

**2006 UBCM RESOLUTIONS
EXCERPTED FROM:**

**MINUTES
of the
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD
ANNUAL CONVENTION
of the Union of BC Municipalities
held in
VICTORIA, B.C.
on
OCTOBER 24, 25, 26 & 27, 2006**

PRINCIPAL POLICY SESSIONS – RESOLUTIONS

The first Resolutions session began with Councillor Brenda Binnie, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Councillor Binnie was joined by the other members of the Resolutions Committee: Chair Robert Hobson, Mayor Herb Pond and Director Harry Nyce. They were assisted by Parliamentarian Ian Iazard, UBCM Executive Director, Richard Taylor and other UBCM staff.

Rules for dealing with resolutions adopted during the Annual Meeting were reviewed by the Chair.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

SR1 SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 1982 SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON HANDLING OF RESOLUTIONS UBCM Executive

WHEREAS according to the 1982 Special Resolution on Handling of Resolutions, a resolution can only be withdrawn from the B1 or B3 block for individual debate “at the initiation of the sponsor thereof”;

AND WHEREAS it has been suggested by some UBCM members that the power to withdraw a resolution from the Section B1 or B3 block for individual discussion should be extended to all voting delegates:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 1982 Special Resolution on Handling of Resolutions be amended so that the phrase “at the initiation of the sponsor thereof” is replaced with “at the initiation of a voting

delegate”, in order to extend the power to withdraw a resolution from the B1 or B3 block to all voting delegates in attendance during resolutions and policy sessions at the annual UBCM Convention;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such change take effect immediately at the 2006 UBCM Convention.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SECTION ‘A’ RESOLUTIONS

A1 LIABILITY LIMITATION PERIODS AND MANDATORY INSURANCE Langley City

WHEREAS joint and several liability can have a devastating financial impact on local governments;

AND WHEREAS local governments have no way of mitigating their chances of a joint and several liability occurrence happening:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to reduce the ultimate limitation period from 30 years to 10 years.

On motion, duly moved and seconded (on re-visitation of the resolution after consideration of resolution A9), the addition of a second recommended enactment clause requesting “that the provincial government require all participants in the building system to have insurance”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to reduce the ultimate limitation period from 30 years to 10 years;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial government require all participants in the building system to have insurance.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

A2 MANUFACTURED HOME PARK TENANCY ACT Coquitlam

WHEREAS manufactured home parks are a unique type of housing that provides an affordable option and lifestyle for people who may not wish to live in traditional multi-family housing;

AND WHEREAS the redevelopment of existing manufactured home parks is an aspect of urban growth and change, and manufactured home parks are under increasing pressure for redevelopment;

AND WHEREAS residents who are more vulnerable (e.g., seniors, those with health issues) and with low incomes may find displacement due to potential redevelopment of these areas to be a particular challenge:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to make changes to the *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act*, similar to those outlined in the City of Coquitlam’s Mobile Home Park Redevelopment Tenant Assistance Policy, to ensure that tenants being displaced due to redevelopment are assisted in the relocation process and fairly compensated for their displacement by the developer.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

Following consideration of resolution A2, Councillor Brenda Binnie introduced resolution A3 as the first “Gold Star” resolution of the Convention and recognized the following resolutions as “Gold Star” or “Honourable Mention” representatives of superior resolution drafting: Gold Star – A3, A9, B105, B122, B138; Honourable Mention – A6, B59, B64, B91, B98, B106.

A3 APPROVING OFFICER**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS the *Land Title Act* provides that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may authorize a regional district board to appoint a person as an approving officer for the rural area of the regional district;

AND WHEREAS requests for such authority have not been granted:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province to ensure that regional district boards and the Islands Trust are granted the authority to appoint a person as an approving officer for the rural area of the regional district when and if requested.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

A4 SECTION 53 OF BILL 30**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and the Union of BC Municipalities, by Memorandum of Understanding, are committed to:

- Fostering co-operative inter-governmental relations,
- Recognizing the jurisdiction and accountability of both orders of government,
- Facilitating the responsible development of clean, renewable energy sources to meet the energy needs of British Columbians,
- Providing efficient and effective Independent Power Project (IPP) review and approval processes for both orders of government;

AND WHEREAS amendments to the *Utilities Commission Act*, proposed by Bill 30, will have significant impacts for local governments throughout the province when the full scope and potential of IPPs are considered (e.g., wind, geothermal, coalbed methane and run of river projects) and will serve to:

- Eliminate local government involvement and engagement in IPP review and approval processes,
- Remove jurisdiction of local government over IPPs on Crown land,
- Remove local government from the responsible development of clean, renewable energy sources,
- Impair co-operative inter-governmental relations:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to repeal Section 53 of Bill 30 and return to working with the Union of BC Municipalities to complete the commitments of the Memorandum of Understanding on Independent Power Projects.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

A5 INDUSTRIAL TAXATION**Kitimat
Terrace**

WHEREAS the Competition Council has recommended that if municipalities do not reduce taxes on Major Industry then the provincial government should remove the authority of municipal governments to set the relative municipal tax burden amongst the various property assessment classes in their communities, with the intention of shifting the local property tax burden from owners of heavy industry onto owners of residential, small business, commercial and light industrial property;

AND WHEREAS the effect of such an initiative on the provision of critical local government services will be negative and large, particularly in resource communities which contribute disproportionately to the wealth of the province;

AND WHEREAS such a tax shift will contribute to the infrastructure funding crisis facing municipalities, which is particularly acute in areas across Canada where such initiatives have taken place;

AND WHEREAS the authority of municipal councils across BC to set the relative municipal tax burden amongst the various assessment classes is a unique and highly successful feature of community governance and local autonomy in BC;

AND WHEREAS municipal councils in BC are better able to appreciate the complex issues unique to each community surrounding the balance amongst local industrial, commercial, light industrial and housing market competitiveness and its relationship to municipal property taxation;

AND WHEREAS municipal taxes are a very small cost component of industrial production and the assertion that business competitiveness or the rate of investment is related in any significant way to municipal property taxes is empirically unproven and highly suspect;

AND WHEREAS local property taxation is the only public policy vehicle for communities to capture a portion of the industrial wealth created in their communities;

AND WHEREAS the vast majority of taxes are appropriated by the two senior levels of government and leave the communities in which they are created:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities strongly endorse the current authority of municipal governments to set the relative municipal property tax burden amongst the assessment classes within their respective communities and oppose initiatives to remove this important feature of municipal governance in British Columbia.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

A6 COMMUNITY METHAMPHETAMINE RESPONSE FUNDING PROGRAM Columbia Shuswap RD

WHEREAS many community groups have already taken advantage of the opportunity to address Crystal Meth in their communities by accessing funding through the very successful Community Methamphetamine Response Funding Program, initiated by the Premier of British Columbia and provided through the Union of BC Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS there are still many community groups that have not had the opportunity to access funding in this program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the deadline for the Community Methamphetamine Response Funding Program be extended for a further period of time and augmented with additional funding from the Province in order to afford other groups the opportunity to address Crystal Meth in their communities by accessing funding through this Program.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

A7 REVISION TO SEAT BELT FINE LEVIES Fort St. John

WHEREAS seat belts have been proven to save the lives of the people who use them;

AND WHEREAS the percentage of seat belt usage is lower in Northern British Columbia than in the rest of the province and infractions result in a fine being levied:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to ask that points be registered against the driver's license as well as the fine for seat belt infractions to encourage increased seat belt usage.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

A8 LITTER-FREE BC UBCM Executive

WHEREAS the provincial government has funded province-wide public anti-littering campaigns such as "Pitch-In" and the adopt-a-road program;

AND WHEREAS while a deposit refund system for producers is in place, more could be done to unite and educate the public in BC, particularly children and youth, in efforts to reduce litter in public spaces and all environments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government develop and fund an expanded province-wide public anti-littering campaign, in cooperation with industry, non-profit organizations, schools and local governments, that complements other current initiatives designed to reduce waste.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

A9 CIVIC ELECTION TERM LENGTH IN BC

Port Moody

WHEREAS many provinces, including Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and New Brunswick, have four-year civic election terms, a term length which reflects the accepted period between elections in the provincial and federal contexts;

AND WHEREAS four-year election terms would likely be more productive for councils and staff and would save taxpayers money:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities ask the provincial government to increase the interval between civic elections from three years to four years.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

SECTION "B" – PART I RESOLUTIONS

SECTION B – PART I RESOLUTIONS

Chair Robert Hobson assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section B resolutions.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were: Councillor Brenda Binnie, Mayor Herb Pond and Director Harry Nyce.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolutions B2, B3, B4, B5, B16, B25, B33, B35, B39 and B46 be removed from the Section B – Part I block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B55 be removed from the Section B – Part I block for individual consideration, was not endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the Section B – Part I resolutions be adopted, was endorsed as amended.

The resolutions were endorsed as follows:

B1 AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH SPRINKLER BYLAWS

Abbotsford

WHEREAS the *Community Charter* states that the provincial government recognizes that local governments require adequate powers and discretion to address existing and future community needs;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government, withheld approval of a local government Fire Services Bylaw due to sprinkler requirements that exceeded the minimum provisions set forth in the *British Columbia Building Code*:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government grant authority to local governments to establish sprinkler bylaws to increase life safety to occupants and to minimize property damage caused by fire.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B6 ELECTRONIC AND SECOND-HAND PROPERTY
REPORTING LEGISLATION**

LMLGA Executive

WHEREAS the significant problem of property crimes negatively impacts the citizens of British Columbia, costs the economy millions of dollars annually and causes police to expend tremendous resources investigating property crimes and the closely linked illegal drug trade;

AND WHEREAS the electronic reporting technology exists to facilitate the reporting of second-hand property to police, is in use in several jurisdictions across Canada, and has a positive impact on the problem by assisting police with the identification of active criminals and the return of stolen property to victims:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to enact legislation making it mandatory for businesses to report second-hand property transactions to police using a compatible electronic reporting system.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B7 SUPPORTIVE RECOVERY HOUSES

Abbotsford

WHEREAS supportive recovery residences provide accommodation for persons recovering from drug or alcohol addictions and the unregulated operation of these residences is a serious matter of public safety;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government, which is responsible for public safety, abdicated its responsibility to regulate supportive recovery residences by exempting those that provide two or less prescribed services from the requirement to obtain a community care facility licence under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to regulate and license supportive recovery residences in the interest of providing better access to treatment for individuals seeking assistance for substance misuse.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B8 REGIONAL DETOX FACILITIES

Quesnel

WHEREAS community detoxification facilities available at northern interior hospitals are inadequate for community needs and RCMP staff are not suited as a resource to address the needs of substance addicted persons;

AND WHEREAS the City of Quesnel has specifically doubled the RCMP drug enforcement section in its efforts to combat drug addiction problems associated with drug trafficking, which should decrease the availability of drugs in the area:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province and the regional health authorities provide province-wide detox facilities that guarantee a minimum number of beds available for the treatment of substance addicted persons who can be treated and adequately cared for in their communities.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B9 VICTIM SERVICES FUNDING

Burns Lake

WHEREAS the police- and community-based Victim Services programs in operation throughout British Columbia provide invaluable assistance to victims of crime, and thus promote effective operation of the provincial justice system;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General's contribution to these programs was reduced in 2002 and has not increased since 2003, thus making it increasingly difficult for communities to offer these services:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities seek a commitment from the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to conduct a thorough review of the formula utilized to determine provincial contributions to police- and community-based Victim Services programs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, until the above-noted review is completed, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General return funding for police- and community-based Victim Services programs to 2002 levels.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B10 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Cranbrook

WHEREAS Canada's court system is experiencing exceptional demands, including the expectation to address numerous young first time offenders;

AND WHEREAS a restorative justice program can successfully and cost effectively divert young offenders from the courts through community justice forums:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM appeal to the appropriate federal and provincial ministers to provide sufficient, continuous funding to enable the establishment of restorative justice programs, where desired, by local governments throughout the province.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B11 POLICING – TRAINING TO MEET DEMAND

Enderby

WHEREAS there is a high number of RCMP member positions within the province that are vacant;

AND WHEREAS the number of recruits being trained and graduating from the RCMP training facility is significantly lower than the number of vacant positions:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a training centre be established in British Columbia to increase the capacity of the RCMP to train recruits to meet demand.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B12 POLICING – BACKFILLING OF POSITIONS IN RURAL DETACHMENTS

Enderby

WHEREAS the RCMP has the ability to backfill member positions vacated due to long-term leave (medical / maternity / paternity) in municipal detachments;

AND WHEREAS there is no provision to backfill member positions vacated due to long-term leave in rural detachments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the RCMP be provided the ability to backfill member positions vacated due to long-term leave in rural detachments.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B13 NON-RETURNABLE WARRANTS

Vancouver

WHEREAS the courts and the Crown, when issuing or requesting a warrant for the arrest of an offender, often impose a geographical limitation on the warrant where the practical effect of this geographical limitation encourages the offender to flee the jurisdiction in which the warrant is valid;

AND WHEREAS these types of outstanding warrants, which are generally referred to by the police community as “non-returnable warrants”, are left un-enforced by police officers who contact these offenders in jurisdictions beyond the radius of the warrant;

AND WHEREAS a 2005 study conducted by the Vancouver Police Department found that 84% of these offenders had more than one prior criminal conviction, while at least 55% of these offenders had 11 or more prior criminal convictions, and that permitting violent and/or chronic offenders to avoid prosecution through inter-provincial flight endangers the safety of Canadians and brings the administration of justice into disrepute:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities call upon the appropriate provincial minister(s), the Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Public Safety to:

- take affirmative action to prevent the threat to public safety and the erosion of public confidence in the criminal justice system caused by the proliferation of “non-returnable” warrants; and
- assist in developing and funding an operationally practical and cost effective, national transportation system that will ensure that those individuals who are arrested on inter-provincial warrants are brought before the justice system.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to FCM

B14 ENABLING MUNICIPALITIES TO CREATE BLANKET SPEED ZONES Vancouver

WHEREAS the speed limit in cities and municipalities in BC is “50 km/h unless otherwise posted”, with no differentiation between major roads and local streets;

AND WHEREAS lower speeds can decrease the severity and incidence of car crashes, benefit livability and safety of neighbourhoods, improve drivers’ respect for neighbourhoods, and improve cyclist and pedestrian safety;

AND WHEREAS in 1999 the Union of BC Municipalities passed a resolution supporting blanket speed zones in residential areas, however, removing the words “in residential areas” from the original resolution would simplify the process of amending the *Motor Vehicle Act*:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Minister of Transportation and Highways consider an amendment to the *Motor Vehicle Act* that would allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B15 RECOVERY OF HIT AND RUN COLLISION COSTS BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES Burnaby

WHEREAS it is desirable for motorists to bear the full cost of travel, including the cost of damage to private and public property caused by collisions through insurance premiums;

AND WHEREAS the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) is required by law to compensate private property owners for hit and run damage to private property, but not local governments for hit and run damage to public infrastructure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the regulations to the *Insurance (Motor Vehicle) Act*, and specifically s.107 of B.C. Regulation 447/83, be amended so that hit and run damage costs incurred by local governments are recoverable from ICBC.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B17 FUNDING FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS Alberni-Clayoquot RD

WHEREAS Search and Rescue organizations provide an essential service to British Columbia’s visitors and residents;

AND WHEREAS the funding for Search and Rescue organizations is a mix of private fundraising events, local government grants and other grants:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to provide adequate, predictable funding for Search and Rescue organizations.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B18 FUNDING FOR DYKING AND FLOOD PROTECTION MEASURES Kamloops

WHEREAS the majority of communities within the Province of British Columbia are situated in proximity to rivers, streams and waterbodies, many within floodplains and upon estuaries;

AND WHEREAS there have been insufficient funds available to these communities to maintain and improve dykes and flood prevention measures, the consequences of which have been highlighted with the recent catastrophic events in the City of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast where hundreds of lives have been lost and billions of dollars in property damage incurred:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial and federal governments develop a comprehensive and sustainable program for funding dykes and flood protection measures for communities in British Columbia.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B19 FRASER RIVER FLOOD CONTROL GRAVEL AND SEDIMENT REMOVAL Kent

WHEREAS the Fraser Basin Council Multi-stakeholder Proactive Strategy recommends that the existing flood profile, prior to 1997, be maintained by targeted removal of gravel and sediment accumulations;

AND WHEREAS each year of failure to achieve targeted gravel or sediment removals raises the Fraser and Harrison River bottom elevations and diminishes the level of flood protection:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial Ministry of Environment and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans be requested to allow substantial gravel and sediment removal from two areas:

- 1) the junction of the Harrison and Fraser River; and
- 2) adjacent to the outflow from the Hammersley Pumping Station.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B20 TRANSIT SERVICE COST SHARING Penticton

WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Penticton wishes to provide extended transit service within the City of Penticton;

AND WHEREAS population growth is creating increased demands for additional routes and increased hours of transit service:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province and BC Transit no longer require municipalities to pay 100% of service expansions but continue to use a cost sharing arrangement as currently used in existing agreements.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B21 PROVINCIAL SALES TAX REVIEW Port Moody

WHEREAS the provincial Ministry of Small Business and Revenue is currently undergoing a Provincial Sales Tax (PST) review and is requesting input, and the PST is a tax on a tax that ultimately results in local government property tax increases;

AND WHEREAS local governments are facing rising infrastructure needs but have few revenue opportunities other than property taxes, and the federal government, in recognition of the infrastructure funding challenges faced by Canadian local governments, recently provided local governments with a 100% Goods and Services Tax rebate:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities enter into dialogue with the Province of BC to seek a 100% local government Provincial Sales Tax exemption or rebate.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such exemption or rebate should not result in any reduction of grants in lieu or any other monies presently directed from the provincial government to local governments, nor should this be seen as an opportunity to download additional responsibilities to local governments without providing sufficient funding to compensate for such additional responsibilities.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B22 INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR UNPAID VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS Bulkley-Nechako RD

WHEREAS unpaid volunteer fire fighters and first responders are essential for providing adequate emergency services in small and rural communities, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find individuals to volunteer their time;

AND WHEREAS unpaid volunteer fire fighters and first responders are not paid for training and providing emergency services, which results in a significant cost savings for the government:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial and federal governments to amend the *Income Tax Act* to provide unpaid volunteer fire fighters and first responders with a tax exemption;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for every 50 hours of unpaid volunteer service for practices, training and callouts, volunteer fire fighters and first responders be granted a \$500 tax exemption to a maximum of \$5,000 on their income tax in recognition of the service they provide.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B23 FUNDING ATTAINABLE HOUSING IN THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA Tofino

WHEREAS in many British Columbia communities there are many residents and low income workers who cannot obtain affordable housing for their families, and communities need additional resources to assist in addressing the situation;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Treasury is the principal beneficiary of the British Columbia Property Transfer Tax, which is derived from the sale of lands within the community:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Finance be requested to make a portion of the British Columbia Property Transfer Tax available to the communities in which it is raised for the purpose of providing funding for attainable housing for working people in the Province of British Columbia.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B24 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY FIRE SERVICES Dawson Creek

WHEREAS municipalities have faced rising fire suppression costs due to increased duties and demand and cannot, in all conscience, cut back on fire protection services;

AND WHEREAS in 2003/2004, the Province of British Columbia collected \$300 million in fire insurance tax premiums, of which the Fire Commissioner's office received only \$2.3 million in 2004:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that local governments work together to convince the provincial government to redirect insurance premium tax revenue towards community fire services.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B26 FUTURE ELECTRICAL GENERATION IN BC

Abbotsford

WHEREAS air emissions from coal-fired generation negatively affect human health, wildlife and airshed visibility, and contain significant amounts of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change;

AND WHEREAS BC Hydro's Integrated Electricity Plan, which allows coal-fired generation in BC, is indirect conflict with the Province of BC's Climate Change Plan that seeks to maintain and improve BC's third place ranking for per capita greenhouse gas emissions, and is also in direct conflict with BC Hydro's own long-term goal of having no net incremental environmental impact:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province give clear direction to BC Hydro to consider the full costs of all environmental impacts from coal-fired generation and other types of generation when determining the least cost options;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province give equally clear direction to BC Hydro to more aggressively pursue improvements in energy efficiency and low-impact renewable energy sources, such as wind, tidal or run-of-river power.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B27 VEHICLE FUELS TO CONTAIN CELLULOSE ETHANOL

Grand Forks

WHEREAS motor vehicles produce more than 30 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions and research in Canada has indicated that the addition of cellulose ethanol to vehicle fuel reduces emissions substantially and a blend of 10 percent cellulose ethanol in vehicle fuel reduces greenhouse gas close to 10 grams of carbon dioxide for every kilometer driven;

AND WHEREAS cellulose ethanol is a renewable resource produced from corn or sugar cane and is economical and user friendly to all vehicles:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government petition the federal government to legislate that all vehicle fuels contain a correct percentage of cellulose ethanol by 2010 to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B28 ENVIRO LEVY

Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia implemented an Enviro Levy on the purchase of new tires and lead acid batteries in the mid 1990s to assist local governments in the cost of recycling and transportation;

AND WHEREAS upon implementation of the Enviro Levy, the Province's commitment was to redirect all taxes collected back to local governments in order to assist in recycling and transportation costs;

AND WHEREAS consumers are currently paying \$3 per tire and \$5 per lead acid battery as well as an additional cost for disposal of used lead acid batteries and tires:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure that 100% of the Enviro Levy be directed back to local governments, as per the Province's original commitment, to assist in recycling and transportation costs.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B29 EXCESSIVE PACKAGING

Vancouver

WHEREAS there is excessive and wasteful packaging that ends up in the garbage;

AND WHEREAS the producers rather than the taxpayers should fund the recycling of this packaging:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial and federal governments mandate reduction of excessive packaging through product stewardship recycling programs, including materials such as plastic shopping bags, disposable cups and dishes, styrofoam packing, bubble wrap packing and plastic film packaging.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B30 MILK CONTAINERS

Greater Vancouver RD

WHEREAS beverage containers for milk, milk substitutes and meal replacements are not included in the deposit-refund beverage container stewardship program, require extensive space in municipal blue boxes and collection vehicles, and contribute to garbage and litter throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the deposit-refund beverage container stewardship program is the most effective and environmentally responsible way to divert these containers from disposal:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government designate milk, milk substitute and meal replacement beverage containers in the beverage container product category in the Recycling Regulation.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B31 DEFINITION AND MAINTENANCE OF DRAINAGE DITCHES

Kent

WHEREAS the Department of Fisheries and Oceans directives view all agricultural drainages as potential fish habitat;

AND WHEREAS maintenance of agricultural drainage ditches according to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans standards impairs the drainage function of the ditches:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans be requested to identify the difference between natural streams and engineered ditches designed to drain agricultural land and allow unrestricted maintenance of drainage ditches.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B32 EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL CONTROL PROGRAM FUNDING

Columbia Shuswap RD

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment carries responsibility for the overall water quality of lake systems in the province and originally recognized the negative impacts of invasive aquatic species within its lakes by funding milfoil control programs;

AND WHEREAS local governments have, since 1999, been required to assume these programs and fund same with taxes collected from local property owners without contribution from the Province;

AND WHEREAS the Province assumes a far greater benefit from enhancements to the lake recreation tourism industry than do local property owners:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to reinstate funding support for active milfoil control programs.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B34 BOARDS OF VARIANCE

West Vancouver

WHEREAS in the context of Board of Variance decisions rendered seemingly unassailable by the applicable legislation and case law, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) passed Resolution A14 at its 1996 Annual General Meeting and Resolution C9 at its 1998 Annual General Meeting, requesting that the

Province of British Columbia amend the legislation to permit a council or citizen to appeal the substantive merits of a decision of a Board of Variance;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has committed that this land use issue should be considered in the context of the proposal of the Minister to work with the UBCM on the development of a multi-year plan for the establishment of a new legislative foundation for local government:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* provisions regarding Boards of Variance, to circumscribe the scope of powers of Boards of Variance, and to provide for an adequate course of appeal for both citizens and local government councils.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B36 REINSTATEMENT OF DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM Valemount

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia once administered a “Downtown Revitalization Program”, which generated tremendous benefits and returns to those communities who participated in the program;

AND WHEREAS direct benefits were also returned to the Province through increased commerce, tourism and income tax revenues:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the Province of British Columbia be requested to reinstate the “Downtown Revitalization Program” and to provide adequate financial resources to provide substance to this extremely valuable provincial program.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B37 FUNDING FOR VISITOR CENTRES AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the Province has committed to developing tourism as an essential part of a sustainable, vibrant economy for British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS visitor centres are a vital part of attracting visitors to our small rural communities, helping them provide economic opportunity and diversity:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to restore funding, directly to local communities, for the development and operation of effective and productive visitor centres.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B38 MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the Province has a long-standing history of mining, exploration and development;

AND WHEREAS past activities have impacted on the local environment and the lives of residents:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to enhance the public consultation process and ensure that the local government having jurisdiction is informed of mineral exploration and development initiatives that may impact its residents.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B40 LAND SURFACE OFFICE TO ASSIST LANDOWNERS WITH TENURES Hudson’s Hope

WHEREAS resource activity such as mining, petroleum extraction, and wind harvesting are increasing;

AND WHEREAS landowners and other tenure holders require information and assistance to deal with this additional activity within their tenure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a land surface office, independent of the resource-related ministries, be established by the Province to assist surface tenure holders to obtain information and understand the processes involved.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B41 PINE BEETLE INFESTATIONS

Peace River RD

WHEREAS the Mountain Pine Beetle is an ecological and economic disaster for British Columbia and Canada:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial and federal government to employ all possible financial and other resources within their means to alleviate both the Mountain and Western Pine Beetles before they spread further to the rest of Canada.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B42 PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF FOREST ASSETS AND INDUSTRY

Williams Lake

WHEREAS BC local wood manufacturers have been hurt by the softwood lumber dispute and there is a strong concern with the survival of our local forest industry;

AND WHEREAS it is critical that the provincial government consider pro-active ways to help the industry, and especially local manufacturers to survive, for the sake of local economy, which in turn is the sake of the whole province:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government work with local governments to develop proactive measures to assist the forest industry, including local manufacturers, to enhance local economic development opportunities for the benefit of communities and the province as a whole.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B43 FIBRE REALLOCATION TO SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR

Quesnel

WHEREAS value-added mills can no longer get direct awards of timber from BC Timber Sales to supply their operations with fibre and have been in a steep decline over the past five years, in spite of the fact that such operations employ more people per cubic metre of wood than the new mega-mills;

AND WHEREAS the *Forest Act* changes have led to significant corporate concentration, which further limits opportunities for value-added operators to access timber that is being left in the bush or burned:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government reinstate the following timber programs:

- small business;
 - small-scale salvage;
 - agricultural sector woodlots; and
 - direct award system to value-added mills,
- to better utilize the available and salvageable fibre.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B44 WOOD OPTION POLICY IN ALL FUTURE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION RFPs

Revelstoke

WHEREAS the forest industry is the main economic engine of the Province of BC;

AND WHEREAS building with wood is good for our economy, helping to expand all sectors of the forest industry, maintaining jobs and creating new business opportunities, is an environmentally friendly building material, and has a proven track record as being cost-competitive with other building materials:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that UBCM members consider a policy of requesting a wood option in all future building construction Request for Proposals and that, if the wood option successfully meets all the municipality's or regional district's project criteria, it be given every consideration.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B45 REALLOCATION OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Quesnel

WHEREAS the Province has budgeted an additional \$90 million over three years to address the increased log hauling impact on Ministry of Transportation roads in resource areas;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Forests has budgeted an additional \$20.7 million over two years to address this impact on forest service roads:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government provide local government with significant additional financial resources to address the impact of this increased log and finished wood products' hauling on municipal road infrastructure.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B47 REGIONAL DISTRICT CHARTER

Peace River RD

WHEREAS the 2003 *Community Charter* was intended to be followed up with a Charter for regional districts;

AND WHEREAS regional districts now get their authority from the *Local Government Act* and portions of the *Community Charter*, which creates confusion:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government to clarify the manner in which regional districts are governed, with the intent of correcting the existing inequities between incorporated and unincorporated areas of the province, resulting in equality for all residents of British Columbia.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B48 BC AMBULANCE SERVICE ATTENDANT STANDBY PAY

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the BC Ambulance Service lists its mission as providing "high quality emergency medical services" and lists its goal as "providing high quality patient care";

AND WHEREAS many small communities in British Columbia are considered "remote" and therefore standby ambulance attendants receive only \$2.00 per hour as opposed to "rural" community ambulance attendants receiving \$10.00 per hour:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that there be no distinction in the pay category of standby ambulance attendants in rural and remote communities, and that all areas of BC be entitled to equal service.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B49 WEST NILE VIRUS

Coquitlam

WHEREAS local governments in British Columbia are contending with the increasing threat of the West Nile Virus, which can lead to serious health effects, including prolonged health problems and which, in severe cases, can be fatal;

AND WHEREAS the City of Coquitlam appreciates the importance of implementing a coordinated approach to local prevention and response measures, including health education, in the defence against West Nile Virus;

AND WHEREAS Health Authorities have the expertise to deal with health issues;

AND WHEREAS the health of British Columbians is the responsibility of the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada and should remain so;

AND WHEREAS funding grants available to local governments are not sufficient or guaranteed for the long term, to cover the costs needed to meet provincial expectations with respect to West Nile Virus preparedness;

AND WHEREAS local governments should recover 100% of their costs associated with health activities directed by a public health authority:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities encourage the provincial and federal governments to accept full responsibility, including funding, for all activities related to implementing local prevention and response measures, including public education, in the defence against West Nile Virus.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B50 FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES Bulkley-Nechako RD

WHEREAS provincial government funding is necessary to support local community mental health and addiction services;

AND WHEREAS out-of-town professional services traveling to the community to provide mental health service are appreciated, but not cost effective or dependable;

AND WHEREAS rural and remote communities are under-serviced and existing services are being fully utilized;

AND WHEREAS mental health care is an integral part of health care, as well as a preventative health service:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the provincial government to fund existing mental health and addiction services through the current service providers, together with any other mental health and addiction services that would enhance services throughout the province;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there be community involvement in decisions surrounding changes in service delivery of local mental health and addiction services.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B51 PROVINCIAL MENTAL HEALTH PLAN AND ADDICTIONS TREATMENT Vancouver

WHEREAS problematic drug use is a persistent and serious issue that local governments across British Columbia must continue to address;

AND WHEREAS responsibility for the implementation of mental health and addiction services lies with regional health authorities;

AND WHEREAS provincial mental health and addictions policy advocates partnerships with local governments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial government, through the Ministry of Health, articulate a provincial Mental Health Plan and an Addictions Treatment Plan that addresses regional needs, outlines best practice in treatment interventions, addresses the need for expanded treatment capacity, particularly in the area of youth treatment and acknowledges local governments as key partners in the development and implementation of the treatment plan.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B52 PROVINCE TO REQUIRE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENTS
TO POST FASD WARNINGS****Sparwood**

WHEREAS fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) has proven to cost British Columbia taxpayers in special education services and social services;

AND WHEREAS some local governments have taken a leadership role in requiring licensed establishments to post warning signs in their place of business as to fetal alcohol spectrum disorder:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to pass provincial laws requiring all licensed establishments and retail liquor outlets to post warning signs in their place of business, warning women of the dangers of consuming alcohol during pregnancy.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B53 WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRES**Quesnel**

WHEREAS British Columbia has the highest child poverty rate in Canada;

AND WHEREAS it is documented that northern rural communities experience a higher degree of violence and abuse;

AND WHEREAS women's centers not only provide services to women and children, but they also advocate on behalf of their needs and rights:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to restore operational core funding levels to all Women's Resource Centres in the Province of BC.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B54 HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESS**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

WHEREAS the Premier has made a commitment to strengthen the economy and connect rural BC;

AND WHEREAS many rural communities do not meet the criteria set by Network BC, and the program has been vastly over subscribed:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to engage the federal government, local government and industry in order to ensure that rural BC is connected with broadband internet service.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B55 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**Trail**

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education in its 2005/06 fiscal year began the implementation of its strategic plan for public libraries "Libraries without Walls", by providing new direct and indirect funding programs exceeding \$6 million to the benefit of BC's public libraries;

AND WHEREAS these new funds have increased the benefits derived from local public library expenditures and enhanced library collaboration province-wide:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities thank the Minister of Education for the significant increase in financial support for BC's public libraries and encourage the Minister to enhance this support in future years.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B56 LIBRARY FUNDING**Saanich**

WHEREAS provincial funding for libraries has not risen sufficiently to keep abreast of increases in costs due to general inflation in British Columbia for a period of at least 10 years;

AND WHEREAS this has resulted in decreased provincial funding for libraries in real dollars and increased costs for municipalities and regional districts;

AND WHEREAS libraries play an important role in establishing social equity and providing equal opportunities for children from diverse backgrounds and economic strata:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the Province of British Columbia be asked to provide increased funding for libraries at least equal to the increase in general inflation in British Columbia over the last 10 years.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B57 CANADA POST – PLANT AND POST OFFICE CLOSURES**Thompson-Nicola RD**

WHEREAS the Canada Postal network connects communities, particularly small rural communities, and plays a key role in the social and economic life of these communities by providing jobs and infrastructure that allows communities to thrive and businesses to grow;

AND WHEREAS the Canada Postal infrastructure is critical to the healthy well being of communities and thus of Canada itself:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities petition the federal government, requiring Canada Post to consult with local governments and the communities they represent when considering the closure of mail processing plants and community Canada Post facilities and take steps to maintain, expand and improve the public postal network.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to FCM

The Chair then introduced the following Section B – Part I resolutions for individual debate: B2, B3, B4, B5, B16, B25, B33, B35, B39 and B46.

B2 SKATEBOARD HELMET LEGISLATION**Penticton**

WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Penticton wishes to ensure skateboard users minimize the risk of head injury;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Penticton wishes to reduce exposure and liability for head injuries that may occur on city lands:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request the implementation of provincial legislation making helmet use mandatory when operating or riding a skateboard.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words “or rollerblades” be added to the end of the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request the implementation of provincial legislation making helmet use mandatory when operating or riding a skateboard or rollerblades.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B3 STIFFER PENALTIES FOR DRUG RELATED OFFENCES Langford

WHEREAS the increasing use of dangerous drugs such as “Crystal Meth” is causing much harm to our community, and the consequential penalties are proving insufficient to stem the increase;

AND WHEREAS the stiffer penalties awarded in Alberta appear to be having the required effect:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the judiciary in British Columbia be asked to impose stiffer penalties on those convicted of serious drug related offences, with particular attention to those involved in the trafficking of drugs and the violent collateral offences related to drug use.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B4 FEDERAL ASSISTANCE IN FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING Port Moody

WHEREAS many British Columbian communities are struggling with the enforcement of, and resources needed to combat the drug trafficking trade;

AND WHEREAS the drug trafficking trade affects families, homes, neighbourhoods, schools and communities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM urge the federal government to assist BC local governments and homeowners in the fight against the criminal activity associated with marijuana and crystal methamphetamine operations.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B5 REGULATION OF HYDROPONIC AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA BUSINESSES LMLGA Executive

WHEREAS there is increasing concern over public health and safety and increased related local government costs as a result of the expansion of marijuana grow operations and methamphetamine laboratories into residential neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS there is an increase in the sale of special equipment and supplies used to grow marijuana indoors and produce methamphetamines and an increase in the number of hydroponic and drug paraphernalia stores in the province:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend Section 59 of the *Community Charter* to give local governments the clear authority to impose requirements on hydroponics and drug paraphernalia businesses to the same extent that they can impose requirements on second-hand businesses.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “clear” be removed from the enactment request and that the phrase following “impose requirements on” be replaced with “businesses that sell goods in the community which may endanger health or public safety”, was endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “give local governments the authority” in the amended enactment clause be replaced with the phrase “more clearly articulate local government’s authority”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend Section 59 of the *Community Charter* to more clearly articulate local government’s authority to impose requirements on businesses that sell goods in the community which may endanger health or public safety.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B16 DOUBLE THE FINE IN SCHOOL AND PLAYGROUND ZONES**Burnaby**

WHEREAS the provincial government is responsible for the *Motor Vehicle Act* and its regulations, including the establishment of school and playground zones with reduced speed limits to enhance the safety of children in the vicinity;

AND WHEREAS measurements of speeds at schools and playgrounds confirm a significant level of noncompliance with speed limits and anecdotal evidence suggests a flagrant and hazardous disregard of crosswalks and other regulatory measures within school zones in particular:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the fines for *Motor Vehicle Act* infractions including speeding in school and playground zones, whether marked by reduced speed limit signage or not, be doubled.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “whether marked by reduced speed limit signage or not” be removed from the enactment request, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the fines for *Motor Vehicle Act* infractions including speeding in school and playground zones be doubled.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

**B25 CROSS-BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS
(AIR QUALITY AGREEMENT)****Abbotsford**

WHEREAS the federal governments of Canada and the United States have entered into an Air Quality Agreement to address air pollution that flows across the Canada-USA international boundary, committing both countries to consult on any activities that might cause significant trans-boundary air pollution and to take steps to avoid or mitigate these risks;

AND WHEREAS the United States has implemented its part of Annex 1, Part 4 of the Agreement and Canada has not completed implementation of the Agreement:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the federal Government of Canada to implement its responsibilities under the terms of the Canada-USA Air Quality Agreement in order to ensure that the interests of Canada’s residents and communities are defined and presented as part of any future trans-boundary air quality decision making process.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the term “Canada-USA Air Quality Agreement” in the enactment be replaced with the term “Clean Air Accord” and that the resolution be broadened to request provincial government action in addition to federal government action on this matter by adding the following phrase to the enactment “and encourage the Provincial Government of BC to endorse and move forward with the ozone and particulate matter annex of the Clean Air Accord between BC and Washington State and participate in its implementation”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Federal Government of Canada to implement its responsibilities under the Clean Air Accord and encourage the Provincial Government of BC to endorse and move forward with the ozone and particulate matter annex of the Clean

Air Accord between BC and Washington State and participate in its implementation, in order to ensure that the interests of Canada’s residents and communities are defined and presented as part of any future trans-boundary air quality decision making process.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B33 BC LAND TITLE AND SURVEY AUTHORITY**Trail**

WHEREAS the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC has the authority to adjust the natural boundary of water courses in the province, which have been established by legal survey plan;

AND WHEREAS the interests of local governments may be impacted by changes in the natural boundary of a water course within their jurisdiction; however they are not automatically notified when an application for a natural boundary adjustment has been submitted to the Authority:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC establish a process to refer any application for a natural boundary adjustment to the local government within whose jurisdiction the property lies for comment, and that local government comments be considered by the Surveyor General's office when adjudicating the application.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B35 LOCAL AUTHORITY**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS a conflict of values may occur between provincial and local authority regarding land uses and resource management;

AND WHEREAS such conflict limits local governments' ability to represent the best interest of their constituents:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that local governments be assured of their authority to regulate in accordance with established bylaws without challenge from the provincial government.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be endorsed in its original form rather than with the amendment recommended by the Resolutions Committee, was endorsed.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B39 PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED GRAVEL PITS**Salmon Arm**

WHEREAS the gravel operation permit process employed by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources does not engage adequate local input or consider local concerns:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources be requested to review its notification process, including signage and notification to neighbouring properties, the amounts requested for reclamation bonds from applicants, and the consideration of off-site infrastructure and social impacts.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the original resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, was endorsed.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B46 RESOURCE BASED COMMUNITIES IN CRISIS**Port Alice**

WHEREAS recent changes to policy, legislation and regulations have encouraged companies to disinvest from British Columbia; to export raw logs rather than process them domestically; to demand tax concessions from municipalities and wage and benefit concessions from their employees;

AND WHEREAS as a result of these policies and developments many communities are now suffering the effects of insufficient investment; mill and plant closures; declining or stagnating employment; lost opportunities and lost revenues, while in others the short-term burst of output due to processing of beetle-wood will soon be followed by a prolonged fall down in harvesting levels;

AND WHEREAS in spite of the huge stake that British Columbians and all Canadians have in a just and fair settlement of the softwood lumber dispute with the US and in long-term trade in lumber and other resource-based products, the federal government has recently ignored the concerns of industry, workers and communities and agreed to a hastily-concocted framework agreement with the US government on lumber exports:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the BC government to reject any softwood lumber agreement with the US that does not include:

- Full repayment to Canadian producers of all of the illegal duties imposed by the US government on Canadian lumber since May, 2002;
- Legislative action by the BC government to require that a significant portion of the duties paid by BC firms since May 2002 be collected and dedicated to a fund that will ensure investments in new plants and equipment in BC; worker training, retraining and skills development; adjustment programs such as early retirement, pension bridging and apprenticeship programs; infrastructure development and community adjustment programs in British Columbia;
- Clearly-stated protection against any future US attempts to direct Canadian forest policy through trade measures, taxation or legislative oversight;
- Clearly stated protection against US incursion or interference in British Columbia forest policy, including, but not limited to, annual allowable cut determinations, conservation objectives and raw log export restrictions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that action by the BC government to reduce raw-log exports and to ensure that all forest production provides clear and demonstrable benefits to the people of BC and to BC;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BC government put in place a comprehensive transition program to deal with the short and long-term implications of the Mountain Pine Beetle Infestation and other emerging forest health issues on the industry, workers and communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the government review all its programs, policies, legislation and regulations with an eye to ensuring that there be clear and demonstrable benefits to the people of BC and to BC communities from all resource extraction, resource-based processing and other resource-development initiatives.

On motion, that an amended enactment request proposed by the Resolutions Committee be revised by replacing “to reduce raw-log exports” with the phrase “to provide the support and necessary assistance to encourage the successful restructuring of the coastal sawmilling industry”, was deemed out of order by the Parliamentarian.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the original resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, was endorsed.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

SECTION “B” - PART II RESOLUTIONS

Chair Hobson continued in the Chair and briefly reviewed the procedures for handling Section B – Parts II and III resolutions.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were: Councillor Brenda Binnie, Mayor Herb Pond and Director Harry Nyce.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that all Section B, Parts II and III resolutions be admitted for debate, was endorsed.

B58 ESCHEAT ACT

Maple Ridge

WHEREAS properties that should revert to the Crown under provisions of the *Escheat Act* remain in the name of the intestate owner or dissolved corporation and cannot be sold under tax sale;

AND WHEREAS local governments are required to remit levied taxes on these properties to other governments and agencies and are without means to recover these funds:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government make the necessary amendments to the *Escheat Act* to enable the transfer of properties to the Crown and make the necessary financial restitution to local governments for the remittance of taxes and other government levies on these properties.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B59 FLOODPLAIN BYLAW FEE

Nanaimo RD

WHEREAS a regional district is not able to recover costs associated with the processing of an application for a site-specific exemption to a floodplain bylaw adopted under Section 910 of the *Local Government Act*;

AND WHEREAS the *Local Government Act* does not include a provision for a regional district to charge a fee for processing an application for a site specific exemption to a floodplain bylaw:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government amend the *Local Government Act* so that regional districts can charge a fee for processing an application for a site specific exemption to a floodplain bylaw.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B60 LOCAL GOVERNMENT USE OF COLOURED FUEL

Penticton

WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Penticton wishes to continue to provide exceptional service and maintenance to its taxpayers and residents;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Penticton wishes to reduce the deficit caused by vehicle operations by lowering fuel costs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request an amendment to Motor Fuel Regulation, B.C. Reg 15(1) and 15(2) to allow municipalities to use coloured fuel for city vehicles and heavy equipment operations.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B61 NEGOTIATING RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL POLICING AGREEMENT

Richmond

WHEREAS the municipal policing agreement for BC expires March 31, 2012 and preliminary discussions between the Province and the federal government have already started;

AND WHEREAS the RCMP is the primary provider of police services in BC, with detachments in all but 12 BC municipalities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are uniquely positioned to understand the impacts of policing in their communities, are held accountable for safety in their communities and are responsible for the costs of policing now (or soon will be through legislative changes to the *Police Act* requiring all municipalities, regardless of size, to pay a portion of policing costs);

AND WHEREAS municipalities in other provinces have the ability to negotiate directly with the federal government for renewal of their policing agreements:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial and federal governments develop and implement a process for negotiating the new policing agreement that includes full municipal participation.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B62 RCMP FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS**Coquitlam**

WHEREAS the Police Services Division of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General of British Columbia negotiates the terms and conditions of all provincial RCMP policing contracts with the federal government;

AND WHEREAS the *Police Act* of British Columbia requires that municipalities of more than 5,000 residents provide their own policing services (When a municipality retains the services of the RCMP to provide those services, payment of the provincially agreed upon rate is either made directly to the federal government or to the federal government via the provincial government.);

AND WHEREAS during the 1992 negotiations between the federal Solicitor General and the provincial negotiating team it was agreed that the Province would be responsible for 90% of the share of the RCMP costs in communities with more than 15,000 residents and for 70% of the costs in communities with less than 15,000 residents;

AND WHEREAS recent years have seen an increase in crime in British Columbia requiring additional policing resource:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the federal and provincial governments be urged to renegotiate the provincial / federal cost sharing agreements to increase the federal share to 30% funding, to enable municipalities to further increase their crime fighting and prevention resources;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities be urged to lobby the federal and provincial governments in support of this motion.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B63 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO DEFINE LAW ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES**Salmo**

WHEREAS the property tax, being the principal source of municipal revenue, is a regressive tax, and provincial and federal governments have access to a range of progressive tax revenue options;

AND WHEREAS municipalities bear the full cost of enforcing the laws enacted by municipal councils, and provincial and federal governments should raise the revenue required to enforce laws enacted by the Legislature and Parliament from their tax sources:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the Government of British Columbia amend the RCMP police services contract as it concerns municipalities to enable municipal councils to define law enforcement priorities for the RCMP in municipalities commensurate with the share of policing costs paid from municipal sources.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “amend the RCMP police services contract as it concerns municipalities to” be removed from the enactment request, was not endorsed.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B64 FUNDING FOR AUTOMOBILE OCCUPANT EXTRICATIONS**Surrey**

WHEREAS municipal fire departments and some Search and Rescue units are called upon to respond to motor vehicle accidents for the purpose of using specialized equipment to extricate occupants of damaged vehicles;

AND WHEREAS municipal fire departments and some Search and Rescue units are not being reimbursed by insurance companies for the costs of providing this critical service, and the costs of providing this service should be borne by the automobile insurance carriers of the vehicles involved in such accidents:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government amend the *Insurance (Motor Vehicle) Act* to include fire department and Search and Rescue unit charges for automobile occupant extrication services in the mandatory basic motor vehicle insurance coverage and that

this funding be used to make reimbursements to fire departments and Search and Rescue units that are involved in providing this service.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B65 PROVINCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Valemount

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has adopted legislation requiring that local governments assume responsibility for local emergency management;

AND WHEREAS many local government jurisdictions have limited financial resources and it would be valuable to have the Province sponsor a Joint Emergency Preparedness Program funding application on behalf of all BC local governments for certain basic supplies and materials for community Emergency Operations Centres:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia supply all local governments with appropriate BC Emergency Response Management System supplies and materials, available through the Justice Institute of BC, for Emergency Management Centres.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B66 NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION FUND

Terrace

WHEREAS the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General recognizes the importance of making available funding to assist local communities to address public safety concerns due to natural hazards and to reduce future infrastructure damage potential;

AND WHEREAS mitigating potential hazards is more cost effective than repairing and/or replacing damaged infrastructure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM encourage the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to reinstate the Natural Hazards Mitigation Fund and to double the original funding of \$3 million to \$6 million for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B67 EMERGENCY MEASURES/ICE JAMS

Golden

WHEREAS in the last two winters many Kootenay communities have faced risks of flooding from ice jams on rivers running through their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities receive support from provincial emergency experts in some planning and during emergencies;

AND WHEREAS the real need is to have a comprehensive program to correlate historical data, weather trends, ice floes and monitoring stages in the region to give early warning to possible events:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to allocate provincial resources for an early warning system for the protection of our communities from threats arising outside local government boundaries, such as the risk of flooding from ice jams.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B68 EMERGENCY MEASURES/FIRE RESCUE SUPPORT

Golden

WHEREAS the provincial government has reorganized the operations of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, thereby reducing the availability of trained experienced staff to conduct fire investigations, provide regional support to the local and regional fire departments and provide cost effective training for appointed Local Assistants to the Fire Commissioner (LAFCS);

AND WHEREAS these staff reductions will greatly impact local fire departments and LAFCs' ability to conduct appropriate levels of life safety and fire safety investigations, thereby significantly reducing the quality of fire prevention services provided by community Fire Chiefs and LAFCs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities appeal to the provincial government to immediately restore the regional offices of the Fire Commissioner and Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner services and training to the previous levels of services.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B69 MINIMUM TRAINING STANDARDS AND TESTING FOR FIREFIGHTERS

Central Kootenay RD

WHEREAS for many years the Office of the Fire Commissioner has been cutting back on the service it has offered to rural fire departments, resulting in difficulties for rural fire departments to receive accredited training and testing;

AND WHEREAS the judgment of inquiry into the death of Chad Schapansky recommended that the Office of the Fire Commissioner develop and establish clear minimum training standards for firefighters:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to direct the Office of the Fire Commissioner to take immediate steps to implement minimum training standards, to establish certified trainers and testers throughout the province and to ensure these services are supplied to rural fire departments at reasonable cost.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B70 FUEL MANAGEMENT AND WILDFIRE PLAN

Quesnel

WHEREAS local governments understand the need for community buy-in for fuel management on lands adjoining their communities, but have some concerns around taking the lead in such a project, as per the Operational Fuel Management Program;

AND WHEREAS the issue of the right to work on Crown land is questionable and municipal liability issues with regard to staff working outside of their boundary areas have not been resolved:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the provincial government fully research the implications of local government taking a lead role in fuel management on Crown land and find potential solutions to these concerns so that they can be incorporated into any strategic wildfire protection program activities.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B71 ANTI-BUNKER BYLAW

Cumberland

WHEREAS motorcycle gangs involved in criminal activities have established bunkers in various communities in Canada in order to create a secure, impenetrable compound to resist authorized entry by police forces;

AND WHEREAS local governments have the land use development authority to pro-actively prohibit such structures;

AND WHEREAS member local governments individually crafting anti-bunker bylaws will produce inconsistent bylaws that would be open to individual legal challenges:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM produce a generic anti-bunker bylaw in accordance with the *Local Government Act* of British Columbia for local adaptation and application by member local governments.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the enactment request be amended to request that the provincial government adopt legislation that would prevent the fortification of buildings and consequent problems in law enforcement and emergency crew access, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the provincial government adopt legislation similar to the *Fortified Buildings Act* in Manitoba, that would prevent the fortification of buildings that would prevent emergency response personnel and law enforcement officials from gaining access to those buildings in an emergency.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B72 SECURITY GUARD DOGS

Vancouver

WHEREAS all municipal police service dogs in the Province of British Columbia are certified under the British Columbia Police Service Dog Standards, which cover all facets of police dog training including tracking, criminal apprehension, area, building and evidence searches, obedience and agility;

AND WHEREAS to remain in service, police dogs must train on a regular basis and pass the British Columbia Police Service Dog Standards validations on an annual basis;

AND WHEREAS there are no similar formalized standards for the training, deployment and validation of security dogs in the Province of British Columbia, the capability, degree of force and obedience of security dogs may be called into question in the following instances:

- when security guard dogs and their handlers attend to police incidents requiring the possible deployment of police dogs;
- when the deployment of security guard dogs compromises public safety on both private and public property; and
- when the deployment of a security guard dog results in a court decision that may compromise existing provincial police dog training standards and deployment;

AND WHEREAS to resolve the problems with security guard dogs, formal province-wide training standards similar to those for police service dogs are required;

AND WHEREAS establishing such training standards for security dogs requires legislative action from the provincial government:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the provincial government to act as quickly as possible to establish and enact appropriate guidelines, standards and validation processes for security guard dogs that will ensure all dogs used for security purposes have at least a standard basic level of training and that effective monitoring and enforcement measures are in place to ensure that these province-wide training standards are strictly adhered to by all licensed security companies in the province.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B73 MAIL BALLOTS

Fraser Valley RD

WHEREAS non-resident property electors may not have the means to attend a voting opportunity within the jurisdiction as resident electors do;

AND WHEREAS Section 100 of the *Local Government Act* allows mail ballots to those electors who have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government amend the Electors and Elections legislation in the *Local Government Act* to allow all eligible electors the opportunity to vote by mail ballot in elections and other voting opportunities.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B74 ELECTORAL REFORM - VOTER IDENTIFICATION**Coquitlam**

WHEREAS electoral reform is needed to improve democracy and decrease voter fraud in local elections:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that provincial legislation be amended to require electors to produce identification at voting stations, regardless of whether the elector is on the list of registered electors.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of resolutions resumed with Director Harry Nyce in the Chair.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were Mayor Herb Pond, Chair Robert Hobson and Councillor Brenda Binnie.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**SR2 BC BUILDING CODE CHANGES REGARDING SLOPE STABILITY****UBCM Executive**

WHEREAS changes to the BC Building Code that will be effective December 15 contain significantly higher seismic hazard probabilities;

AND WHEREAS as a result of these changes, sloping ground that was considered safe previously will be considered unsafe under the new levels:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government delay the effective date for changes to the BC Building Code until the acceptable level of risk and properly defined standards for slope stability can be determined.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SR3 PUBLIC TRANSIT TRUST**UBCM Executive**

WHEREAS local government expected to receive \$102 million in federal funding for transit over two years under the Public Transit Agreement (PTA);

AND WHEREAS the PTA was reduced to a one-year agreement and funding was subsequently included in the Public Transit Trust:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia commit to transfer to UBCM a minimum of \$52 million from the \$119 million federal Public Transit Trust for equitable distribution to local transit systems.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SECTION B – PART II RESOLUTIONS

Director Nyce continued in the Chair and resumed consideration of the Section B – Part II resolutions.

B75 CIVIC ELECTION VOTING AGE IN BC**Port Moody**

WHEREAS a significant level of voter apathy is evident at all levels of Canadian elections, and earlier voting behaviour might increase the electorate's lifetime involvement and interest in our democratic process;

AND WHEREAS sixteen year olds are deemed mature enough to drive and have reached the age of consent:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities ask the provincial government to decrease the civic election voting age to 16.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, was defeated.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B76 CORPORATE VOTE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Lumby

WHEREAS the *Local Government Act*, Chapter 323, Part 3 and 4 was amended under the local government elections section, which removed the right of corporations to have a vote;

AND WHEREAS corporations contribute taxes to the operation of local governments but have no representation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government review local government election legislation and amend it accordingly to permit corporations the right to a vote in local government elections.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B77 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION DATE AND VOTING OPTIONS

Williams Lake

WHEREAS local government elections are held on the third Saturday of November every three years and a number of issues have arisen with respect to this date in recent years, such as bad weather, insufficient advance voting dates for people leaving communities and wanting to vote, safety of individuals voting and candidates in unsafe areas, and low voter turnout;

AND WHEREAS a number of citizens who leave their communities in early Fall for warmer places have complained that they are unable to exercise their voting rights due to the late Fall local government election:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to amend the local government legislation to move the date of the local government elections from the third Saturday in November to the third Saturday in October, or provide options to accommodate absentee voters through earlier advance polls or absentee mail-in voting.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B78 NORTHERN FERRY SERVICES

Terrace

WHEREAS all communities represented by the North Central Municipal Association are reliant upon, or affected by, transportation provided by the northern ferry service and this service has been severely impacted by the sinking of the *Queen of the North*;

AND WHEREAS northern tourism, economic development, the environment and many isolated communities have been devastated by this tragedy:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM strongly encourage the Government of British Columbia and BC Ferries to work in close partnership with impacted communities to immediately resume quality passenger service at its previous level.

ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN

B79 ICBC BOUNDARIES

Houston

WHEREAS the Province is divided into various geographical boundaries for the purpose of determining insurance rates based upon vehicle driving habits and patterns;

AND WHEREAS these boundaries have not been reviewed and justified by ICBC since their inception in the 1970s, of which the financial impacts can significantly affect the communities and their citizens on either side of a boundary:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the BC Utilities Commission to initiate a review of ICBC zones based upon scientific data that supports the boundary delineations and, subsequently, the rates that affect the users within those boundaries.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B80 SECONDARY ROADS

100 Mile House

WHEREAS in the 1990s the government of the day downloaded the responsibility and cost for secondary roads onto municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the removal of Mountain Pine Beetle infested timber by increased truck traffic and lack of rail cars is severely impacting secondary road infrastructure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government take back secondary roads from municipalities or subsidize the capital improvements of such roads.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words “and bridges” be added after the words “secondary roads” in the enactment request, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government take back secondary roads and bridges from municipalities or subsidize the capital improvements of such roads and bridges.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B81 PROPERTY PURCHASE TAX

Saanich

WHEREAS the Government charges property purchase tax on all transfers, including local government;

AND WHEREAS local government housing corporations may purchase projects for affordable housing, including those held by other non profit societies:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that local government housing corporations be exempt from the property purchase tax.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the enactment phrase “local government housing corporations” be replaced with “non profit housing entities” and that the phrase “in support of their role in providing affordable housing in BC communities” be added to the end of the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that non profit housing entities be exempt from the property purchase tax in support of their role in providing affordable housing in BC communities.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B82 ADDITIONAL HOTEL ROOM TAX

Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD

WHEREAS the *Hotel Room Tax Act* allows municipalities and regional districts, as prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to apply for Additional Hotel Room Tax (AHRT) to be levied on their behalf;

AND WHEREAS Section 3.1 of the *Hotel Room Tax Act Regulation* permits local governments to collect an additional room tax of up to 2% on sales of accommodation in designated areas in order to assist municipalities and regional districts with tourism promotion;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Finance has established its own criteria to evaluate AHRT applications, which includes demonstration from local governments that at least 51% of the accommodation sector supports the implementation of an additional 2% tax:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the Province of BC to ensure that the Province adheres to its own legislation, which does not require a benchmark of at least 51% of the accommodation sector's support in order to implement an additional 2% hotel tax.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B83 INDEXING OF UNCONDITIONAL GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS Grand Forks

WHEREAS the provincial government has not changed the amount of unconditional grants to local governments under 5,000 population since 1998 and the amount provided each year has been eroded by inflation;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has pledged to increase the unconditional grant amounts in the next four years:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be petitioned to include indexing of the unconditional grants based on the change in provincial GDP each year.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the enactment request be replaced with the request that "following the doubling of the small communities and regional district grants by 2009/10, the provincial government institute indexing of the unconditional grants to ensure that they increase each year to keep pace with increasing costs", was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, following the doubling of the small communities and regional district grants by 2009/10, the provincial government institute indexing of the unconditional grants to ensure that they increase each year to keep pace with increasing costs.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B84 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO COMMUNITY WORKS FUND AGREEMENT Cariboo RD

WHEREAS providing services for qualifying projects, under the Community Works Fund, such as community water and sewer systems, in rural areas is very costly due to the low number of potential users;

AND WHEREAS the Community Works Fund Agreement stipulates that any federal contributions under another infrastructure program, such as the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program, cannot be increased by the use of Community Works Fund money where the total federal contribution would exceed 33%, and this condition limits the ability of local governments to provide affordable service in rural areas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities petition the federal government to amend the Community Works Fund Agreement to allow for the use of Community Works Funds in conjunction with other federal funding programs such as the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B85 FEDERAL GAS TAX TRANSFERS**Bulkley-Nechako RD**

WHEREAS Canada, British Columbia and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities have entered into an agreement dated September 19, 2005 to provide for the transfer of a portion of federal gas tax revenues to municipalities and regional districts in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of the Agreement is to provide British Columbia local governments with stable, reliable and predictable funding for environmentally sustainable local infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement restricts the use of gas tax funds so that they will be limited to infrastructure investments, owned by the local government, that achieve reduced greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner water or cleaner air;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement commits to a flexible approach in recognition of the diversity of Canadian communities;

AND WHEREAS the needs of regional district electoral areas and small communities are vastly different than the needs of larger cities;

AND WHEREAS local governments may wish to partner with neighbouring local governments, societies or individual residents for investments such as community hall furnace efficiency upgrades or residential woodstove exchange programs that, while achieving the over-arching objectives of the Agreement, may not necessarily result in the investment being owned by the local government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Agreement be amended to recognize the unique needs of regional district electoral areas and small communities by providing for a more flexible approach to allow investments in projects that do not necessarily result in local government ownership.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B86 TRANSFER OF FEDERAL GAS TAX REVENUES**Smithers**

WHEREAS at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference held June 2005 in St. John's, Newfoundland, the federal government promoted the Gas Tax Agreement and outlined eligible projects including public transit, roads, bridges, capacity building, and water and sewer utilities;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement between Canada, British Columbia and Union of British Columbia Municipalities on the Transfer of Federal Gas Tax Revenues Under the New Deal for Cities and Communities entered into on September 19, 2005 restricts the use of the funds to projects which contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions, clean water, or clean air;

AND WHEREAS this restriction causes financial hardship to municipalities that require gas tax revenues to maintain roads, streets and other infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that municipalities and regional districts be permitted, at their discretion, to use the gas tax revenue for all infrastructure;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCM work with FCM to lobby the federal government to support this resolution.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the original enactment clauses be replaced with the request that "the Gas Tax Agreement be amended to provide eligibility for capital projects contributing to environmental, economic, social or cultural sustainability and that the intended outcomes under the Agreement be expanded to encompass these four elements of sustainability", was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Gas Tax Agreement be amended to provide eligibility for capital projects contributing to environmental, economic, social or

cultural sustainability and that the intended outcomes under the Agreement be expanded to encompass these four elements of sustainability.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B87 GAS TAX REVENUE FOR SECONDARY ROADS 100 Mile House

WHEREAS the federal government’s rebate of gas tax revenue to be used for green projects and not for roads is spread equally amongst municipalities and based on population statistics;

AND WHEREAS municipalities with secondary roads require assistance with the capital costs of infrastructure improvements:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the federal government that all gas tax revenue rebates are to be given directly to local governments which have the responsibility for secondary roads.

ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN

B88 GRANTS-IN-LIEU AND NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS WITH FIRST NATIONS Metchosin

WHEREAS municipalities have historically received grants-in-lieu funding from the senior levels of government;

AND WHEREAS negotiations with First Nations could result in provincial and/or federal lands being part of the negotiation process:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, should any existing provincial or federal lands for which municipalities receive grants-in-lieu become part of any negotiated First Nations Agreement, senior governments should consider compensation for local government.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “treaty adjustment funding and/or” be added before the word “compensation” in the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, should any existing provincial or federal lands for which municipalities receive grants-in-lieu become part of any negotiated First Nations Agreement, senior governments should consider treaty adjustment funding and/or compensation for local government.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B89 BC ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY PROPERTY VALUATIONS AND APPEAL PROCESS Powell River RD

WHEREAS the process for BC Assessment Authority valuations and appeals for business, industrial and utility property classes can cause significant uncertainty for local government taxation, sometimes over several years;

AND WHEREAS recently, and in the past, the process has often limited the ability of communities and regions, particularly those in the resource-based, rural areas of the province, to develop reliable long-term financial plans and to project relatively accurate tax rates for all classes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities establish a Task Force comprised of representatives from local government, the Province and the BC Assessment Authority to seek new legislative remedies to create greater certainty for business, industrial and utility property class assessments.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B90 FERRY TERMINAL PROPERTY TAXATION**North Saanich**

WHEREAS stability in property taxation is essential to local governments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia consult with affected local governments before considering statutory changes in relation to assessment and taxation of ferry terminals;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local governments be consulted through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in advance of any such legislative changes being brought forward for consideration.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B91 LIMITING CHARACTERISTICS IN ESTABLISHING PARCEL TAXES**Cariboo RD**

WHEREAS local governments strive to ensure the method of taxation applied to property owners matches the service provided, whether it is based on assessed value of land and/or improvements or parcel taxes;

AND WHEREAS the provisions of the *Community Charter* with respect to parcel taxes are limiting and do not provide the application of a fair and equitable tax in all cases:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the provincial government to amend Section 202 of the *Community Charter* to allow the use of assessment class as a limiting characteristic in the establishment of parcel taxes.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B92 RESIDENTIAL AND VACATION PROPERTIES
ASSESSMENT REVIEW****Comox-Strathcona RD**

WHEREAS many primary/year-round residences in desirable vacation locales throughout British Columbia have recently seen inordinate property tax increases due to rapidly rising assessment levels, driven in large part by the demand for vacation/recreation residences;

AND WHEREAS many moderate-income families living year-round in vacation locales are finding it increasingly difficult to afford their rapidly rising property taxes, despite the Home Owner Grant;

AND WHEREAS recreational properties used for vacation residences represent a substantially different use from properties used for primary/year-round residences:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial government and the BC Assessment Authority address the disparities within the existing residential assessment class, with consideration given to establishing separate assessment classifications for primary/year-round residential use and vacation/recreation residential use, in order to permit the setting of varying tax rates for the two uses.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B93 PROVINCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT PROCESS**Vancouver**

WHEREAS the property assessments developed by British Columbia Assessment (a provincial Crown Corporation) are required for budgeting and property tax purposes;

AND WHEREAS the City relies on receiving accurate information from BC Assessment for developing a significant portion of its annual revenue budget;

AND WHEREAS Council would like to have the operating budget approved in December of the prior year;

AND WHEREAS the final property assessment information for budget purposes is not available until March of the budget year:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that BC Assessment review its processes to accommodate municipal budget approval by December 31st of the prior year.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

Consideration of Section B – Part II resolutions continued with Mayor Herb Pond in the Chair.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were Director Harry Nyce, Chair Robert Hobson and Councillor Brenda Binnie.

B94 WATER/WASTEWATER CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Taylor

WHEREAS the provincial government has imposed water system facility classifications and operator certification requirements;

AND WHEREAS this requirement has resulted in small system classifications of Class 2 or higher that have onerous operator requirements weighted towards experience, which has resulted in many local governments not being in compliance with provincial requirements:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM support a provincial government review of the operator experience requirement for water and wastewater treatment operators to shift the primary requirement to “training” as opposed to “experience” so that the capabilities of employees can be acknowledged over a shorter time period to minimize the instances of local government non-compliance.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B95 DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the provincial government, after completion of a review, enacted the current *Drinking Water Protection Act* (and regulations), which adopts some of the recommendations in the “Drinking Water Review Panel -Final Report” and moves responsibility and liability for safe drinking water to the purveyor;

AND WHEREAS the Interior Health Authority has implemented increased standards for treatment of potable water intended to reduce the level of risk associated with waterborne disease;

AND WHEREAS the recommendations in the “Drinking Water Review Panel - Final Report” on funding the infrastructure required to meet the new standards, was not adopted by the Province and the increased costs associated with meeting these standards are substantial and not financially viable for many communities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia, in consultation with the Union of BC Municipalities, immediately establish a mechanism to review and implement the funding recommendations contained in the “Drinking Water Review Panel -Final Report” to ensure that the infrastructure requirements needed to meet the increased standards for treatment of potable water are attainable.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B96 SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS new regulations have created additional burdens for small water systems and costs to the users;

AND WHEREAS the new regulations are being interpreted by health authorities in a manner in which the most stringent interpretation is being applied:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the Province to provide direction to the Ministry of Health that small water systems below 100 connections shall be allowed to utilize point of entry and/or point of use systems and where point of use systems and/or point of entry systems are utilized that the homeowner be responsible to ensure the potability of the water.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B97 SAFE DRINKING WATER

Peace River RD

WHEREAS water suppliers must be permitted and regularly tested for safe drinking water under the Drinking Water Protection Act;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Health, through the regional health authorities, currently provides testing of drinking water at no cost to some suppliers in the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government to ensure that the testing of safe drinking water be maintained at no cost to water suppliers.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B98 PROVINCIAL WATER TESTING IN RIVERS

Grand Forks

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment has downloaded the water quality monitoring of rivers and streams within municipal boundaries to local governments, including the cost of regular testing;

AND WHEREAS laboratory examinations for water quality tests in rivers and streams can cost local governments thousands of dollars annually and the results of these laboratory tests are not required by local governments:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be petitioned to absorb the cost of water quality monitoring in rivers and streams.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B99 PROVINCIAL INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF RIPARIAN AREAS

Grand Forks

WHEREAS the banks and foreshore areas of rivers traversing through municipalities are the responsibility of the provincial government;

AND WHEREAS there are dangerous trees and other vegetation that pose risks to local residents and their property, as well as being a potential risk to municipal infrastructure and property:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be petitioned to ensure that regular inspections are carried out in riparian areas, and that trees and other vegetation that pose a risk of liability are dealt with in a timely manner.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B100 RIPARIAN AREAS REGULATION

Columbia Shuswap RD

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment has legislated that local governments implement the Riparian Areas Regulation on March 31, 2006;

AND WHEREAS some municipalities and regional districts will not be able to meet the Riparian Areas Regulation obligations by March 31, 2006:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the Ministry of Environment to seek a two-year extension to the deadline of the application of the Riparian Areas Regulation.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B101 RIPARIAN AREAS REGULATION**Lumby**

WHEREAS the Riparian Areas Regulation has come into force as of April 1, 2006;

AND WHEREAS the Riparian Areas Regulation has not taken into consideration the impact the Riparian Areas Regulation will have on normal operations of local governments in the areas of utilities, water, sanitary and storm lines that may be adjacent to or under a creek/river bed, road maintenance and forest fires and flooding in emergency circumstances and, in order to mitigate the environmental impact or damage to properties, mitigation must be undertaken immediately, without the benefit of an environmental assessment under the Riparian Areas Regulation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial and federal governments review and amend the legislation and regulations in order that local governments can carry out their function and not be subject to legal action by the provincial or federal government, in those circumstances where emergency situations occur.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B102 LOGGING PRACTICES ON PRIVATE FOREST LANDS AND WATERSHED PROTECTION**Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS the rate of logging on the private forest lands within the E & N Land Grant on Vancouver Island has been dramatically accelerated, such that the current logging practices exceed the objectives established by the Private Managed Forest Land Council of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the current logging practices on these private forest lands are resulting in flooding of downstream lands, loss of spawning habitat, a reduction in water quality, and a reduction in the capacity of the land to sustain forestry operations for future generations;

AND WHEREAS access to safe, potable water is necessary for sustainable community development and the Beaver Creek Improvement District has its only source of potable water in the Beaufort Range where this logging is taking place and it has, for the first time ever, issued boil water advisory alerts:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to change the legislation and policies to enable a local government to establish a Community Watershed Bylaw that extends over any public or private lands within the watershed;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the provincial government to amend the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* to include representatives from the municipalities, regional districts and First Nations on the Private Managed Forest Land Council;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the provincial government to amend the *Drinking Water Protection Act* to require a drinking water protection plan for each community watershed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the second and third enactment requests be deleted, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to change the legislation and policies to enable a local government to establish a Community Watershed Bylaw that extends over any public or private lands within the watershed.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that a resolution addressing controlled substance property bylaws be admitted off the floor for debate, was endorsed.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROPERTY BYLAWS**Thompson-Nicola RD**

WHEREAS it is in the public interest to ensure the safety of buildings after they have been used for the growing or production of controlled substances;

AND WHEREAS regional districts do not have the same legislative authority as municipalities to enact controlled substance property bylaws (grow-op) within their jurisdictions, even though regional districts experience many of the same issues as municipalities in dealing with properties that have been used for the growing or production of controlled substances;

AND WHEREAS the Thompson-Nicola Regional District believes that regional districts should possess the same legislative authority as municipalities to adopt a controlled substance property bylaw within their respective electoral areas, for the purposes of protecting the health and welfare of citizens and taking any necessary remedial works that may be required to improve impacted structures:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government to permit regional districts to adopt controlled substance property bylaws.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B103 NEW SEWERAGE SYSTEM REGULATION**Cariboo RD**

WHEREAS the new Sewerage System Regulation under the *Health Act*, which came into effect on May 31, 2005, stipulates that only “Authorized Persons” with the appropriate registration certificate may construct or maintain sewerage systems, substantially increasing costs for homeowners as they are no longer able to conduct their own system installation or repairs;

AND WHEREAS in the case of other sub-trade services such as electrical and plumbing, legislation allows homeowners to perform their own works followed by an inspection by a licensed inspector:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Health be petitioned to amend the new Regulation to allow homeowners to take out the necessary permit and carry out the works associated with the installation, alteration or repair of a sewerage system with the requirement that said works be followed by an inspection by an authorized licensed inspector, similar to the process currently in place for other sub-trades associated with home construction.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B104 ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS**Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS the on-site sewage disposal regulations require that a new on-site sewage disposal system be designed by a certified professional and the design filed with the appropriate health authority;

AND WHEREAS the on-site sewage disposal regulations do not require a person increasing the size of a house connected to an existing on-site sewage disposal system to have the capacity or condition of an existing system certified by a professional;

AND WHEREAS the health authority will issue an order to repair a system only after a system has failed and poses a health risk:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to amend the on-site sewage disposal regulations to require a person increasing the size of a house connected to an existing on-site sewage disposal system to have the capacity and condition of the existing system certified by a professional as being adequate for the intended use.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B105 LEAD-ACID BATTERY COLLECTION PROGRAM**Stewart**

WHEREAS used lead-acid batteries are an environmental hazard and pose a risk to human health, yet are accumulating in stockpiles at municipal landfill sites province wide;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has established a Lead-Acid Battery Collection Program that is funded from revenue collected from a \$5 consumer levy but has stopped providing transportation incentive payments to assist with the collection and transportation of used batteries to a processing facility, thus forcing brokers to collect at their own cost:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the provincial government to immediately reinstate the payment of transportation incentives to assist with the collection and transportation of used batteries.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B106 TIRE RECYCLING**Peace River RD**

WHEREAS the Province collects a tire levy of \$3.00 per tire, which generates revenue in excess of \$5 million more than what is spent on the Financial Incentives for Recycling Scrap Tires (FIRST) program to collect and recycle tires throughout British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the tire recycling program would be better served by an industry stewardship program where all the money collected is retained for the tire program, including much needed research into other recycling options, especially for the larger industrial tires which are now not included in the FIRST program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government to immediately convert the Financial Incentives for Recycling Scrap Tires program into an industry stewardship program similar to what is done with bottles, paint, used oil, etc.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B107 DISPOSAL OF TIRES**Thompson-Nicola RD**

WHEREAS haulers and processors of scrap tires have indicated that they intend to impose a tipping and hauling fee on local government operators of landfills for the removal of tires marshalled at landfills, citing increased operational costs coupled with inadequate compensation from the Financial Incentives for Recycling Scrap Tires (FIRST) Program managed by the Province;

AND WHEREAS local government and landfill operators will be forced to pass these fees on to landfill users to cover these additional costs, resulting in “double taxation” (namely the Environmental Fee now imposed by the Province and the local government tipping fee);

AND WHEREAS the imposition of tipping fees may lead to a resurgence in illegal dumping of scrap tires:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to increase compensation to haulers and processors of scrap tires so that they are able to remain financially viable leading up to the transition of a true Extended Producer Responsibility Program for scrap tires.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B108 PRODUCER PAY RECYCLING**Port Moody**

WHEREAS the government of the Province of British Columbia has stated a goal of leading the world in sustainable environmental management;

AND WHEREAS other Canadian legislation, such as Quebec’s Bill 102 and Ontario’s Blue Box Program Plan and *Waste Diversion Act*, has brought about programs which require producers to pay for 50% of recycling costs for containers and packaging, written media and printed matter:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government adopt producer pay mechanisms for municipal compensation for waste, such as those adopted in Ontario and Quebec.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of Section B – Part II resolutions resumed with Mayor Herb Pond in the Chair.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were Director Harry Nyce, Chair Robert Hobson and Councillor Brenda Binnie.

B109 SOLID FUEL BURNING/AIR QUALITY

Golden

WHEREAS the cost of fossil fuels continues to rise and, with many homeowners looking for economic alternative heating sources, the use of solid fuel burning appliances is increasing;

AND WHEREAS in many communities, poor air quality causes health problems for many residents due to smoke with particulates that are extremely detrimental to their health:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities appeal to the senior levels of government to immediately establish a province-wide rebate program to assist homeowners to replace non-compliant Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-rated solid fuel burning appliances with EPA-rated ones with controlled emissions.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B110 INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NON-GREENHOUSE GAS EMITTING TRANSPORTATION

Telkwa

WHEREAS Canada has agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Protocol;

AND WHEREAS air quality in most villages, towns and cities is regularly fair to poor due to increased particulate matter levels and pollution from fuel exhaust;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia through its ACT NOW program and the Government of Canada through the Olympic Live, Healthy Eating and Living Program and other programs, are promoting healthier lifestyles:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia include funding for commuter highways for non-greenhouse gas emitting transportation such as that used by cyclists, roller bladers, cross country skiers, pedestrians and other forms of clean, non-motorized transportation, in their annual budgets, operations plans and capital improvement plans.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B111 R-2000 CONSTRUCTION STANDARD INCLUDED IN BC BUILDING CODE

Thompson-Nicola RD

WHEREAS Canada is a signatory to the Kyoto Accord, and is carrying out a number of initiatives and incentives to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and promote energy conservation;

AND WHEREAS energy efficient housing construction would be a significant contributor to energy conservation at relatively low cost, and the R-2000 construction standard has been developed as a voluntary program to improve energy efficiency in housing construction;

AND WHEREAS the Province is developing a new *British Columbia Building Code* based on the new 2005 *National Building Code*:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and the provincial government engage the Home Builders Association in discussions to include the R-2000 construction standard as an option in the proposed new *British Columbia Building Code*.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution LR14 be removed for individual consideration from the block of late resolutions categorized under the recommendation “Not Admit for Debate” in the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline, was endorsed.

LR14 ENCOURAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION

Anmore

WHEREAS from the 1960s to the early 1980s the BC provincial government made significant investments in the creation of large-scale hydroelectric power projects, creating an abundance of clean, non-greenhouse gas producing energy, to the extent that surpluses were sold to other markets outside the province (Decades of energy abundance has distorted public perception toward today’s true costs of creating new energy, as well as promoting excessive consumption patterns while discouraging investment in new green energy production.);

AND WHEREAS in March of this year, BC Hydro made public a new reality – that our province is no longer energy self-sufficient, with a 12% present shortfall projected to potentially grow to more than 45%, based on current provincial consumption trends (This shortfall has caused BC to move from being a net exporter of green hydro-electric power to importing our shortfalls through the purchase of brown-power from coal burning sources such as Alberta.);

AND WHEREAS in its 2006 Energy Plan, BC Hydro has stated it is “depending” upon the purchase of locally-produced green, renewable energy from independently-produced sources of run-of-river small-scale hydropower, solar, wind and biomass projects over the next two decades while it plans and builds new large-scale power system sources;

AND WHEREAS the importance of unimpeded development of new green, renewable power is reinforced by the recent introduction of Bill 30 as our province needs to move towards new, alternate and more expensive sources of energy:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities support the concept that British Columbia should once again become energy self-sufficient, to the extent that local governments be given the opportunity to participate in the creation of new green, renewable energy projects;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the BC provincial government establish legislation that makes it mandatory for BC Hydro to purchase power created by BC local government-supported, green, renewable power projects.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B112 LAND STABILIZATION FUNDING

NCMA Executive

WHEREAS many communities in all areas of British Columbia contain land that is subject to land slippage or movement and local governments in many of these communities have experienced, or are experiencing, problems caused by land slippage or potential for land slippage;

AND WHEREAS land slippage issues are a threat to transportation, utilities, municipal infrastructure, and public safety, and impact property values as well as the local government tax base;

AND WHEREAS the costs for mapping, investigation and remediation of land slippage areas and potential land slippage areas is frequently beyond the financial ability of local government taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the Province of BC has provided technical and financial assistance to a number of communities on an ad hoc basis for addressing land slippage issues and has ensured financial support after disasters occur:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the provincial government to allocate funding in the Ministry of Community Services base budget to assist local government to address land slippage issues and that such funding be available to local governments for mapping, investigation and, where practical, remediation of land slippage;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the provincial government to assist local governments and property owners with the cost of repairs to buildings and infrastructure damaged by land slippage.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B113 PUBLIC RECREATION ACCESS TO FORESHORE

Capital RD

WHEREAS there is growing demand by residents and visitors for public recreational access to foreshore in unincorporated areas by means of foreshore access lands presently vested in the Province under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation;

AND WHEREAS these foreshore access lands are acquired by the Ministry of Transportation pursuant to Section 75 of the *Land Title Act* with no associated obligation to develop and maintain them for public use, whereas regional districts are vested with responsibility for provision of local parks and recreational amenities in unincorporated areas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Transportation establish policies and procedures for the purpose of transferring to regional districts such public foreshore access lands as may be identified by such regional districts as being desirable for public recreational foreshore access;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such transfers be by means of free Crown grant, conversion to park dedication or alternative secure tenure option.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “regional districts” be replaced with the phrase “local governments” in the enactment request, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Transportation establish policies and procedures for the purpose of transferring to local governments such public foreshore access lands as may be identified by such local governments as being desirable for public recreational foreshore access;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such transfers be by means of free Crown grant, conversion to park dedication or alternative secure tenure option.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B114 PARKLAND DEDICATION

Invermere

WHEREAS Section 941 of the *Local Government Act* requires owners of land being subdivided, at their option, to dedicate parkland not exceeding 5% or cash-in-lieu of land;

AND WHEREAS the demands for public park space are increasing and municipalities’ abilities to acquire parkland are diminished by the impacts of failing infrastructure, future transfer of provincial services and increasing land values:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities support a change to the legislation contained within the *Local Government Act* to allow local governments the option of either requiring cash-in-lieu for parks or the dedication of land;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the park dedication be increased to an amount not exceeding 10% of the land being subdivided or cash-in-lieu for parkland.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B115 VALUE OF LAND FOR CASH-IN-LIEU OF PARKLAND**Revelstoke**

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 941 of the *Local Government Act*, municipalities are given the authority to accept cash-in-lieu of parkland when processing subdivision applications;

AND WHEREAS Section 941(6)(a) states the following: “the average market value of all the land in the proposed subdivision calculated as that value would be on either

- i) the date of preliminary approval of the subdivision, or
- ii) if no preliminary approval is given, a date within 90 days before the final approval of the subdivision, as though
- iii) the land is zoned to permit the proposed use, and
- iv) any works and services necessary to the subdivision have not been installed”;

AND WHEREAS the cash-in-lieu value is based on undeveloped land, (in order to purchase parkland the municipality could be paying full market value of developed land);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial government review Section 941 of the *Local Government Act* in order to provide a more favourable way for municipalities to determine the value of land for cash-in-lieu purposes.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “municipalities” in the enactment clause be replaced with the word “local governments”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial government review Section 941 of the *Local Government Act* in order to provide a more favourable way for local governments to determine the value of land for cash-in-lieu purposes.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B116 USE OF CASH-IN-LIEU OF PARKLAND DEDICATION**Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS a local government can accept cash-in-lieu of parkland dedication when a property owner subdivides;

AND WHEREAS a local government can use that cash to acquire parkland and for no other purpose:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province of BC to amend the legislation to permit funds collected in lieu of parkland dedication to be used on parkland development in addition to parkland acquisition.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B117 TAX EXEMPTION FOR LANDS LEASED FOR PARK PURPOSES**Burnaby**

WHEREAS BC Assessment’s position regarding Section 220(1) of the *Community Charter* holds that property leased by a municipality for park purposes is not exempt from taxation;

AND WHEREAS the exemption of such lands from taxation is clearly within the intent and spirit of the legislation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 220(1) of the *Community Charter* be revised to clearly exempt from taxation land vested in, leased, occupied, held, and used for park purposes by a municipality.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “municipality” be replaced with the word “local government” in the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 220(1) of the *Community Charter* be revised to clearly exempt from taxation land vested in, leased, occupied, held, and used for park purposes by a local government.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B118 AUTHORITY TO WAIVE OR REDUCE DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGES Maple Ridge

WHEREAS pursuant to Division 10, the Development Costs Recovery part of the *Local Government Act* and, more specifically, in respect of Section 933(12), granting authority whereby a local government may provide assistance by waiving or reducing a charge under this section for not for profit rental housing, including supportive living housing;

AND WHEREAS innovative development standards, such as “green” infrastructure and buildings can result in lower impact solutions to the economic, social and ecological impacts of buildings and infrastructure that cost municipalities, residents, and businesses much less over the long term:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 933(12) of the *Local Government Act* be expanded to provide for the waiving or reducing of a charge in support of building construction incorporating LEED Canada NC Rating System or acceptable equivalent that might apply to single family development.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B119 AUTHORITY TO WAIVE/REDUCE DCCs FOR ADAPTABLE HOUSING STANDARDS Maple Ridge

WHEREAS pursuant to Division 10, the Development Costs Recovery part of the *Local Government Act* and, more specifically, in respect of Section 933(12), granting authority whereby a local government may provide assistance by waiving or reducing a charge under this section for not for profit rental housing, including supportive living housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 933(12) of the *Local Government Act* be expanded to provide for the waiving or reducing of a charge in support of residential building construction incorporating adaptable housing standards.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B120 CREATION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND RESERVE North Vancouver City

WHEREAS a new trend of industrial lands being converted to residential and other uses is developing in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS communities in British Columbia rely on industrial enterprises for job creation, economic production, trade and other vital uses;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has the legislative authority to create an industrial land reserve to preserve industrial lands for industrial purposes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities call on the Province of British Columbia to invite affected communities, industry groups and other stakeholders to form an Industrial Lands Committee, tasked with conducting an advisability and feasibility study in consultation with affected communities, industry groups and other stakeholders on the establishment of an Industrial Land Reserve.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B121 PROTECTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES Islands Trust

WHEREAS the lack of a predictable process for the protection of archaeological resources during the land development process is of growing concern to First Nations, local governments and private property owners;

AND WHEREAS local governments do not have adequate tools to protect archaeological resources during their management of the land development process:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the provincial government amend the *Local Government Act* to enable local governments to designate Development Permit Areas for the protection of archaeological resources.

ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN

Chair Robert Hobson assumed the Chair and continued with the consideration of Section B – Part II resolutions.

B122 MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS recent changes in meat inspection regulations, to manage BSE and other health concerns, have created hardship for small meat processors and the ranchers that rely on them to sell their produce;

AND WHEREAS there is a general lack of qualified meat inspectors to help ensure that small meat processors are able to meet the current requirements, and continue to offer the important service they do:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the federal and provincial governments amend the meat inspection regulations to allow local licensed veterinarians to serve as meat inspectors.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B123 CLOSED CONTAINMENT DEMONSTRATION
PROJECTS FOR SALMON FARMING**

Comox-Strathcona RD

WHEREAS the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has rejected a proposal by the Comox-Strathcona Regional District to investigate the development of closed containment demonstration projects for salmon farming because the Ministry believes that land-based salmon farming is uneconomical;

AND WHEREAS a demonstration project may assist in developing more environmentally and economically sound methods of fish farming, with collected fish waste actually proving to be a valuable resource and byproduct for this industry:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities work with the Government of Canada to secure further research and development funds to operate a closed containment demonstration project on Vancouver Island, which could thoroughly research the environmental and economic benefits of closed containment fish farming.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B124 SELF-GENERATED POWER

Prince George

WHEREAS the line item for electricity on a municipality's operating budget is often one of its larger expenditures;

AND WHEREAS energy costs are expected to increase over the next decade, and it is important for municipalities and senior levels of government to work to find innovative ways to reduce this cost and find alternate sources of energy;

AND WHEREAS BC Hydro has a system in place, identified as "Net Metering", which requires the power generated at point "A" to be used at point "A" with only the excess power being sold to BC Hydro;

AND WHEREAS such a system is desirable only if electrical loads are located at the same site at which the power is generated;

AND WHEREAS there is no system in place that allows power to be produced at point “A” and used at point “B” by paying a rental or user fee to the power grid;

AND WHEREAS a local government is disadvantaged in this system since power is used at multiple sites but cannot practically be generated at each location:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to direct BC Hydro to negotiate agreements with municipalities that would allow for the utilization by the municipality of self-generated power through the BC Hydro distribution grid.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words “and other power producers” be added after the first instance of BC Hydro in the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to direct BC Hydro and other power producers to negotiate agreements with local governments that would allow for the utilization by the local government of self-generated power through the BC Hydro distribution grid.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B125 PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENCY FUND Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD

WHEREAS the provincial government establishes a contingency fund in its annual budget, which is reallocated to provincial debt if all funds are not exceeded within the current fiscal year;

AND WHEREAS a significant amount of provincial revenue, past and present, is derived from resources in the North, which provides for infrastructure in the province;

AND WHEREAS communities throughout the North are going through major transition and require immediate funding to improve and maintain their infrastructure, which far exceeds currently accessible funding through existing government programs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM request that the provincial government allocate a portion of the unused surplus on an annual basis to improve infrastructure for those communities that are going through a major transition.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B126 PROMOTING HEALTHY LIVING AND CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION Port Moody

WHEREAS health is a provincial responsibility and the delivery of health services, including the promotion of healthy living and chronic disease prevention, are responsibilities delegated by the Province to Regional Health Authorities;

AND WHEREAS the Province created the Community Health Promotion Fund to support health promotion programs and activities in communities focusing on healthy living and chronic disease prevention:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Health be encouraged to provide sustainable financial support to Health Authorities in increasing their efforts to promote healthy living and chronic disease prevention.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B127 HEALTH CAPITAL FUNDING AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the Province has traditionally provided the capital funding for long term care beds other than “Extended Care” services;

AND WHEREAS the Province is now requesting some percentage towards capital costs for these facilities from Regional Hospital Districts:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province be requested to revert to the funding process for capital costs for long-term care services, where the Province fully funds all capital costs, except for those services traditionally funded on a shared basis with Regional Hospital Districts and which were previously known as “Extended Care”.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**B128 MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COOPERATION ON
TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY**

Vancouver

WHEREAS the current federal legislation governing the telecommunications industry and, in particular, the use of local government and provincial lands and streets, is complex and results in a subsidy to telecommunications companies from local government and provincial taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the recent report from the Telecommunications Policy Review Panel established by the federal Minister of Industry has recommended significant changes to the *Telecommunications Act*, which will increase the level of regulation imposed upon local governments in dealing with the use of public lands by telecommunication companies:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Office of the Premier and the Minister of State for Intergovernmental Affairs be invited to join with the UBCM and ask the federal Minister of Industry to consult with local governments and provinces on contemplated changes to the federal *Telecommunications Act* in order to restore the ability for local governments and provinces to adequately manage telecommunication companies’ use of public lands.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B129 LOCAL RADIO BY SATELLITE

Fraser-Fort George RD

WHEREAS the phasing out of AM radio by the broadcasting industry in favour of FM signals has resulted in poor quality or non-existent radio coverage for many rural communities;

AND WHEREAS access to local radio announcements remains a key mechanism for informing the public in the event of floods, wildfires, earthquakes, tsunamis or other emergencies:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission be urged to impose a requirement that providers of satellite radio services carry local radio channels within their operating areas.

ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN

B130 LEAKY CONDOS

Port Moody

WHEREAS many British Columbian communities are dealing with the ongoing leaky condo crisis and thousands of affected homeowners are struggling financially and emotionally;

AND WHEREAS during the 2006 federal election, the Conservative party promised a review of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s handling of the leaky condo crisis:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM urge the federal government to conduct a review of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s handling of the leaky condo crisis, including possible restitution to affected homeowners.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B131 MUNICIPAL LIABILITY FOR NON-INSURED BUILDINGS**Spallumcheen**

WHEREAS there are a number of building movers throughout the province who do not have liability insurance, which may create potential exposure to local governments should an accident occur;

AND WHEREAS various jurisdictions have different avenues to deal with this issue, from ignoring the concern to requiring 2 million dollars liability insurance saving the local government harmless prior to a business licence or moving permit being issued:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM support a uniform means of dealing with non-insured building moving companies moving buildings within the province.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B132 MEASURING UP**Vancouver**

WHEREAS accessibility and inclusion are fundamental factors in empowering people with disabilities to fully participate in and contribute to society and the City of Vancouver strives to take a leadership role in increasing accessibility and inclusion both within and outside its own city limits;

AND WHEREAS the City has partnered with 2010 Legacies Now and the provincial and federal governments to produce “Measuring Up”, a comprehensive, step-by-step guide that enables communities to assess and remedy their accessibility and inclusion barriers:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities endorse “Measuring Up” as a resource for communities throughout British Columbia as they work to improve accessibility and inclusion;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that every BC local government adopt “Measuring Up” as its guide to accessibility and inclusion;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities formally request that the provincial and federal governments allocate infrastructure funding to support accessibility and inclusion initiatives in communities throughout BC.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B133 UBCM TO COORDINATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION STUDIES**Courtenay**

WHEREAS local governments commonly conduct remuneration studies for elected officials and employees through professional consultants;

AND WHEREAS the cost of professional remuneration studies may be cost prohibitive for smaller local governments;

AND WHEREAS having a baseline remuneration comparison may assist local governments in their decisions to pursue remuneration review:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities investigate the feasibility of coordinating a service to provide cost effective, professional remuneration studies, available to all local governments.

ON MOTION, NO ACTION was REQUIRED

B134 AUDIBLE BIRD SCARE DEVICES**Abbotsford**

WHEREAS audible bird scare devices (ABSDs), also known as propane cannons, are used in many agricultural areas of British Columbia and the provincial government, although responsible for regulating farming practices, has not regulated ABSDs but has only provided guidelines for their use;

AND WHEREAS the use of ABSDs results in chronic noise disturbance to area residents, even when the guidelines are followed, and should not be considered an acceptable farming practice:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to phase out the use of audible bird scare devices over the next three years.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B135 SALE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY

Comox-Strathcona RD

WHEREAS school district boards are selling properties that are often situated in prime locations and important to communities in a variety of ways;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government requires that these properties can only be disposed of at “fair market value”:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities be requested to work with the provincial government to establish policy that will permit school boards to give adequate time and opportunity to local governments and other public bodies to acquire such properties at less than “fair market value” for “civic purposes”.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SECTION B – PART III RESOLUTIONS

Chair Hobson continued in the Chair as consideration of the Section B – Part III resolutions began.

B136 CONSTITUTION ACT REFORM

Central Kootenay RD

WHEREAS residents of British Columbia have expressed their desire to revisit the manner in which we elect representatives to the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, as witnessed by the results of the referendum on electoral reform held in conjunction with our last provincial election;

AND WHEREAS the rural regions of the province are proud of the significant contribution they play in the economy of British Columbia through agriculture, natural resource development, tourism and industry and rural residents want to ensure they have a say in how regional resources are used for the greater good of the province as a whole and what the regional impact of that may be, and note with alarm the increasing disparity which is occurring as services are being reduced to resource contributing rural areas and the ever increasing urbanization and growing divide which separates urban and rural communities in our province:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to reconsider the BC *Constitution Act* to enshrine principles which would give equal consideration to population and square area being represented as a balance for selecting representatives for the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, and thereafter amend the *Election Act* and *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* to comply.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to refer the resolution to the UBCM Executive, was defeated.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “equal” be removed from the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to reconsider the BC *Constitution Act* to enshrine principles which would give consideration to population and square area being represented as a balance for selecting representatives for the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, and thereafter amend the *Election Act* and *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* to comply.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B137 REPEAT OFFENDER LEGISLATION**Thompson-Nicola RD**

WHEREAS the recent release, with conditions, of a sexual and violent offender into a small interior community identified weaknesses in the applicable legislation, created a lack of confidence in the justice system and severely impacted the limited police resources of the community monitoring the repeat offender;

AND WHEREAS there was evidence that the repeat offender had refused to take treatment and there was a strong indication that they were likely to re-offend and, given the size of the community, it was doubtful that they could go anywhere without violating the conditions of release;

AND WHEREAS elected officials have a responsibility to provide for the protection and safety of the citizens of all communities and only the federal government has the ability to change the necessary legislation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the federal government for change to the law with respect to “repeat offenders”, specifically those with violent and/or sexual tendencies, requiring:

- 1) Release of offenders into small communities shall occur only after full consultation with the local government and the local law enforcement agency;
- 2) The provincial government develop treatment programs for offenders incarcerated in provincial correctional facilities; and
- 3) Offenders not be released until such time as they have consented to treatment and have shown considerable progress to rehabilitation.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “small” be removed from the first point of the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the federal government for change to the law with respect to “repeat offenders”, specifically those with violent and/or sexual tendencies, requiring:

- 1) Release of offenders into communities shall occur only after full consultation with the local government and the local law enforcement agency;
- 2) The provincial government develop treatment programs for offenders incarcerated in provincial correctional facilities; and
- 3) Offenders not be released until such time as they have consented to treatment and have shown considerable progress to rehabilitation.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED and REFERRED to FCM

B138 ANNUAL SAFETY INSPECTIONS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**Coquitlam**

WHEREAS there have been a number of truck accidents resulting in serious injury and damage due to faulty brake systems;

AND WHEREAS there is no provincial program for annual safety inspections of commercial vehicles:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government establish a program requiring an annual safety inspection for all commercial vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of more than 4,500 kg.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B139 SLOW MOVING TRAFFIC**Central Kootenay RD**

WHEREAS many of the highways in British Columbia are located in mountain pass areas or follow irregular lakeshore or coastal lines providing limited opportunities for motorists to pass in safety;

AND WHEREAS in areas of the province such as the Sunshine Coast and the Kootenays, highway traffic is further congested due to tourist and/or ferry traffic often resulting in long lines of slow moving motor vehicles:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to develop legislation and signage to mandate that slow moving vehicles be required to pull over to the side of the highway when five or more vehicles are following so that the faster traffic can pass safely, thus avoiding long lines of motor vehicle traffic and reducing the likelihood of dangerous passing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province provide for the complementary construction of adequate pull-out lanes to enable slow-moving vehicles to pull over safely in order to allow faster traffic to pass.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the word “safely” in the first enactment clause be replaced with the words “when safe or permitted to do so”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to develop legislation and signage to mandate that slow moving vehicles be required to pull over to the side of the highway when five or more vehicles are following so that the faster traffic can pass when safe or permitted to do so, thus avoiding long lines of motor vehicle traffic and reducing the likelihood of dangerous passing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province provide for the complementary construction of adequate pull-out lanes to enable slow-moving vehicles to pull over safely in order to allow faster traffic to pass.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS

The Resolutions session began with Mayor Herb Pond in the Chair.

Reporting for the Resolutions Committee were Director Harry Nyce, Chair Robert Hobson and Councillor Brenda Binnie.

REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE

Mayor Pond presented the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline.

- A. EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS: ADMIT FOR PLENARY DEBATE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 AS ISSUES EMERGING SINCE THE DEADLINE
 - LR1 Opposition to New Roofed Accommodation in Provincial Parks
 - LR2 Local Government a Stakeholder in Environmental Disasters
 - LR3 Implementation of PRIME – Police Records Information Management Environment
- B. REFER TO UBCM EXECUTIVE
 - LR4 Pay Before You Pump Legislation
- C. LATE RESOLUTIONS: NOT APPROPRIATE FOR DEBATE
(*Issues known before the June 30 deadline for resolutions*)
 - LR5 Private Property and Mineral Exploration
 - LR6 Interface Forest and Fire Management
 - LR7 Northwest Community Response Capacity
 - LR8 EnerGuide Program
 - LR9 Log Export Crisis in BC
 - LR10 Mineral Exploration in Watersheds
 - LR11 Development Cost Charges and Cash-in-Lieu of Park Lands
 - LR12 Province-Wide Ban on Non-emergency Use of Engine Retarder Brakes

- LR13 Delivery of Tax Notices via Email
 LR14 Encouraging Local Government Involvement in Electricity Production
 LR15 Home Owner Grant Program

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline be considered (with the exception of resolution LR14, which was considered and endorsed during the policy session on Thursday, October 26), was endorsed.

**LR1 OPPOSITION TO NEW ROOFED ACCOMMODATION North Vancouver District
 IN PROVINCIAL PARKS**

WHEREAS the provincial government recently issued a Request for Proposals without public consultation for new fixed roofed accommodations of up to 100 beds or more, including resorts and lodges, in 12 provincial parks;

AND WHEREAS this privatization initiative lacks tools to limit future facility expansion, encourages helicopter and float plane traffic, permits foreign multinational financing ownership, requires parking lots, staff housing, logging for fire breaks, sewage and electricity – all at a time when preservation of wilderness is considered BC parks’ most important asset;

AND WHEREAS these facilities would best benefit local municipalities if they were appropriately situated in our communities where tourists and visitors would most actively support and enrich local economies, and where they would not unfairly compete with our existing tourism, hotel and restaurant services:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities advise the provincial government that it supports environmentally sustainable eco-tourism resort/lodge/motel accommodation outside provincial park boundaries and opposes new private, for-profit roofed accommodations inside provincial parks.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words “except in cases where heritage adaptive re-use can be accommodated” be added to the end of the enactment clause, was defeated.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**LR2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT A STAKEHOLDER Squamish
 IN ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS**

WHEREAS on August 5, 2005 a Canadian National Railway train derailed in Squamish, resulting in 40,000 litres of Sodium Hydroxide being spilled in the Cheakamus River and Squamish River systems, with the provincial Ministry of Environment responding as the government having jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS on August 4, 2006 a ship (the Westwood Anette) became damaged while leaving port, resulting in 29,000 litres of bunker oil spilled in the Squamish Harbour, causing substantial environmental damage within the Squamish Estuary and land areas within the Squamish Harbour, with the provincial Ministry of Environment and the Canadian Coast Guard responding as the governments having jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS although the governments having jurisdiction respond on the basis of their policies, pursuant to statute and regulation, with immediate cleanups and remediation, local governments remain the recipient of long-term socio-economic and environmental impacts of the incidents that occur within their areas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that local government be recognized, by statute and under federal and provincial funding programmes, as a stakeholder in the response to local environmental disasters;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM and FCM petition the federal and provincial governments, seeking the appropriate status and funding programmes to enable/empower local governments to participate in the resolution of these types of environmental disasters.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the two enactment clauses be condensed and amended to request “that the UBCM and FCM petition the federal and provincial governments to recognize local

governments within environmental emergency response protocols as active participants, where there is meaningful consultation with local governments and compensation for any local resources utilized during the response”, was endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words “and restoration period” be added at the end of the amended enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM and FCM petition the federal and provincial governments to recognize local governments within environmental emergency response protocols as active participants, where there is meaningful consultation with local governments and compensation for any local resources utilized during the response and restoration period.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

**LR3 IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIME – POLICE RECORDS
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENT**

Kimberley

WHEREAS the provincial government has legislated the implementation of the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME) system, an information sharing system that will connect all jurisdictions throughout Canada and streamline data entry and retrieval;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government was initially to be responsible for the costs of implementation, but has now determined that municipalities will be responsible for a portion of these costs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to pay the entire cost of implementing the PRIME system, as these costs will create hardship to all municipalities in the province.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS

Consideration of Section B – Part III resolutions continued with Director Harry Nyce in the Chair.

B140 BICYCLE LANES

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS bicycle lanes are essential to the safety of all those traveling on roadways;

AND WHEREAS cycling is an environmentally friendly and healthy form of transportation as well as an increasingly popular pastime;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation Cycling Policy includes provisions for cyclists on all new and upgraded provincial highways:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Ministry of Transportation to amend the Cycling Policy to provide for the construction of bicycle lanes whenever possible when works of any kind are taking place adjacent to roadways.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the words after “bicycle lanes” in the enactment request be replaced with “or other provisions for bicycle traffic whenever works compatible with such construction are taking place adjacent to roadways”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Ministry of Transportation to amend the Cycling Policy to provide for the construction of bicycle lanes or other provisions for bicycle traffic whenever works compatible with such construction are taking place adjacent to roadways.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B141 TAX FREE INCENTIVES FOR SPORT EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR YOUTH

North Vancouver City

WHEREAS local governments have identified and supported recreational and sport activities as a priority;

AND WHEREAS combating obesity and inactivity among youth is an ongoing challenge;

AND WHEREAS purchasing sport equipment for families with children is costly for families wishing to keep their children active;

AND WHEREAS there is in place a receipt program for retailers to track the tax free status of clothing purchases for children under age 14:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities forward a letter to both the provincial and federal governments requesting tax free status for purchases of sport equipment and supplies for sport activities.

ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN

B142 ELIMINATION OF GOODS AND SERVICES TAX ON HEATING

Grand Forks

WHEREAS in Canada, heating cost to residents is a major component of all households' after income tax incomes and the federal government is reported to be considering a reduction in GST charged on taxable goods and services;

AND WHEREAS the immediate elimination of GST on heating fuels, natural gas and electricity would assist all income levels in managing their after tax income:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the support of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for the immediate and permanent elimination of GST on all fuels, natural gas and electricity utilized in heating residential properties.

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B143 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SINKING OF QUEEN OF THE NORTH

Terrace

WHEREAS all communities represented by the North Central Municipal Association are reliant upon or affected by transportation provided by the northern ferry service and this service has been severely impacted by the sinking of the *Queen of the North*;

AND WHEREAS northern tourism, economic development, the environment and many isolated communities have been devastated by this tragedy:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to address the environmental impacts caused by the sinking of the *Queen of the North* in order to minimize the effects on the marine environment.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B144 PLASTAX ON PLASTIC BAGS FOR A "GREEN FUND"

North Vancouver District

WHEREAS plastic bag use has mushroomed in North America and Western Europe with four to five trillion of them produced in 2002, ranging from large trash bags to thick shopping totes to flimsy grocery sacks;

AND WHEREAS after being discarded, many plastic bags litter our environment and end up in waterways and, ultimately, the ocean where they impact the health of marine life;

AND WHEREAS every year more than 6 million tons of rubbish is dumped into the world's oceans and it is estimated that there are over 46,000 pieces of plastic in every square mile of the ocean;

AND WHEREAS in March 2002, the Government of Ireland imposed a 15 cent tax on each bag to control the country's consumption of 1.2 billion plastic shopping bags per year (The consumer was charged at check out and behaviour changed immediately.) and the tax resulted in a 90 to 95 percent drop in consumption and more than a billion fewer bags consumed annually;

AND WHEREAS the so called "PlasTax" also raised 9.6 million dollars in its final year that the Irish Government earmarked for a "green fund" for waste management and environmental initiatives (Retailers in Ireland, many of whom are now selling reusable bags, are also happy since they were spending \$50 million a year on single-use bags before the tax.);

AND WHEREAS more dramatically, approximately 18 million litres of oil have been saved due to reduced production of plastic bags (These bags start as crude oil, natural gas or other petrochemical derivatives. They are transformed into chains of hydrogen and carbon molecules known as polymers or polymer resin. After being heated, shaped and cooled, the plastic is ready to be flattened, sealed, punched or printed on):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial and federal governments to impose a PlasTax on plastic bags similar to the Government of Ireland.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

**B145 DUAL FUEL COAL BIOMASS GENERATION
ENERGY PLANTS**

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

WHEREAS Dual Fuel Coal Biomass Generation energy plants have not been established to date in the Province of British Columbia and applications to establish this type of energy source have been made through the provincial government;

AND WHEREAS the impact from Dual Fuel Coal Biomass Generation plant emissions has the potential to severely impair quality of life, the environment, health and tourism throughout the province:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to place a moratorium on Dual Fuel Coal Biomass Generation energy plants, such that the Province can investigate industries that will have the least amount of impact on the environment and quality of life by applying the most advanced technology.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the amended enactment clause proposed by the Resolutions Committee – requesting that "the provincial government require an Environmental Assessment when requested by the local government for any proposed Independent Power Project under the current threshold of 50MW" – follow the original enactment clause as an "AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED" clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to place a moratorium on Dual Fuel Coal Biomass Generation energy plants, such that the Province can investigate industries that will have the least amount of impact on the environment and quality of life by applying the most advanced technology.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to require an Environmental Assessment when requested by the local government for any proposed Independent Power Project under the current threshold of 50MW.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B146 STRATEGY FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND FUEL CONSUMPTION**Telkwa**

WHEREAS the Government of Canada is encouraging a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through public education and involvement activities such as the One Tonne Challenge, Clean Air Day and the Commuter Challenge;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada, as part of its commitment to the Kyoto Protocol and healthier environments, is encouraging citizens of Canada and all levels of government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve energy resources:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to participate in reduction of greenhouse gases and conservation of fuel resources by enacting a maximum speed limit of 90 km/hr throughout the Province of BC, which should reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by 10% (as per the information stated by Natural Resources Canada regarding "Taking Action for our Environment").

ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

B147 PRIVATIZATION OF WATER SERVICES**Port Moody**

WHEREAS the City of Port Moody supports universal access to clean, safe water for all generations, now and throughout the future, by supporting publicly and cooperatively controlled water services that have genuine community participation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities call on the Government of Canada to implement measures in federal bilateral and multilateral agreements and policies that prevent the privatization of water services.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the amended enactment clause proposed by the Resolutions Committee – requesting that the phrase "privatization of water services" be replaced with "bulk export of water resources" – follow the original enactment clause as an "AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED" clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities call on the Government of Canada to implement measures in federal bilateral and multilateral agreements and policies that prevent the privatization of water services.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities call on the Government of Canada to implement measures in federal bilateral and multilateral agreements and policies that prevent the bulk export of water resources.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B148 SMALL VOLUME FORESTRY SALES**Hazelton**

WHEREAS the forestry industry remains the primary economic driver in many small communities in BC;

AND WHEREAS the ability for small communities to rebound from downturns in the forest economy depends upon having a remnant qualified forest sector labour force;

AND WHEREAS extreme unemployment in communities burdened by a prolonged downturn in the forestry industry results in the out-migration of experienced logging contractors:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to consider a policy that when BC Timber Sales offers a small volume forest sale nearby a forest-dependent local government that has an unemployment rate 10% higher than the provincial average, and if a bid from a local resident contractor is within 10% of the highest non-local bid, then it be considered the highest bid in the process.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the original enactment clause be replaced with the request that “the provincial government amend the Forest Act to provide BC Timber Sales with the authority to take other factors into consideration (e.g., unemployment levels) when evaluating local and non-local bids for licenses that are located nearby a forest-dependent local government”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government amend the Forest Act to provide BC Timber Sales with the authority to take other factors into consideration (e.g., unemployment levels) when evaluating local and non-local bids for licenses that are located nearby a forest-dependent local government.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

B149 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES – COALBED METHANE EXTRACTION

Hazelton

WHEREAS the water flowing through riverside communities is inextricably linked to the economic, social and environmental well-being of those communities;

AND WHEREAS communities in the same watershed share the benefits of healthy water resources and of the migratory species, such as salmon, that depend on clean water;

AND WHEREAS the impact of development activities such as coalbed methane extraction, can have significant effects on far flung communities sharing a watershed:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to coordinate a community meeting process for all local governments in a watershed potentially affected by coal-bed methane development where a balance of government agencies, industry, community groups and environmental organizations make presentations so residents have the variety of viewpoints they need to make a knowledgeable decision about such development.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B150 MINERAL EXPLORATION – URANIUM

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS the province is rich in mineral wealth, including uranium, which has been the foundation of the economy of our province;

AND WHEREAS recent uranium exploration in the province has raised the concerns of the public, who are worried about pollution, groundwater contamination, and the ruination of a pristine wilderness area:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the provincial government introduce a moratorium on exploration for uranium to allow for effective and meaningful public consultation and a “cradle to grave” management strategy.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B151 OPEN-NET FISH FARMING

Hazelton

WHEREAS viable wild salmon stocks are a vital component for the economic, cultural and social health of many communities in BC;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly appointed a Special Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture on Feb. 20, 2006 to examine, inquire into and make recommendations with respect to sustainable aquaculture in BC, including the environmental impacts of the aquaculture industry in the province, and to also solicit and consider written and oral submissions from any interested person or organization;

AND WHEREAS examining the economic and environmental impacts of open-net fish farms on wild salmon stocks, the marine environment and BC’s coastal and isolated communities is part of the Special Committee considerations;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government approved a new open-net fish farm in April 2006 while the Special Committee was in the midst of making its examination and inquiry that will lead to recommendations in its final report:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to place a moratorium on any expansion of open-net fish farming on the BC coast until the Special Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture reports to the House no later than May 31, 2007.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS

Chair Hobson resumed the chair and called for a motion to consider the remaining Section B – Part III resolutions as a block due to a shortage of time.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the remaining Section B – Part III resolutions be adopted (noting that those resolutions for which “no recommendation” was recorded would be automatically referred to the UBCM Executive), was endorsed.

B152 PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Hudson’s Hope

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education does not directly provide funding to school districts for playground equipment;

AND WHEREAS there have been a number of studies indicating that many students are obese and physically unfit;

AND WHEREAS many schools have changed the food and beverages being offered in school cafeterias to help combat the situation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to provide specific funding for playground equipment to school districts aimed at improving the overall health and well-being of our students.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B153 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Metchosin

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministries of Education, Health and Children and Family Development work together to develop integrated identification, diagnosis and mental health management services for children and youth in local schools, along the lines of the Community Based Mental Health Pilot Projects proposed by the Capital Regional District Family Court and Youth Justice Committee.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B154 MINOR OPERATING PROCEDURES – RURAL HOSPITALS

Mackenzie

WHEREAS there has been a reduction of services offered in small rural hospitals, including the withdrawal of minor operating procedures, which also places an added burden on regional hospitals;

AND WHEREAS there are many isolated, rural communities in British Columbia where severe winter road conditions are often encountered and can impede travel to regional hospitals:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government allocate the required resources and permit local physicians to perform minor operating procedures in remote rural hospitals.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B155 HOME SUPPORT SERVICE – INTERIOR HEALTH BATHING POLICY**Sparwood**

WHEREAS Interior Health Authority has recently made further cuts to the Home Support Services for Seniors in our region, eliminating all services to any senior who is considered to be an Intermediate Level 1 client;

AND WHEREAS there are now seniors who had been receiving up to three baths per week but no longer qualify for any bathing assistance unless they have special issues such as incontinence and then they would now only qualify for one bath per week;

AND WHEREAS this action will not only impact negatively on the health of the affected seniors and will eventually result in increased acute care costs, but this is an unacceptable humiliation to individuals who may require additional bathing for personal conditions such as incontinence:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities appeal to the provincial government to have Interior Health Authority immediately amend its current bathing policy to adequately accommodate those seniors who require assistance with bathing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, given that the provincial government's goal was to have seniors age in their own surroundings and remain in their homes for as long as possible, they must then implement and retain those services to ensure that seniors remain safe and healthy and, in doing so, are treated with the respect and dignity that they deserve.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B156 HEALTH CONNECTIONS PROGRAM**Mount Waddington RD**

WHEREAS the Province's Health Connections Program offers discounted travel subsidies, administered by Health Authorities, to help defray costs for rural residents who must travel significant distances for medical care outside their home communities;

AND WHEREAS community perception of "significant distances" may vary depending on factors such as the availability of subsidized public transit and the availability of services in "home communities":

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province be requested to extend the Health Connections Program to subsidize travel for medical care for any rural residents outside their home community, regardless of distance.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B157 HEALTH AUTHORITY FRAMEWORK REVIEW**AKBLG Executive**

WHEREAS it is in the public interest to review, in a public forum, the effectiveness and efficiency of the health authority board framework;

AND WHEREAS it is also in the public interest to ensure that our health authorities are working in an accountable, transparent manner with an effective public dispute resolution mechanism:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities organize a provincial forum to discuss and review the framework and appropriateness of the current health authority model to ensure that the public is being well served.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B158 UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOR LONG-TERM CARE**AKBLG Executive**

WHEREAS subsequent to a sad event which involved the transfer of an elderly and very ill patient out of the community it became clear that several families had been faced with a choice to accept a similar transfer or to return a patient in need of a long-term care bed to the home;

AND WHEREAS universal health care is a Canadian value and it is unfair that a patient who has been assessed as eligible for long-term care and listed for the “first available bed” will receive a truly appropriate level of care only if they have the ability to pay for private service:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a person who has been assessed as meeting the standard for long-term care in a public bed, but for whom no public bed is available, shall be provided government-funded care either in a private facility bed or through home support services sufficient to provide a satisfactory level of care.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B159 LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

AKBLG Executive

WHEREAS changes in the delivery of health care in the province have resulted in the closure of long-term care facilities for the elderly and sick;

AND WHEREAS the closure of these facilities has created hardship among our seniors and has impacted their ability to obtain adequate care when needed:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province immediately restore long-term care facilities throughout the province, sufficient to meet the needs of citizens in their communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these facilities be publicly funded and publicly administered.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B160 BC 100% SMOKE FREE

Merritt

WHEREAS second hand smoke is known to cause lung cancer, heart disease, sudden infant death syndrome, and many other diseases that are preventable;

AND WHEREAS provincial governments in Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories protect their citizens from exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke in public places:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BC Government take responsibility for the health of its citizens and implement legislation to achieve 100% smoke-free environments in all indoor public and work places with no provision for designated smoking rooms, and also examine the options to make outdoor public places smoke-free, such as entranceways to buildings, outdoor patios, sports fields and grandstands.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B161 BEDBUGS

Vancouver

WHEREAS the infestation of bedbugs is a serious problem, specifically in the low-income housing stock in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver and possibly in other types of housing and hotel accommodation across the city and in other BC local governments;

AND WHEREAS bedbugs are impacting not only the health of tenants, but also the livability and economic viability of the rental housing:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government acknowledge that the infestation of bedbugs in Vancouver and other BC municipalities poses a health and social risk and that the provincial Ministry of Health be directed to convene a task force to work with local health authorities and local governments to:

- Provide financial resources to develop innovative programs to control bedbugs;
- Further research the impact of bedbugs on individuals with a compromised immune system; and
- Increase public awareness and education about controlling and preventing the spread of bedbugs.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B162 SENIORS ADVOCACY PROJECT**Coquitlam**

WHEREAS there are no coordinated seniors' advocacy services funded by any level of government;

AND WHEREAS the seniors' population is increasing dramatically at the same time that government funding cutbacks are severely impacting seniors;

AND WHEREAS this gap in social policy is leading to potential abuse of seniors, causes unnecessary anxiety to seniors and their families, and places additional stress on municipalities;

AND WHEREAS several BC local governments have previously expressed concerns to the Province regarding legislation such as the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* - specifically with respect to the legislation's narrowness of application and lack of provisions for accountability and monitoring for facilities supplying housing, care or services to seniors:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities support, in principle, the establishment of Regional Seniors' Advocacy Offices, as proposed by the Seniors' Advocacy Steering Committee, as a means of providing security and protection to seniors by ensuring they have an independent voice to advocate for seniors' rights in accordance with federal, provincial and local government legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and to the provincial and federal governments requesting support and full provincial and federal funding for such an initiative.

ON MOTION, with amendment as recommended, was ENDORSED

B163 KELOWNA ACCORD**Powell River City**

WHEREAS the Transformative Change Accord between the Government of British Columbia, the Government of Canada, and the Leadership Council representing the First Nations of British Columbia is a tripartite agreement that sets out actions and processes to close the social and economic gap between First Nations and other British Columbians over the next 10 years, reconcile aboriginal rights and title with those of the Crown, and establish a new relationship based upon mutual respect and recognition;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Budget does not identify a multi-year commitment crucial to achieving the goals and objectives of the Accord:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the federal government to identify long-term funding to ensure the objectives of the Kelowna Accord are met.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B164 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PASSPORT OFFICES**Lumby**

WHEREAS the Government of the United States of America has passed legislation that all persons entering the United States of America will require passports to enter the country and/or to leave the country;

AND WHEREAS within the Province of British Columbia there exist only four Canadian passport offices, three in the Greater Vancouver area (in Vancouver, Surrey and Richmond) and one in the City of Victoria;

AND WHEREAS it is the duty of government to serve its residents and the present number of passport offices within the Province of British Columbia does not presently serve the needs of the residents of British Columbia and the demand for passports will greatly increase over the next two years:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities make representation to the federal Minister of Immigration requesting that the Government of Canada review its policy in regards to the location of passport offices within the Province of British Columbia, with the consideration of opening offices in the Interior of British Columbia at a location like Kelowna and/or Kamloops, and in the Northern portion of British Columbia in a location such as Prince George, in the Government's effort to best service the residents of this province and country.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B165 PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR EDUCATION IN REMOTE AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

NCMA Executive

WHEREAS schools are a fundamental component of a healthy, vibrant community and vital to a community's future well-being;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Education funds students in rural and remote schools according to a formula that recognizes Unique Geographic Factors, such as weather, transportation and distance;

AND WHEREAS many of the funding factors have been frozen for years:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the provincial government to review the current school funding formula so that it better reflects the needs of students in remote and rural communities.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B166 ONLINE TUTORING

LMLGA Executive

WHEREAS online tutoring has been successful in the promotion of literacy;

AND WHEREAS Premier Campbell has publicly declared that British Columbia has a goal to become the most literate province in our country by 2010:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the Minister of Education to fund online tutoring in British Columbia.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B167 SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION FUNDING

Kitimat-Stikine RD

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education funds school districts primarily on a pupil basis and a funding formula that recognizes and considers the unique needs of different communities and school districts;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has identified special needs education as a critical component of the education system that requires additional funding and enhancement:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Education be requested to increase the funding associated with special needs education to ensure school districts are provided the funds necessary to reflect the actual costs incurred in the education and mainstreaming of students with special needs.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B168 TRANSFER OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CERTIFICATION

Dawson Creek

WHEREAS there is a shortage of Early Childhood Educators (ECE) with a license to practice in Northern BC and, due to different legislation between provinces, there is no recognition within the province of BC for those ECE Educators certified out of province;

AND WHEREAS since the Community Care Facilities Branch in BC does not carry out academic assessments for applicants who have completed their post secondary training outside of BC, these Early

Childhood Educators are required to do one or both of the following: A) Submit transcripts to a recognized BC college for evaluation toward advanced credit and to determine those courses that are transferable; B) Make application through the International Credential Evaluation Service for a fee, to determine equivalents for Early Childhood Educator's certification in British Columbia;(It should be noted that in either case there is no guarantee that courses or certification will be recognized in British Columbia.):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government to work with other orders of government to ensure the transferability of Early Childhood Education accreditation across the provinces.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B169 FEDERAL CHILDCARE PROGRAM

Thompson-Nicola RD

WHEREAS the federal government had previously committed to funding and establishing a national childcare program, providing approximately five billion dollars over five years;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has now decided to replace the program with individual taxable payments to families, which does nothing to develop facilities for younger children:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities correspond with the federal government, urging it to maintain the earlier commitment to the Federal Early Learning and Childcare Program;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities correspond with the provincial government, urging it to take a strong position with the federal government in maintaining the earlier commitment to the childcare program.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

B170 SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN MAJOR DECISIONS AFFECTING SCHOOLS

North Okanagan RD

WHEREAS schools contribute to the fibre and sustainability of their respective communities;

AND WHEREAS major School District policy decisions such as school closures, sale and/or lease of property have a profound and lasting effect on communities;

AND WHEREAS there is no formal requirement or process to involve and engage residents and local government officials in such decisions:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Education not require the sale or lease of school properties that could serve another community use.

ON MOTION, with amendment as recommended, was ENDORSED

B171 PROVINCIAL INCOME ASSISTANCE RATES

Kelowna

WHEREAS the October 2005 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Rental Market Report for Kelowna indicates average rents far exceed the shelter allowance portion of BC Assistance;

AND WHEREAS the cost of living, particularly shelter in this province, has continually increased without corresponding adjustments to the levels of assistance;

AND WHEREAS thousands of low-income households in our city are paying far in excess of 30% (the majority in excess of 50%) of their gross income before tax on shelter;

AND WHEREAS adults with disabilities may have greater expenses than seniors in order to address the needs of their disability, including access to special needs housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance be asked to increase current assistance rates and implement a program to adjust those rates annually based on the BC Average Annual Consumer Price Index;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance also be asked to increase assistance for adults with disabilities to the same level of assistance available to seniors.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B172 EARNINGS EXEMPTIONS

Maple Ridge

WHEREAS British Columbia is the only province in Canada that doesn't allow people without disabilities who are receiving income assistance to keep any income they earn;

AND WHEREAS earnings exemptions allow business and non profit employers to hire low income people for part time jobs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be urged to allow all people on income assistance to keep as much earned income as people with disabilities who are receiving income assistance.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B173 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Quesnel

WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Legion has provided tremendous service to our nation over many decades;

AND WHEREAS the Legion plays an instrumental role in our society of educating our population of the need to protect our democratic values;

AND WHEREAS Legions are experiencing extreme difficulty in keeping their branches financially solvent:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to give Canadian Legions the right to use monies through gaming and lotteries for the direct purpose of sustaining themselves in the challenges of rising costs and diminished revenues for this worthy and revered organization.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B174 TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTING POLICY

Delta

WHEREAS transmission lines are routed through residential areas of many communities in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS there are human health concerns associated with electromagnetic fields emitted from transmission lines:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province adopt a policy to route new transmission lines and reroute existing transmission lines being upgraded away from residential areas and, where this is not possible, require undergrounding and shielding of such lines.

ON MOTION, was REFERRED to UBCM EXECUTIVE

B175 EMERGENCY PHONES ALONG MAJOR HIGHWAYS

Columbia Shuswap RD

WHEREAS the lack of telephone cell service in rural areas of the province causes travelers on the TransCanada Highway and other major highways in British Columbia to be at risk in case of an emergency or breakdown on those highways:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to install emergency phones at the side of major highways in isolated/rural areas of the province where no cellular telephone coverage exists.

ON MOTION, with amendment as recommended, was ENDORSED