman
- health authorities
- BC School Trustees Association
- Municipal Insurance Association of BC
- Canada-BC Infrastructure Program – Management Committee and Joint Secretariat
- Development Finance Review Committee
- provincial associations like the BC Chamber of Commerce, BC Business Council, Smart Growth BC

- presentation of local government issues to groups as varied as and foreign delegations: Philippine associations, Sri Lankan and Chinese delegations
- Fraser Basin Council
- BC Progress Board
- other local government associations – all five Area Associations visited; represented on the FCM board; and maintain relations with neighbouring associations
- professional groups such as LGMA, GFOA, PIBC, BOABC, AIBC, professional engineers; consulting engineers
- regularly sought out by media
- Land Title and Survey Authority Board and Stakeholders Committee
- CivicInfo
- Community Energy Association
- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- SPARC BC
- BC Transmission Corporation
- BC Hydro
- 2010 Legacies Now
- Tourism BC
- Coalition for Licensing and Registration of Off Road Vehicles
- RCMP
- National Crime Prevention Centre
- BC Conservation Lands Forum
- Council of Tourism Associations
- Communities In Bloom
- Economic Development Association of BC
- Canadian Community Economic Development Network
- BC Rural Partnership
- BC Recreation and Parks Association
- National Forest Accord – BC Coalition
- Electronic Products Stewardship Canada
- BC Underground Safety Project
- BC Hydro Multi-Party IPP Working Group
- BC Transmission Corporation Advisory Committee
- BC Fire Services Liaison Group
- BC Safety Authority
- established a local government working group (rural tax)
- special UBCM working group on the Sewerage System Regulation

Some relationships are set out in agreements:

- MOU with Philippine Leagues and second UBCM mission completed
- MOU with Province on Offshore Oil and Gas renewed
- Renewal of MOU with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and First Nations Summit for an additional 2 year term

- Reviewed all MOUs and Agreements as part of annual procedures.
- BC Conservation Lands Forum Agreement

MEMBER SERVICES

UBCM makes a distinction between the member services that all members receive and those optional services that are available on a “user pay” basis.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Publications

- Thousands of copies of publications printed and distributed – for example: 1,600 Annual Report & Resolutions books, 550 Convention minutes books, and over 1,100 Net•work•books distributed and sold
- Numerous membership circulars and fax broadcasts distributed throughout the year
- Four issues of UBCM News – totaling 100 pages
- updated UBCM Guide to Information Services
- 2007 date planners and wall calendars produced with 165 members purchasing 650 planners and 578 wall calendars
- Net•work•book distributed; 90 Professional Directory listings
- TAC Update (1 issue)
- C2C Connect newsletter (1 issue)

Other media

- Continue to refine and improve CivicNet (www.civicnet.bc.ca – UBCM’s website)

ADVICE, TRAINING AND INFORMATION SHARING

UBCM hosted or participated in a number of training events:

- Municipal Administration Training Institute; Capilano College local government administration course; Transforming Communities through Tourism Workshop; SFU Political Science students
- 2004/2005 Community to Community Forum program (\$100,000 in federal and provincial funding)
- supported the annual regional district Chairs and CAOs meeting
- Hosted joint TAC meeting – September 14, 2006 in Prince George
- Local Government Leadership Academy launched with the BC Local Government Leadership Forum, held June 13-15 in Richmond. Three-year, ongoing LGLA curriculum to be presented to the membership at the 2007 UBCM Convention, with programming to begin in 2008

- very ambitious UBCM conference schedule:
 - Effective Electoral Area Director - first ever session
 - Group Benefits Seminar
 - Final Treaty Agreements
 - Local Government and the Environment Conference
 - RCMP contract renewal consultation

Member Liaison

- 37 special appointments to visit members outside of the Greater Vancouver/Greater Victoria area plus the many trips to member communities in conjunction with other UBCM business

CONVENTION

The UBCM Convention is an opportunity for our members to converge in one location to focus on policy development, provincial government relationships, training and to network with colleagues from around the province. Some highlights of the 2006 Convention were:

- Highest attendance in history;
- Conducted a survey of Regional District issues during Convention sessions;
- An opportunity to visit the Legislature;
- Excellent keynote presentation from Chantal Hébert;
- Increased submissions and a new partner for the Community Excellence Awards;
- Long Service Awards (25 years) given to:
 1. Mayor Pieter Weeber, District of New Hazelton
 2. Councillor Ernie Crist, District of North Vancouver
 3. Councillor Loyd John Sherry, City of Nanaimo
- A Life Membership awarded to: Councillor Marvin Hunt, 2005 – 2006 UBCM President

OPTIONAL MEMBER SERVICES

There are some services to members that are offered on an optional, pay-as-you-go basis but they are a significant portion of UBCM’s activities:

- Group Benefit Association Plan in 25th year of operation with approximately \$9 million in annual premiums
- Re-designed employee benefit booklets
- Members purchase dog tags through UBCM
- Process for providing Lists of Electors (provincial extracts) being reviewed
- \$807,895 distributed to 102 members participating in the Commercial Vehicle Licensing program
- implemented new CVL licence year

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

UBCM Executive and staff continue to look for ways to be more effective and in the past year this has included:

- Municipal House site rezoned and construction consultant team assembled
- computer upgrade - separate server for Victoria and both servers linked to all staff
- hard drive back up system implemented in Richmond and tape drive back up system for Victoria
- color printer for in house presentation products
- new on-line financial surveys launched Feb. 1 in partnership with CivicInfo and LGMA
- established a new database for the UBCM Group Benefits Plan
- information audit/UBCM library and library database clean-up continued
- completed tri-annual Membership Satisfaction Survey, expanded this year to include surveys of UBCM Communications and Local Government Program Services
- revised UBCM Act approved and new internal statutory compliance procedures put in place
- established a UBCM Liaison / Email contact within each local government
- coordinate database updating with association partners (LGMA, CivicInfo, MCS and MFA)
- renewed the lease on the Richmond office - with initial lease cost savings invested in a building fund

KEY INDICATORS – ACTIVITY BASED

- Six Executive meetings, including the April 2006 meeting in Victoria – the first meeting in Victoria in over ten years – where Committees met with eight Cabinet ministers, provincial staff and others
- 33 UBCM Executive committee meetings held
- 100% (185 out of 185) local governments have membership in UBCM
- over the year numerous meetings with MCS Minister and delegations from Minister of as part of our quarterly Executive meetings. As well, met with Senior BC Minister for the federal government, the Honourable Chuck Strahl and BC Conservative Caucus

EXECUTIVE AND SECRETARIAT

- Provide administrative oversight over delivery of Local Government Program Services
- **Staffing:** Eleven year veteran Alison McNeil accepted a career advancement with the City of

Richmond. Joanne Gauci and Harmony Folz resigned to pursue international opportunities. Brenda Gibson and Marlene Wells accepted permanent positions. Lesley Arsenault joined the Richmond Office and Paul Taylor, Beverly Crooks and Iris Hesketh-Boles joined the Victoria Office. Jared Wright and Jodi Mucha were promoted within the organization.

ASSOCIATION SERVICES

UBCM provides services to:

- Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- BC Healthy Communities initiative. UBCM is provides the secretariat support including staffing and offices under a contribution agreement with the Ministry of Health
- Contract with the Building Officials' Association of British Columbia was not renewed

Finance

- The year-end audited financial statements indicated a small surplus
- 3% dues increase in 2006

The format for Accomplishments in Brief reflects the Executive's Mission Statement. It is intended to connect accountability for outcomes with the objectives of UBCM.



FOCUS ON FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS AND TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Director Terry Raymond, Chair
Councillor Bea Holland,

Vice-Chair

Director Harry Nyce
Councillor Marvin Hunt,
VP Liaison

Mayor Ralph Drew, LMTAC

PRIORITIES

- Treaty related policy development
- Treaty Advisory Committee support
- Community to Community Forum program
- Strengthening local government-First Nation relations

UBCM's First Nations Relations Committee focused its activities this past year on the three final treaty agreements that were initialled in the fall of 2006. UBCM continued to provide advocacy, information sharing and policy support to local governments with respect to treaty negotiations. As well, UBCM continued working towards strengthening local government – First Nation Relations.

Treaty Focus

UBCM support to local governments/treaty advisory committees has been achieved in various ways. For example, UBCM has held regular meetings with treaty advisory committee chairs and administrators. UBCM also brought together, via conference call, local government administrators for the three lead treaty negotiating tables.

With respect to policy analysis, UBCM commissioned a legal review of the specified lands approach to additions to treaty settlement lands. In addition, UBCM provided an analysis of the draft local government chapters from the three lead tables prior to conclusion of negotiations. Following the initialling of the Lheidli T'enneh, Tsawwassen and Maa-nulth final agreements, UBCM produced an analysis of the three agreements with respect to local government interests.

At the 2006 UBCM Convention, a pre-conference session was organized titled: Final Treaty Settlements and Local Government: Current Experience and Future Relationships. During this session negotiators from Lheidli T'enneh, Tsawwassen, and Maa-nulth provided updates. Also, local government representatives involved in these negotiations spoke about the treaty process from a local government perspective.

In May 2007 UBCM held a conference titled: Final Treaty Agreements: Examining Local Government Interests. Delegates learned how local government interests were addressed in the three final agreements and what role local governments played in negotiations. In

addition, delegates received a presentation from the First Nations Leadership Council and the provincial government on the New Relationship.

Strengthening Local Government – First Nation Relations

Regarding relationship building between local governments and First Nations, UBCM's formal agreements with First Nations Summit and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada provide the framework for our activities in this area. Another issue of C2C Connect, a newsletter on local government-First Nation Relations, was distributed in January and a fourth edition is being worked on. Through the Regional Community to Community Forum Program, a record number of 45 regional forums were held across the Province.

Treaty-Related Funding

UBCM received \$300,000 from the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) for information sharing, public education and relationship building activities with respect to the three final agreements. UBCM also distributed to treaty advisory committees/local governments involved in treaty negotiations an additional \$100,000 from MARR for the 2006/2007 fiscal year.

UBCM made representation to the Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation regarding funding support for local governments involved in treaty negotiations. Specifically UBCM has communicated an interest in having a transparent approach to funding local governments participation in treaty negotiations and requested that the Province commit to restoring regular annual funding to treaty advisory committees/local governments. This message was emphasized when the First Nations Relations Committee met with the Honourable Mike de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation in April 2007.

NEW ENERGY PLAN RELEASED AND SOFTWOOD DECIDED BUT BEETLES CONTINUE TO TEST COMMUNITY RESOLVE



Committee members addressed a variety of natural resource and economic development matters this past year. Members saw a long awaited agreement to the softwood lumber dispute; continued efforts to contain the spread of pine beetles; release of a new BC Energy Plan; a proposed new federal Fisheries Act and a renewed provincial MOU on Offshore Oil and Gas. The following provides a summary of these and other issues covered by the Community Economic Development Committee.

Addressing the pine beetle epidemic remains at the top of the Committee's priorities, with a special Monday pre-conference session planned for the 2007 Convention. In keeping with member policy direction, the Committee has written to the provincial and federal governments seeking funding to address the impacts of western pine, as well as mountain pine beetle, and has sought financial assistance for private property owners who are faced with the costs of removing beetle infested trees from their properties. Committee members also reviewed the recommendations from the log export review and advised the Forests Minister of our longstanding policy request to ban the export of raw logs. The Committee met with the Minister as part of their April meeting in Victoria at which time they discussed the need for a coordinated effort between all orders of government to address the beetle epidemic; reinforced member policy with respect to the ban on raw log exports and the Minister confirmed his commitment to the community forests program.

On the energy front, the Province released its new Energy Plan in February 2007. UBCM had met with Ministry staff prior to the development of the Plan to convey specific member policy positions on energy matters. The new Plan has set some ambitious targets that will see BC to achieve energy self-sufficiency by 2016. The Plan is

comprehensive, putting forward 55 policy actions in the areas of electricity; electricity choices; energy conservation and efficiency; alternative energy; skills, training and labour and oil and gas. The Committee had an opportunity to discuss the details of the new Plan with Minister Neufeld at their April meeting. The Minister also provided the Committee with a copy of a guide entitled Opportunities for Local Government and Public Participation in Provincial Regulatory Processes for Independent Power Producers' Projects, which was prepared in response to Bill 30. The guide identifies the opportunities for public and local government consultation and engagement in the IPP permitting process. [The guide is posted at [www.civicnet.bc.ca / Featured Policy Topics/Independent Power Projects.](http://www.civicnet.bc.ca/FeaturedPolicyTopics/IndependentPowerProjects)]

On the federal front, the Committee also discussed and sought member feedback on Bill C-45, the renewed Fisheries Act. The Committee was preparing a submission on behalf of the membership, when an amendment was introduced during second reading, which has resulted in the Bill being set aside at this time.

In March 2007, UBCM's MOU with the Province on Offshore Oil and Gas was due to expire. With the support of the MOU working group, the Province and the CED Committee the MOU has since been renewed. The working group, comprised of local elected officials from communities potentially affected by offshore oil and gas development and the Chair of the CED Committee, has met four times this year. The working group has discussed a variety of topics including regulatory frameworks, royalty regimes and revenue sharing; impacts of seismic; changes in industry technology and discussed the experiences in other jurisdictions. Members of the working group also took part in an interest identification session to help to crystallize the key community concerns with respect to potential exploration and development.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mayor Sharon Hartwell, Chair
Mayor Joe Snopek, Vice-Chair
Mayor Terry Lake
Mayor Ella Brown
Councillor Craig Caruso

Priorities

- Continue to work with MEMPR and seek other opportunities to ensure local governments interests are represented in IPP review /approval processes.
- Continue to press for long term economic development strategy for beetle areas.
- Continue to ensure local government interests are represented at DFO policy forums
- Continue to work with agencies to advance other programs or initiatives that will facilitate community economic development opportunities
- Monitor status of the community forests program and the status of opportunities being offered to communities.



FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Mayor Herb Pond, Chair
Councillor Sharon Gaetz, Vice Chair
Director Rhona Martin
Councillor Kim Capri
Councillor Marvin Hunt, VP Liaison

PRIORITIES

- Work with the Ministry of Health, Sewerage System Leadership Council and the British Columbia OnSite Sewage Association to address local government concerns arising from the implementation of the new Sewerage System Regulation;
- Engage in consultation with the Ministry of Environment to address local government concerns regarding the regulatory and policy changes to the Contaminated Sites Regulation and the proposed interim site profile process;
- Continue to monitor the implementation of the Riparian Areas Regulation and assist with local government compliance with the Regulation;
- Enhance communication with the Ministry of Environment and the Environment Canada; and;
- Monitor and respond to ongoing and emerging environmental policy, legislative, and regulatory issues that affect local government.

Over the past year, the Environment Committee has been actively monitoring and advising on a number of key environmental regulations which impact the sustainability and well being of local communities. From the Sewerage System Regulation, to the Riparian Areas Regulation, Subdivision Regulation, and Contaminated Sites Regulation, the Committee has voiced local government concerns and recommendations on regulations that are being implemented, introduced or amended.

The Sewerage System Regulation (SSR) has been a key Committee issue this year as the Regulation has raised implementation challenges for several local governments throughout the province. From increased costs to homeowners, to a lack of flexibility in septic system installations, to liability issues, to an absence of qualified practitioners and professionals, local governments have increasingly voiced concerns over the Regulation. In response, UBCM distributed a survey which assessed local government implementation experiences with the SSR and identified area specific issues and potential solutions for ameliorating the problems caused by the Regulation.

In order to further elevate discussions on the SSR, the UBCM Executive also struck a working group for reviewing the SSR and addressing local government onsite septic system issues through the identification of policy changes and/or regulatory amendments. The working group has met several times this year, and has devised an action plan with a series of deliverables that stakeholders will attempt to secure prior to the UBCM Convention.

As part of its advocacy efforts, the Committee has been raising local government concerns regarding the lack of clarity of, and liability exposure under, the draft provincial interim site profile process for contaminated sites. In April,

the Committee met with the Honourable Barry Penner, Minister of Environment, and discussed the need to both ensure the full indemnification of local governments under the process. Following the meeting, the Ministry of Environment struck two working groups of UBCM and industry representatives to review the site profile process.

The Committee has also been actively working with the Ministry of Environment on minimizing the impact of the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR), and assisting local governments in achieving compliance with the RAR. It has also participated in the Province's development of draft consequential amendments to the Subdivision Regulation (SR), which are being put forward to harmonize the SSR with the SR. In addition, the Committee advised on the development of Environment Canada's draft Canada-wide municipal wastewater strategy. Local government issues regarding the need for regulatory harmonization, the adoption of a risk-based approach, and need for implementation funding were all advocated for in consultations submissions and discussions with the federal government on the strategy.

To further the principles of shared environmental stewardship, UBCM hosted a two-day conference in June that focused on the development of effective partnerships amongst all orders of government. The conference provided regulatory updates, identified existing gaps in the management of environmental issues, and outlined tools that local governments could use in decision-making processes. It also tackled some of the most pressing environmental issues facing communities including climate change, contaminated sites, sewerage systems, alternative energy and water stewardship. Overall, the conference highlighted practical areas and examples of inter-agency co-operation, and fostered productive and collaborative working relationships.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND CONSULTATION



Over the past year the Community Safety Committee has focused on some key issues of importance to local government. The Committee has worked with the RCMP to enhance its accountability at the community level through the implementation of Community Performance Plans. The Committee organized a meeting and set up an online survey to get local government feedback on the issues that needed to be addressed and the process to be established for local government participation in future RCMP contract negotiations.

The Committee has encouraged the RCMP to implement Community Performance Plans in all local governments. These plans are to be developed with input from the community (i.e. elected representatives, community administrators, community organized groups and citizen input—townhall meetings) and to reflect the needs of the community. Community Performance Plans are intended to identify specific priorities the community would like addressed, the frequency of meetings (quarterly, semi-annual etc.), who the RCMP should be meeting with (mayor/council, regional district board, electoral area representatives, community groups etc.) and require local government sign-off.

A meeting was held and online survey established to get local government input into future RCMP contract negotiations. The contract is not scheduled to expire until 2012, but the federal government

has indicated that it intends to begin discussions in the near future and the provincial/territorial governments have begun to identify issues to be discussed. Working with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General the Community Safety Committee wanted to give local governments an early opportunity to highlight some of their concerns. Local governments identified the following areas that need to be addressed: affordability and contract certainty, governance and accountability, financial accountability, service delivery, staffing and training, and accommodation costs in future discussions related to a new RCMP contract. The Committee will be developing a mandate and undertaking other measures needed to engage in discussion related to the contract.

Over the past year the Community Safety Committee has undertaken an online survey of local governments on the bylaw dispute adjudication system in an effort to identify additional local government that may be interested in using it. The Committee has met with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to discuss the implementation of PRIME and local government costs related to it. The Committee has also written both the federal and provincial government to request that a federal-provincial agreement on flood hazard management and to request additional funding be provided. In addition, it has written the federal government to facilitate increased federal funding for both municipal policing and the RCMP.

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Terry Lake, Chair
Councillor Kim Capri, Vice-Chair
Councillor Bea Holland
Councillor Mary Sjostrom
Director Terry Raymond
Mayor Joe Snopek
BC Assoc. of Police Boards

PRIORITIES

- ♦ Facilitate meeting to discuss RCMP contract renewal and identify local government issues;
- ♦ Costs associated with the implementation of PRIME.
- ♦ Assist in implementation and expansion of new bylaw notice dispute adjudication process to other local governments;
- ♦ Facilitate development of Community Performance Plans to enhance RCMP accountability;
- ♦ Facilitate discussion and development of integrated justice model;
- ♦ Promote development of new federal-provincial agreement on flood hazard management in British Columbia;
- ♦ Discuss how local government may access funding under the Civil Forfeiture Act.
- ♦ Encourage increased federal funding for policing.



STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT NEW INITIATIVES

PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE

Councillor Brenda Binnie,
President

Director Susan Gimse, 1st Vice-
President

Chair Robert Hobson, 2nd Vice-
President

Mayor Sharon Hartwell, 3rd
Vice-President

Councillor Marvin Hunt, Past
President

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Councillor Mary Sjoström,
Chair

Councillor Craig Caruso,

Councillor Janis Dahlen

Director Susan Gimse, VP
Liaison

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Chair Robert Hobson, Chair
/VP Liaison

Director Harry Nyce, Vice
Chair

Mayor Herb Pond

Councillor Sharon Gaetz

PRESIDENTS

The Committee has three basic mandates:

- maintain and enhance organizational effectiveness;
- serve as hub for coordination between Vice-President liaisons to all UBCM Committees; and
- oversee projects that don't have a home within the established UBCM Committee structure.

Without a doubt organizational effectiveness was a major activity this year with the recruitment of a new Executive Director being the most important activity. From a governance perspective, this is a #1 activity and the time and resources dedicated to it reflect the importance of the task to the future of UBCM.

The Committee also pursued a number of other initiatives related to organizational effectiveness including:

- an office space review that resulted in a renewal of the lease at the present Richmond location.
- first full review of the Executive policies in over 20 years.
- introduced new statutory compliance reporting.
- updated and distributed our triennial member satisfaction survey to include two additional components – a review of our communications tools and the administration of the Local Government Program Services. The survey results indicated higher ratings in terms of UBCM's importance (93% rating it as very important / 75% in 2004) and in terms of UBCM's ability to respond to the needs of all members (83%-2007; 66%-2004). With respect to communications tools,

awareness and effectiveness ratings of the Civicnet website increased significantly and 95% of the members indicated that they read 90% of the newsletter. As well, members awareness of the LGPS programs was good, with excellent comments about the administration of the various funding programs. In regard to areas for improvement members would like greater use of email for member communications and a slight reorganization of the Civicnet site to make it more user-friendly. Both of these suggestions are being pursued.

Continuous improvement is the key theme in our drive for organizational effectiveness.

On April 2, 2007 UBCM accepted a Crown Grant for a property at 525 Government Street in Victoria. This fulfilled a commitment made by the Premier to provide a site for UBCM to construct Municipal House. The gift was made in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of UBCM in 2005. Careful consideration had been given to design and public consultation and the proposal cleared rezoning and development permit earlier in the year. This is a milestone event because it represents the first large scale tangible asset in the organization's 102 year history.

The Committee also is the oversight for UBCM Member Services Programs, Community Excellence Awards, the BC Healthy Communities Initiative administrative functions, and our international program. The Committee is happy to note a smooth transition to the new Commercial Vehicle Licence year-end - a UBCM initiative to bring the year-end in line with the general municipal fiscal year. Finally, the Committee recommended Trustee appointments to the Municipal Pension Board.

CONVENTION

The 2006 Convention was held in Victoria from October 23 - 27. As our province's capital, it provided many opportunities for UBCM delegates to meet with provincial officials. A variety of tours and sessions, such as "A Day at Sea" and "Seniors in a Vibrant, Integrated Community", provided the backdrop for an educational and diverse experience. Approximately 2,000 people attended the Convention – the highest attendance ever recorded – and 179 out of 185 UBCM members were represented. Delegates rated the Convention very well at 4.2 out of 5.0 – a .2 increase over the last Convention outside of Vancouver.

RESOLUTIONS

The annual resolutions process forms the foundation of UBCM's ongoing advocacy work on behalf of British Columbia's local governments. Resolutions are a means of speaking with one voice to express the needs and concerns of BC communities and often result in positive change for municipalities and regional districts throughout the province.

Several of last year's resolutions provide examples of the kinds of success that can be achieved through this process:

- Resolution SR2 ended in the implementation of a new building regulation that establishes, for geotechnical analysis of slope stability, criterion of seismic hazard level that does not exceed a probability of 10% in 50 years – carrying forward former (pre-December 2006) Building Code specifications as UBCM requested.
- Resolution SR3 saw an announcement from the Province that it would flow \$52.5 million from the federal Public Transit Capital Trust to the UBCM in 2006/07 to help local governments reduce traffic congestion in urban areas, reduce carbon dioxide and other emissions, and invest in public transit infrastructure.
- Addressing a concern raised in resolution B145 the Premier announced, in his 2007 Throne Speech, that "effective immediately, BC will become the first jurisdiction in North America, if not the world, to require 100% carbon sequestration for any coal-fired electricity project."
- Resolution B160 aimed for a smoke-free BC and saw the Province ban smoking in indoor public places and on school property by 2008.
- The federal government responded to a concern expressed in resolution B162 through its creation of a National Seniors Council, which will advise the government on seniors' issues of national importance and ensure that government policies, programs and services meet the evolving needs of seniors.
- Resolution LR4, which addressed the issue of "Pay Before You Pump Legislation" saw an announcement that "a mandatory pre-payment system at service stations

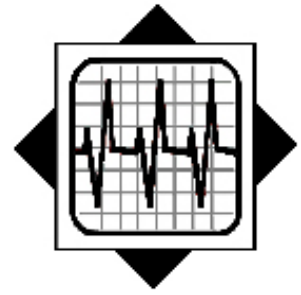
in urban areas will be implemented to help protect employees who work late at night."

These are some of last year's quick success stories. There are other resolutions from 2006 and years past that may not have achieved immediate results but have nevertheless resulted in local government issues being brought to the attention of the provincial and federal governments. Close to 100% of UBCM resolutions have received direct responses from provincial and federal ministries over the past several years – indicating that, if change is not always achieved, UBCM is at least making its collective voice heard and leaving an impression.

In 2007, members are once again proposing a broad variety of resolutions reflecting the local government situation and responding to provincial and federal initiatives and legislation. New this year is a category for Climate Change resolutions - highlighting the membership's increasing interest and concern around issues related to climate change. An emphasis on natural hazard prevention and mitigation is again evident this year, with a particular focus on flooding in light of the abnormally high spring run-off in 2007. Community safety and policing issues are once again of key interest to the membership; and transportation, the environment and economic development remain top priorities for local government.

And finally, a key change to the 2007 resolutions process should be noted. In response to a desire expressed by delegates to the 2005 Convention, the UBCM Executive put forth a special resolution in 2006 that now enables any UBCM delegate to move that a resolution be pulled from the BI or BIII block for debate, regardless of whether or not the delegate is from the sponsoring local government. It is hoped that this change will provide all delegates with an equal opportunity to address these resolutions on an individual basis where this is desired. This member-endorsed change is now reflected in point 27 of the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions, which precedes the resolutions portion of the Annual Report and Resolutions.

Building Healthy Communities



Over the past year, UBCM's Healthy Communities Committee has continued to focus on initiatives that will assist communities to be proactive in addressing community health priorities. While policy support work on traditional health issues continues, an increasing focus of the Committee's work has been on health promotion and disease prevention in our communities. On-going work on health policy includes new legislation such as the Tobacco Control regulations and the re-write of the Public Health Act, as well as health care funding, ensuring adequate treatment centres and equitable ambulance services throughout the province.

The increasing focus on health promotion and disease prevention is evident throughout the province as many new initiatives are created. The BC Healthy Living Alliance (BCHLA), of which UBCM continues to be a member, is working on three new initiatives focused on Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Tobacco Reduction. UBCM, in cooperation with the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA), has been selected to co-lead two projects within the broader scope of these initiatives. UBCM and BCRPA will co-lead the Healthy Eating: healthy food and beverage sales project as well as the Physical Activity: built environment and active transportation project. Both of these projects will include the administering of funds for community grants by UBCM.

Many local governments have begun to take advantage of funding available for community health promotion projects through the Community Health Promotion Fund (CHPF) and other funding programs currently available (such as LocalMotion). The CHPF funded 30 projects in the first call for funding and in 2006, 50 additional projects were funded in the second round, to be completed by

December 31, 2007.

Following review of the Select Standing Committee on Health Report: Combating Childhood Obesity Strategy, the Committee has begun to consider the importance of food security and food access as another critical component of Healthy Communities. To assist local governments in this area, UBCM has partnered with the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and BC Healthy Communities to create a resource for local governments on their role in securing food access and food security in their communities. In addition, UBCM is participating in the Community Food Action Initiative, also led by PHSA, as part of ActNowBC.

Throughout 2006 and 2007, UBCM has continued to consider on-going member concerns on the topic of local government relations with Regional Health Authorities. Local governments, Regional Health Authorities and Regional Hospital Districts were surveyed in 2006 for their levels of satisfaction with current initiatives, communication and consultation mechanisms. The results of this survey were presented to the membership at a session of the 2006 Convention. The membership referred a resolution to the Executive on the topic, requesting continued work to ensure that the current health authority model is serving the public's best interest. Work is on-going to undertake discussions with Regional Hospital Districts, the Health Authorities Leadership Council and the Minister to resolve concerns around consultation, communication and accountability.

Finally, this year also saw follow-up work on the Ambulance Service survey including communication of the survey results to the Minister of Health. Related concerns, including those that have arisen regarding First Responder services, will continue to be pursued by the Committee.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor Janis Dahlen, Chair
Director Rhona Martin, Vice Chair
Mayor Ella Brown
Mayor Sharon Hartwell
Chair Robert Hobson, VP Liaison

PRIORITY ISSUES

- Continue to implement the Community Health Promotion Fund
- Participate in the *Public Health Act* re-write
- Local Government's role in promoting Healthy Eating and Food Access
- Local Government relations with Health Authorities
- Ambulance Survey follow up



Local Government Program Services

...programs to address provincial-local government shared priorities

Administration provided
by UBCM

Funding provided by:
Province of B.C.



LGPS Secretariat

Municipal House
545 Superior Street
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Phone: 250.356.5134
Fax: 250.356.5119

Details of each program are
on the website:
www.civicnet.bc.ca
under
Programs & Services
Local Government Program Services

UBCM has been delivering a number of provincially funded programs since 2004. Building on the successes of previous years, we received an additional \$14.6 million in support of new or expanded community programming. These funds included:

- West Nile Virus Prevention: \$4 million
- Fuel Management Initiatives: \$10.1 million
- First Nations Emergency Planning: \$500,000

This is the third annual report to members on LGPS programs. Regular programming updates are also provided by way of the UBCM Newsletter. Included in this year's Financial Statements are audited accounts for funds received, amounts disbursed and fund balances. More detailed expenditures and our accounting policies are available on the Civicnet website. It is important to recognize that these funds are completely separate from UBCM regular accounts.

The following is not an exhaustive report, but more illustrative of the types of activities that have been undertaken by UBCM directly, or by members using the funding provided.

Community Structural Protection Units

Funded by Ministry of Community Services (then MCAWS) - \$1 million/2004
The three mobile structural protection units and inventory developed in 2004 continue to be made available for community protection in the case of a wildfire in the interface. Units are managed under Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Forests and Range and the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives:

Funded by Ministry of Forests and Range - \$21.4 million/multi-year

- *Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP)*

A CWPP is the first step for communities wishing to embark on wildfire prevention activities. Since program inception, 85 CWPP applications have been approved under the program, and cover municipalities, regional districts, and the multiple communities within them.

- *Fuel Management Pilot Projects*

Pilot projects provide an opportunity to assess potential fuel management methodologies and associated costs. They are also valuable tools for local governments wishing to demonstrate fuel management techniques for the community at large. To date, 23 pilot projects are completed or underway.

- *Operational Fuel Management*

Funding for larger scale operational fuel management has been made available for those who have completed a CWPP and pilot project. Additionally separate funding has been provided for those affected by Mountain Pine Beetle. 27 communities have projects completed or underway.

Emergency Planning

Funded by Provincial Emergency Program - \$2.5 million/multi-year

This program was designed to provide local governments with resources to support emergency planning activities, including plan upgrading, exercising and training. In 2006 a \$500,000 contribution from Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation facilitated First Nations participation in the program. Additionally, an Integrated Emergency Planning Grant Program in support of joint Local Government/First Nation emergency planning pilot projects was initiated in late 2006.

Seniors Housing and Support Services Initiative:

Funded by Ministry of Community Services (then MCAWS) - \$2 million/2004

Building on the success of the first round of pilot projects and two years of community dialogue events, the Seniors Housing and Support Initiative continued providing funds to local governments in the past year. To date, these funds have helped municipalities and regional districts to plan and implement 30 pilot projects (including 16 that are currently operating) and to host more than 35 dialogue events. In addition, in the past year, UBCM has undertaken substantial research into the role of local governments in supporting BC's aging population and released preliminary results on the Environmental Scan of Community Readiness for an Aging Population.

Community Tourism:

Funded by the Province of British Columbia - \$25 million/2005

This program was designed to enhance local tourism development and fill gaps in sectors not being marketed or that have yet to develop their potential. The first phase of the program wrapped up in March 2007 and \$12.5 million in tourism related projects are now underway or nearing completion. Phase 2 of the program was launched in June of 2007 and mirrors phase 1 program design.

Regional Traffic Safety Initiative:

Funded by Ministry of Community Services (then MCAWS) - \$100,000/2004

A series of pilot projects are being conducted around the province to explore innovative ways of encouraging traffic safety within communities. Successful pilots address such topics as seniors road safety, seatbelt and child restraint education programs, and other driver awareness initiatives.

West Nile Prevention Initiative:

Funded by Ministry of Health - \$13 million/multiyear

This program has been administered by UBCM since 2005 and was developed to provide financial assistance for the implementation of local mosquito control programs, with a goal of reducing mosquito populations and risk of occurrence of West Nile Virus. In 2007 we received 82 applications covering 157 local government and First Nation communities. Additionally, 23 applications were approved for treatment on crown lands.

School Community Connections:

Funded by Ministry of Education to the BC School Trustees Association - \$10 million/2005

Designed to encourage partnerships between local governments and boards of education, this program encourages better utilization of schools for locally determined community activities and services. This program is designed in three phases, Making the Connection; Developing the Connection; and Completing Connection. To date, 55 of the 60 boards of education have partnered with a local government and received Phase 1 funding. Of these 27 have progressed to Phase 2 and 7 board/local government partnerships have received Phase 3 funding. The deadline for applying for Phase 2 and 3 funding is December 2007 and UBCM expects a positive response and high level of completed connections.

Crystal Methamphetamine Response:

Funded by Ministry of Solicitor General - 2 million/2005

This program was designed to encourage community-based initiatives to discourage the use and/or production of crystal methamphetamines. Funding for this very successful project was fully expended and 111 local governments and 88 First Nations are in the process of wrapping up their projects and submitting final reporting. The May 31, 2006 deadline saw the program fully subscribed with applications representing 111 local government and 88 First Nations organizations. Successful applicants have one year from date of approval to complete activities funded under the program.

Community Health Promotion Fund

Funded by Ministry of Health - \$5 million/2005

This program was developed to facilitate a series of pilot projects addressing a wide variety of health promotion priorities. 30 pilot projects, all involving collaboration between local governments and other community partners are currently underway. Results of these pilots will help to shape future phases of the program as well as contribute to best practices and innovation. The Community Health Promotion fund is intended to help local governments play a role in addressing chronic disease prevention and health promotion. To do so, the program provides pilot project grants that assist municipalities and regional districts to work in partnership with First Nations, health authorities or other community partners to plan, implement and evaluate health-related projects. Currently, 50 pilot projects are operating across the province and an additional 30 projects have been completed.



In partnership with:



Secretariat

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Website:

www.civicnet.bc.ca
under
Programs & Services

Gas Tax/Public Transit Management Services Secretariat: Investing in Local Government Capacity and Infrastructure Activities

PRIORITIES:

- Roll-out of application based programs under Gas Tax Agreement
- Implementation of Public Transit Agreement and Public Transit Infrastructure Programs

Following on a successful first year of operations focused on implementing the Gas Tax Agreement's (GTA) Community Works Fund program, our focus over this past year shifted to program development and delivery of the GTA's application based programs, along with implementation activities related to two new transit programs.

Detailed program development on the application based programs resulted in an October, 2006 invitation to eligible local governments to submit applications under the General Strategic Priorities Fund and Innovations Fund, along with a further invitation specifically relating to capacity building projects in February, 2007. The application process resulted in 149 applications for GSPF and IF funding totaling over \$356 million (three times the available funding), and funding decisions on these programs are pending. Tier 2 local governments were also invited to submit Regionally Significant Project proposals for funding under the Strategic Priorities Fund, and to date, 18 projects totaling \$19.4 million have been approved for funding.

The Public Transit Agreement (PTA) provides federal funding for public transit infrastructure investments, with the majority of the funding allocated to existing public transit systems. During the year, UBCM delivered over \$42 million of the \$52.5 million provided under this Agreement. During the year, the provincial government developed a companion program, the Public Transit Infrastructure Program (PTIP), and asked UBCM to deliver the new program on its behalf. That program delivers \$52.5 million in provincial funding for public transit infrastructure. Funding was provided to UBCM in April, 2007 and while UBCM has not yet delivered the funding to individual transit systems, work is underway to identify eligible projects for funding, and we expect to be in a position to begin delivery of program funds shortly.

Total funding received from inception of the programs to June 30, 2007 is \$257.5 million (federal GTA funding: \$152.5; federal PTA funding: \$52.5; provincial PTIP funding: \$52.5), and we have delivered \$166.3 million of this to recipients. This represents delivery of 81% of the funding received if the recently received PTIP funding is excluded. Costs to administer the programs are recovered from interest earned on the funds received.

Further information, including UBCM and recipient financial information, program details, highlights of projects funded and progress towards expected outcomes are set out in the Gas Tax/Public Transit Annual Expenditure Report prepared by the Secretariat.