

## Highlights of the UBCM Executive Meeting held November 25-26, 2010

The November Executive meeting is the first full meeting of the newly constituted Executive. At the end of this release, a list of the current 2010-11 Executive and the relevant committees are provided for your information.

As part of the two day session, meetings were held for seven committees and Executive members took part in an orientation session, received an update on current program activities and identified priorities for the coming year. In addition, a separate briefing on the status of elections legislation development was held. Executive members also had an opportunity to welcome and meet with the new Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Honourable Stephanie Cadieux and the new Deputy Minister, Grant Main.

### General Executive decisions:

- directed that UBCM continue to work with the Province on the development and implementation of changes to the **farm assessment process**.
- agreed to provide input into a consultation process by the Province to determine what powers or instruments would best serve local governments faced with community impacts due to closure or redevelopment of **manufactured home parks**.
- approved a report on a proposed study in relation to municipal **taxation of industrial properties** which recommended UBCM participation in the study if it were undertaken jointly by organizations represented on the Industrial Taxation Steering Committee (i.e., the Province, the Business Council of BC and UBCM).
- agreed to continue to provide input into the development of the **Off Road Vehicle (ORV)** management framework through the two established working groups and report back to the Executive as required.
- agreed to continue to monitor the review of the **Agriculture Land Commission** and report out when the review is complete.
- received and approved the UBCM/MIA joint submission in response to the Ministry of Attorney General's **White Paper on Limitation Act Reform: Finding the Balance**.
- received a report on **2010 resolutions** referred to the UBCM Executive and resolutions requesting UBCM action, and approved referral of relevant resolutions to Executive committees or other working groups as appropriate. [See sidebar for details.]

### Welcome to UBCM's Newest Member!

The Executive is pleased to welcome the Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap to the UBCM. The Village made an application for UBCM membership which was considered and approved by the Executive at the November meeting. We wish to welcome Chief Councillor Martin and fellow Village councillors to the UBCM.

*Please make copies of this circular and distribute to Council/Board Members /Staff.*

- received a report on conveyance of **2010 resolutions** to the provincial and federal governments as well as other organizations, and directed staff to report back to sponsors, the UBCM Executive and the UBCM membership as responses to the resolutions are received.
- received a report on announcements and other matters arising at Convention and directed that a letter be written to the Province on behalf of **Small Talk Forum** delegates, requesting that the provincial government investigate the public safety concerns associated with provincial highways that run through town centres.
- supported the following **conferences** for 2011:
  - Electoral Area Forum
  - Regional Districts Chair and CAO Forum
  - Local Government Leadership Academy
  - Community to Community Forum

Further information will follow as to firm dates and locations for the above referenced conferences.
- received a report on a resolution endorsed by AVICC members, calling for UBCM to communicate with the Province prior to the **2012 contract renewal with BC Ferries**, to explore ways to eliminate large annual fare hikes. Authorized the President to appoint a committee to communicate with the Province on this matter.
- received a status report on Victoria Operations including a status on the current provincially funded programs administered by UBCM under the **Local Government Program Services and the Gas Tax / Public Transit Programs**.
- confirmed **committee appointments** for the coming year. The President will fill any remaining external committee appointments in the coming weeks.
- received a report on the extensive **media coverage** obtained at the 2010 UBCM Convention.
- received a report on FCM **international programs** and will consider options for UBCM participation at the January 2011 meeting.

## Decision on Resolutions Referred to Executive

The following resolutions have been referred to Executive committees or other working groups for further research or consideration, as noted below.

Resolution	Action
SR1 RCMP Police Costs & Accountability	No Action Required (action already underway)
A4 Verification of Compliance with Medical Marijuana Access Regulations	Referred to Resolutions Committee to work with sponsor to amend or re-draft for consideration in 2011
B109 Marijuana Grow-ops	Referred to Community Safety Committee
B112 Improved Training for Rural General Practitioners	Referred to Healthy Communities Committee
B147 School District Buildings & Property	Referred to Joint UBCM-BCSTA Working Group
B148 School District Property Exchange	Referred to Joint UBCM-BCSTA Working Group
C10 RCMP Contract Cost Downloading	Referred to Community Safety Committee
LR2 Local Government Autonomy in Apportioning Property Tax Burden Among Assessment Classes	Referred to Steering Committee on Industrial Taxation

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Presidents**

The Presidents Committee confirmed its Terms of Reference for the coming year; appointed Vice-Presidents to specific portfolio responsibilities and received reports on member services and group benefits program including the new Bulk Fuel Purchasing Program. The Committee reviewed the work plan for the Excellence Awards program; considered a report from the Fire Services Liaison Group; received a report on the 2010 Awareness Week program and pending plans for the 2011 Program and received a report on the potential establishment of a province-wide BC 911 Cell Phone Levy.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- approved recommendations with respect to specific suppliers for the new Bulk Fuel Purchasing Program.
- appointed Chair Al Richmond, Electoral Area Representative as the UBCM representative to the Fire/Rescue Services Leadership Group.
- approved the proposed direction/workplan for the UBCM's Fiscal Management Study.
- directed that a meeting be arranged with the provincial government and the telecommunication industry on the establishment of a BC 911 Cell Phone Levy to determine whether or not a timely solution can be reached to the collection of funding from the wireless industry for 911 service.

### **Convention**

The Committee reviewed several aspects of the 2010 Convention, including the 2010 Delegate Evaluation ratings and comments. Some preliminary 2011 Convention planning was also discussed, with the Committee receiving information on the annual staff work plan, Committee Terms of Reference, and Conference Planning Cycle.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- supported commencing a special project to

investigate and report back on options for electronic voting at the 2011 Convention.

- directed that staff continue negotiations with the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa, and re-evaluate the UBCM room block policy, reporting back at the January Committee meeting.
- approved securing West Ballrooms C and D of the Vancouver Convention Centre for the 2011 Welcome Reception.

### **Environment**

The Committee members reviewed the mandate of the Committee, and discussed the status of key environment files and potential priorities for the upcoming year.

The Committee recommended that its work plan and priorities for the upcoming year be approved.

### **First Nations Relations**

The Committee reviewed its Terms of Reference and discussed its priorities for the coming year. The Committee also received a delegation from Chief Commissioner Manny Jules from the First Nations Tax Commission who expressed interest in undertaking specific joint policy work with UBCM.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- approved the Committee terms of reference and priorities for 2010/11; and
- approved in principle distribution of a member release to members on consultation with First Nations.

### **Healthy Communities**

The Committee reviewed its mandate and the status of work and discussed its goals and priorities for the coming year. The Committee put forward the following recommendations:

- approved its Terms of Reference and 2010/2011 workplan.
- supported working with the necessary stakeholders to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the local government liaison

- requirement in the Public Health Act.
- confirmed participation in the development of a food policy framework for BC public agencies.
- indicated it would advise the Province of our concerns about the lack of progress on the development of a cross ministry child poverty plan.
- agreed to meet with the Executive Director for Capital Services to discuss the progress of implementation of the recommendations in the Regional Hospital District Cost Sharing Review.

### **Community Economic Development**

The Committee reviewed its Terms of Reference and discussed its work plan for the coming year in the context of its goals and priorities.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- approved its work plan and goals and priorities for the year ahead; and
- confirmed it would work with affected local governments to ensure that they are consulted about the transition of authority from the provincial to federal government with respect to aquaculture.

### **Community Safety**

The Committee reviewed its mandate and discussed its goals and priorities for the upcoming year.

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- approved its work plan and priorities for the coming year; and
- agreed to organize a meeting with the Emergency and Health Services Commission to discuss providing supplies to first responders.

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## **2010 - 2011 UBCM COMMITTEES**

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### **Resolutions**

Mayor Sharon Gaetz, Chair  
 Mayor Greg Moore  
 Mayor Christopher Causton  
 Mayor Mike Bernier  
 Councillor Sav Dhaliwal

### **Nominating**

- to be established for -2010-2011  
 UBCM Past President and Area  
 Association Representatives  
 (Presidents or their designates)

### **Presidents Committee** (as

established in Executive policies)  
 Councillor Barbara Steele, President  
 Director Heath Slee,  
     First Vice-President  
 Mayor Mary Sjostrom,  
     Second Vice-President  
 Director Rhona Martin,  
     Third Vice-President  
 Mayor Greg Moore,  
     Metro Vancouver Representative  
 Chair Harry Nyce, Past President

### **Convention**

Director Heath Slee, Chair  
 Mayor Christopher Causton  
 Councillor Wesly Graham  
 Councillor Kevin Flynn  
 Councillor Tim Stevenson  
 Chair Harry Nyce

### **Community Safety**

Councillor Kevin Flynn, Chair  
 Mayor James Atebe  
 Councillor Jerrilyn Schembri  
 Mayor Greg Moore  
 Mayor Mary Sjostrom  
 Councillor Tim Stevenson

### **Environment**

Director Rhona Martin, Chair  
 Mayor Sharon Gaetz  
 Councillor Sav Dhaliwal  
 Mayor Mike Bernier  
 Chair Al Richmond

### **Healthy Communities**

Chair Al Richmond, Chair  
 Councillor Galina Durant  
 Councillor Murry Krause  
 Councillor Wesly Graham  
 Director Heath Slee  
 Director Rhona Martin

### **First Nations Relations**

Councillor Murry Krause, Chair  
 Mayor Barry Janyk  
 Councillor Jerrilyn Schembri  
 Chair Harry Nyce

### **Community Economic Development**

Mayor Mary Sjostrom, Chair  
 Mayor Barry Janyk  
 Mayor James Atebe  
 Councillor Galina Durant

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## Meeting with Honourable Stephanie Cadieux, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

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The Executive welcomed the new Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Honourable Stephanie Cadieux who was joined by the new Deputy Minister, Grant Main and Assistant Deputy Minister, Mike Furey. The Executive discussed the following issues with the Minister:

### ***Ministry's Advocacy Role in Government***

President Steele acknowledged the important relationship between UBCM and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development (MCSCD). The President acknowledged UBCM's appreciation for the MCSCD memo that was sent to all ministries, reminding them to consult with UBCM and local governments on key issues.

### ***Elections Task Force***

Minister Cadieux highlighted some of the key recommendations arising from the Elections Task Force, including timelines around the implementation of the proposed recommendations. Executive members noted the need to ensure sufficient time to educate local governments on the changes prior to local government elections. Members also discussed both the review of campaign expenses as well as transparency around campaign contributions. It was noted that the Elections Task Force focused on the review of campaign expenses as opposed to campaign contributions.

### ***Industrial Taxation***

Minister Cadieux acknowledged the hard work of the Industrial Tax Review Committee involving local government, industry representatives and the province over the past year. She also was aware that industrial taxation is a challenging issue with local governments, and that this was particularly evident at the UBCM Convention in local government comments. The Minister noted the need for additional discussions on the issue, and the Review Committee should continue to explore a range of options including looking beyond the "one size fits all" approach. Executive members acknowledged the difficulty in shifting the tax burden to retail and residential taxpayers. They also noted that the industrial taxation discussions should be a springboard for discussions around local government taxation powers and alternative revenue sources that would decrease local government reliance on industrial taxation.

### ***Affordable Housing***

Minister Cadieux acknowledged the success of the UBCM Convention affordable housing session, and that Ministry staff were working on the recommendations from the session with the Ministry responsible for Housing. The Minister raised issues around local government affordable market-housing strategies, the design of communities, and the consideration of the BC Building Code in the recommendations. Executive members noted the need to ensure provincial funding addressed homelessness in all communities, the need to examine the unique costs of building in the northern regions, and the definitional problems around affordable and affordability.

## 2010 – 2011 UBCM EXECUTIVE

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR BARBARA STEELE</b>	<b>SURREY</b>
<b>FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	<b>DIRECTOR HEATH SLEE</b>	<b>EAST KOOTENAY RD</b>
<b>SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	<b>MAYOR MARY SJOSTROM</b>	<b>QUESNEL</b>
<b>THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	<b>DIRECTOR RHONA MARTIN</b>	<b>COLUMBIA SHUSWAP RD</b>
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	<b>CHAIR HARRY NYCE</b>	<b>KITIMAT-STIKINE RD</b>
<b>VANCOUVER REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR TIM STEVENSON</b>	<b>VANCOUVER</b>
<b>GVRD REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>MAYOR GREG MOORE</b>	<b>PORT COQUITLAM</b>
<b>SMALL COMMUNITY REP.</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR GALINA DURANT</b>	<b>STEWART</b>
<b>ELECTORAL AREA REP.</b>	<b>CHAIR AL RICHMOND</b>	<b>CARIBOO RD</b>
<b>AKBLG</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR WESLY GRAHAM</b>	<b>CRESTON</b>
<b>LMLGA</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR SAV DHALIWAL</b>	<b>BURNABY</b>
<b>NCLGA</b>	<b>MAYOR MIKE BERNIER</b>	<b>DAWSON CREEK</b>
<b>SILGA</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR KEVIN FLYNN</b>	<b>SALMON ARM</b>
<b>AVICC</b>	<b>MAYOR CHRISTOPHER CAUSTON</b>	<b>OAK BAY</b>
<b>DIRECTORS AT LARGE</b>	<b>MAYOR JAMES ATEBE</b>	<b>MISSION</b>
	<b>MAYOR SHARON GAETZ</b>	<b>CHILLIWACK</b>
	<b>MAYOR BARRY JANYK</b>	<b>GIBSONS</b>
	<b>COUNCILLOR MURRY KRAUSE</b>	<b>PRINCE GEORGE</b>
	<b>COUNCILLOR JERRILYN SCHEMBRI</b>	<b>TUMBLER RIDGE</b>