



# MEMBER RELEASE

OCTOBER 1, 2002

## Disposition of Resolutions Considered at the 2002 UBCM Convention

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND POSITIONS ADOPTED AT THE 2002 CONVENTION. THE FULL AND EXACT WORDING OF ANY AMENDMENTS WILL APPEAR IN THE CONVENTION MINUTES.

### TAXATION

A1 PROVINCIAL HOMEOWNER GRANT ADMINISTRATION  
Endorsed

### HEALTH

A2 RE-AFFIRMING HEALTH CAPITAL FUNDING FORMULA  
Endorsed as amended  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities reaffirm its members' commitment to the existing cost sharing formula with the provincial government for health care capital project funding of at least 40%/60% where applicable;  
AND IT BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Union of BC Municipalities requests a reaffirmation of commitment to that principle from the provincial government.

### SELECTED ISSUES

A3 PURCHASING PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT ON INTERNAL TRADE (AIT)  
Endorsed

### TRANSPORTATION

A4 AIR TRAVEL SECURITY CHARGE  
Endorsed  
A5 ENABLING STREETCARS ON CITY STREETS  
Endorsed

### LAND USE

A6 TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWERS  
Endorsed  
C11 TRANSMISSION TOWERS AND TRANSMITTERS  
Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the federal government to:  
1. transfer control over the location of wireless telecommunication antenna structures to local government land use authorities; or alternatively,  
2. require Industry Canada to develop a mechanism that would enable the decision-makers in Industry Canada to receive and consider input from residents and landowners in the vicinity of proposed wireless telecommunication installations, including an appeal process, prior to the approval of same.  
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in formulating such mechanisms, Industry Canada consult with local government land use authorities through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

### SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

SR1 SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON CONSULTATION AND DOWNLOADING  
Endorsed as amended  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be called upon to:  
1) work to develop a better shared understanding by all Ministries and local government of what constitutes downloading;  
2) ensure Ministries and agencies adhere to a

principled definition of downloading;  
3) prepare and implement plans for meaningful consultation with local governments and communities on changes to levels of provincial services or funding that will impact those communities;  
4) ensure there is a full cost impact analysis, including social and environmental impacts, of changes in levels of service or funding prior to any changes being made; and  
5) where changes are made, develop implementation plans that are sensitive to local issues such as the timing of service reduction impacts on communities and their ability to respond if necessary.

SR2 SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON TRANSPORTATION  
Endorsed  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (1) That the UBCM express its support for the principle of local government involvement in advising on provincial transportation priorities in regions;
- (2) That the UBCM signal that regional transportation advisory committees must have significant and meaningful local government participation;
- (3) That in response to the Ministry of Transportation's discussion paper on opportunities for expanding transportation infrastructure, the UBCM assert that:
  - it is opposed to provincial highway tolls where there are no alternative non-toll routes;
  - it supports the principles for tolling as outlined in the discussion paper, and emphasizes support for the principles that small and/or safety-oriented improvements not incur a toll, that the public has the same access to tolled as it presently does to non-tolled highways save for necessary closures

Please make copies of this Circular and distribute them to Council/Board Members and Staff

due to safety and maintenance, and that cost-recovery is used as the basis for tolling,

- it strongly supports that public consultation occurs in all cases where tolls are considered; and
- when a highway project's fixed-term concession period expires, the government should ensure that toll collection ceases; and
- the provincial government not sell transportation infrastructure, and

(4) That other matters in resolutions (C35-39) be referred to the Executive.

## SECTION B – PART I

### JUSTICE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

B1 SIDE ARMS FOR AUXILIARY POLICE  
Endorsed

B2 RAISING THE AGE OF CONSENT  
Endorsed

B3 AGAINST CHILD PORNOGRAPHY  
Endorsed

B4 COLLECTION OF MTI FINES - TYPE A TICKETS  
Endorsed

B5 COLLECTION OF MTI FINES - TYPE B TICKETS  
Endorsed

B6 FIRE SUPPRESSION RESPONSIBILITY  
Endorsed

B7 TRAFFIC PATROL/ADULT CROSSING GUARDS  
Endorsed

### TRANSPORTATION

B8 BC FERRY SERVICE CHANGES  
Endorsed

B9 LICENSING OF OFF-ROAD/ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES  
Endorsed

### TAXATION

B10 PHASE OUT POLLUTION ABATEMENT EXEMPTIONS

Endorsed

B11 BC RAIL – PAYMENT OF FULL PROPERTY TAXES

Endorsed

### FINANCE

B12 GAS FRANCHISE FEES

Endorsed

B13 PER CAPITA FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Endorsed

B14 FIRE SERVICES ACT – INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX

Endorsed

### ENVIRONMENT

B15 WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES  
Endorsed

B16 COMMUNITY FLOOD PROTECTION IN BC

Endorsed

### LAND USE

B17 LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC LANDS

Endorsed

B18 GRAVEL REMOVAL

Endorsed

### COMMUNITIES AND RESOURCES

B19 BC BUILDS WOOD INDUSTRY COMPETITIVENESS

Endorsed

B20 PROVINCIAL SUPPORT FOR RURAL BRITISH COLUMBIA

Endorsed

### HEALTH

B21 NEED FOR PROVINCIAL HEALTH SMOKING REGULATIONS

Endorsed

### SELECTED ISSUES

B22 VIDEO GAMES RATING SYSTEM

Endorsed

B23 ACCESS TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Endorsed

## SECTION B – PART II

### LEGISLATIVE

B24 SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE  
Endorsed

B25 LIQUOR LICENSING  
Not Endorsed

### JUSTICE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

B26 CURFEW TO BE REINSTATED  
Not Endorsed

B27 RURAL RCMP DETACHMENTS – RESIDENCY  
Endorsed

B28 TRAINING OF RESCUE/FIRE PERSONNEL  
Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the provincial government to include local governments with municipal fire/rescue departments in any discussion about pre-hospital care to ensure local government has access to any level of training that it feels would meet local needs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities support a position that any discussion about the provision of pre-hospital

emergency care be based on the principle of providing consistent and adequate levels of service province-wide and establish a compatible and recognized level of first aid for B.C. ambulance, fire department, and industry sectors.

#### B29 MARIJUANA GROW OPERATIONS

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the Attorney General of the Province of British Columbia to pursue legislative changes to seek harsher penalties for persons involved in the growing and distribution of illicit drugs, and further that a specific policing initiative be undertaken to actively eliminate the production of illicit drugs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities pursue changes to the *Residential Tenancy Act* to permit an owner to evict a tenant engaged in the production of illicit drugs.

#### B30 CONTROLLING SALE OF GRAFFITI IMPLEMENTS

Withdrawn

---

### ELECTIONS

---

#### B31 FULL DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

Not Endorsed

#### B32 RESIDENCY OF CANDIDATES FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICE

Not Endorsed

#### B33 TAX RECEIPTS FOR LOCAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

Not Endorsed

#### B34 NON-RESIDENT VOTER STATUS FOR CORPORATIONS

Not Endorsed

---

### TRANSPORTATION

---

#### B35 SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS FACILITIES

Endorsed

#### B36 IMPACT OF BEETLE KILL ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Endorsed

#### B37 COAL DUST EMISSIONS

Endorsed

#### B38 DEFERRAL OF INDUSTRIAL TAXES

Not Endorsed

#### B39 BC RAIL - EXCESSIVE FEES BEING CHARGED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government to have rail crossing maintenance costs and lease payments suspended or at the very least rolled back to the 1997 level immediately until such time as BC Rail pays full property taxes as promised by this provincial government.

#### B40 FOREST FARMING ON AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

Referred to UBCM Executive

#### B41 STRATA VS. FEE SIMPLE RESIDENTIAL TAX RATES

Not Endorsed

#### B42 REMOVE TAX BENEFIT FROM USE OF MUNICIPAL VEHICLES

Endorsed and referred to FCM

---

### FINANCE

---

#### B43 BC GAS FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS

Endorsed

#### B44 TREATY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FUNDING

Endorsed

---

### ASSESSMENT

---

#### B45 MANAGING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN ASSESSMENT

Endorsed

#### B46 BASIS OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Not Endorsed

#### B47 FARM CLASS REVIEWS

Endorsed

#### B48 CLASSIFICATION AND EXEMPTION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE LAND RESERVE

Endorsed

---

### ENVIRONMENT

---

#### B49 BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS: TOILETS

Endorsed

#### B50 MUNICIPAL SEWAGE REGULATION

Endorsed

#### B51 WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT - APPEALS

Endorsed

#### B52 DRINKING WATER PROTECTION - SURCHARGES

Endorsed

#### B53 MANAGING CANADA GEESE POPULATIONS

Endorsed

#### B54 PROTECTION OF WATER SYSTEMS

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government adopt legislation similar to section 23 and sections 40 to 45 of the proposed "Drinking Water Protection Act 2001" which prohibits any tampering with water systems and proposing penalties of considerable strength, recognizing that encroachment of tampering with water systems places quality and control of these systems in perilous jeopardy and negatively affects the ability of water utilities to deliver a safe water supply, and establishing that such tampering or encroachment is a criminal offense punishable by significant fines or a jail term and providing authority for local government to stop such tampering or encroachment, or the threat of such tampering or encroachment, under any circumstance and with immediate effect.

#### B55 FRASER RIVER DEBRIS TRAP

Endorsed

---

### LAND USE

---

#### B56 LAND AND WATER BC, INC.

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request the provincial government to amend its land disposal policy and permit provincial agencies to grant Crown land direct to local government at no cost where

such lands are required to provide necessary community services.

**B57 TEMPORARY PERMIT TERM**

Endorsed

**B58 SUBDIVISION TO PROVIDE A RESIDENCE FOR A RELATIVE**

Endorsed

**B59 SOIL REMOVAL AND DEPOSIT**

Endorsed

---

**HEALTH**

---

**B60 MEAT INSPECTION**

Referred to UBCM Executive

**B61 HEALTH AUTHORITY BOARDS - REPRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities be requested to support a requirement for regional hospital district representation on health authority boards.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in keeping with the mandate of accountability to the public and local communities that regional health boards work with local governments and regional hospital districts to develop effective consultation processes on health issues of importance to citizens in communities.

**SELECTED ISSUES**

**B62 AUDIO BOOK SERVICE**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government reinstate full funding for audio book services and not download this service to municipal and regional libraries to fund from local property taxation.

**B63 CANADA POST UNADDRESSED ADMAIL POLICY**

Endorsed

**B64 FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMS**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities strongly urge the provincial government to maintain its commitment to the development of new social housing through the funding of appropriate housing programs that encompass the range of need in communities, including components of family housing and homeless at risk.

**B65 INSURANCE INDUSTRY LIABILITY CHANGES**

Endorsed

**B66 INFORMATION SHARING IN THE TREATY PROCESS**

Endorsed

**B67 SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY TRAILS**

Endorsed

**B68 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR GAMING LICENCES**

Not Endorsed

**B69 FUNDING FOR BUS PASSES FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS**

Endorsed

**B70 UBCM - TRAVEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR REMOTE COMMUNITIES**

Not Endorsed

**B71 UBCM FORUM FOR MEDIUM-SIZED MUNICIPALITIES**

Referred to UBCM Executive

**SECTION B - PART III**

---

**LEGISLATIVE**

---

**B72 MINIMUM HEATING STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL TENANTS**

Endorsed

---

**JUSTICE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

---

**B73 EFFECTS OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CUTBACKS TO LEGAL AID**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union

of BC Municipalities urge the provincial government to reinstate the funding for Legal Aid services in BC, and ensure that the designated revenue collected from the provincial lawyers and notaries be used solely for legal aid purposes.

**B74 DRUG TREATMENT CENTRES**

Endorsed

**B75 LAWS PERTAINING TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

Referred to UBCM Executive

---

**TRANSPORTATION**

---

**B76 TRANSPORT CANADA SECURITY FEE**

Endorsed

**B77 BC FERRIES SERVICE**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that BC Ferries be instructed to actively pursue other options, starting with an up-to-date Strategic Plan.

**B78 INLAND FERRIES**

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request that the provincial government prepare a socio-economic impact analysis on the effects to tourism, industrial transportation and residential traffic expected as a result of reductions of inland ferry services;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the socio-economic impact analysis, such is forwarded to Area Associations for their consideration.

**B79 CANADIAN COAST GUARD - RIVER NAVIGATION**

Endorsed and referred to FCM

---

**TAXATION**

---

**B80 TWO-YEAR GST-FREE PERIOD**

Endorsed

---

**FINANCE**

---

**B81 TOLL CHARGES AND USER FEES: TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS**

Not Endorsed

---

**ENVIRONMENT**


---

B82 ISSUES WITH BILL C-5: AN ACT RESPECTING THE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE SPECIES IN CANADA

Referred to UBCM Executive

B83 PROVINCIAL WEED CONTROL COMMITTEE

Endorsed

---

**LAND USE**


---

B84 PROVINCIAL MANAGEMENT OF FOREST RECREATION

Endorsed

B85 ACQUIRING AND PROTECTING TRAILS

Endorsed

B86 PARKS OPERATIONS

Endorsed

---

**COMMUNITIES AND RESOURCES**


---

B87 SOFTWOOD LUMBER DISPUTE

Not Endorsed

---

**HEALTH**


---

B88 HEALTH CARE SERVICES WITHIN BC

Endorsed

B89 PRINCIPLES OF MEDICARE

Endorsed

B90 REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF HEALTH MINISTERS

Not Endorsed

B91 IMPLICATIONS OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

Endorsed as amended and referred to FCM

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities request the provincial and federal governments to examine the implications of free trade agreements on our public health care policies and operations.

B92 ACCESSIBLE LOCAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities appeal to the provincial government to make every effort to preserve health care services in British Columbia in accordance with its commitments to provide accessible, timely and necessary health care throughout British Columbia.

---

**SELECTED ISSUES**


---

B93 REINSTATEMENT OF TROPHY HUNTING BAN ON GRIZZLY BEARS

Referred to UBCM Executive

B94 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Endorsed

B95 RENTAL INSURANCE AND BUSINESS INTERRUPTION INSURANCE

Not Endorsed

B96 OMBUDSMAN BUDGET

Endorsed

B97 NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR SPECTATOR PROTECTION AT HOCKEY GAMES

Endorsed

B98 ACCESS TO LOCAL PRODUCERS

Endorsed

B99 NORTHERN MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Referred to the NCMA

B100 PROVINCIAL LOTTERY TICKET FOR AMATEUR SPORTS PROGRAMS AND AMATEUR ATHLETES

Endorsed

---

**Resolutions Received After the Deadline**


---

[Note: Resolutions Received after the Deadline appear in Policy Book 2]

LR1 LIQUOR LICENSING CHANGES: LOCAL CONSULTATION

Endorsed as amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities demand that the provincial government conduct meaningful consultation with the Union of BC Municipalities and member municipalities before changes to liquor licensing legislation regulations are introduced.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial government direct that:

- the decision to allow the expansion of patron capacity in existing premises before the new regulation takes effect on December 2, 2002 be rescinded;

- it be replaced with a policy that fully respects the spirit of the direction approved at Open Cabinet (March 15th 2002) under which all patron capacity increases would include local government approval; and

- it restore the limit on the number of restaurant drinking only seats established by Cabinet in December 2001 and the local government approval of these drinking only seats in restaurants.

LR2 SMALL COMMUNITY SUPPLEMENT FOR EDUCATION

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Education ensures that the Small Community Supplement is used to keep rural schools open.

LR3 CANADIAN COAST GUARD SERVICE

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities petition the federal government to provide, as soon as possible, a modern, suitably equipped and staffed Coast Guard service, including hovercraft, capable of meeting the service needs of the Fraser Delta and similarly all service areas across the province.

LR4 TELUS OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge Telus to reconsider its "Operational Efficiency Program" in order to reduce the number of job losses and to more fairly distribute the impact of workforce reductions.

LR6 SOFTWOOD LUMBER DISPUTE: PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AND WORKERS

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities:

- Solicit the cooperation of other provinces in presenting a united front to the Prime Minister urging that the Federal Government, having jurisdiction over international trade, continue to press the United States for an early resolution to this dispute;
- Endorse and propose to the Federal Government the urgent requirement for relief to displaced forestry workers in the form of pension bridging for older workers, retraining programs and enhanced Employment Insurance benefits for others affected by this dispute;
- Endorse and propose to the Federal Government the urgent requirement for relief to affected communities such that they might undertake Community Economic Development or Diversification Initiatives, and work with communities to promote a positive and regulatory-friendly environment conducive to the attraction of new business;
- Endorse and propose to the Provincial Government that any new forest policies that are both conducive to facilitating an end to the U.S. lumber trade dispute and are good for the Province of British Columbia, be implemented as soon as possible.

#### LR7 VALUE OF BC RAIL TO BC COMMUNITIES

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities, on behalf of its members, undertakes a comprehensive study to determine the value, including future opportunities, of BC Rail to our communities and the province of British Columbia.

### 2002 UBCM CONVENTION POLICY PAPER DISPOSITION

[Policy Papers #1 - #5 are available for review on *Civinet*, [www.civinet.gov.bc.ca/](http://www.civinet.gov.bc.ca/)]

#### POLICY PAPER #1: RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CHARTER

All recommendations endorsed (see page 6 in policy book #1)

#### POLICY PAPER #2: RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION PAPER ON CIVIL LIABILITY

All recommendations endorsed (see pages 10-12 in policy book #1)

#### POLICY PAPER #3: FOREST POLICY

All recommendations endorsed (see page 13-16 in policy book #1).

The paper was amended with the addition of the recommendation of LR5:

#### LR5 Forest Policy: Small Scale Salvage Program

That the provincial government retain control of the small scale salvage program so that all Crown Forests can have small scale salvage permits issued for the well being of BC forest's health and economy.

#### POLICY PAPER #4: ENERGY POLICY DIGEST

The Convention approved the following positions:

The UBCM supports the maintenance of a regulated price structure utilizing cost-based, postage-stamp rates that ensure economical electricity to all parts of the province.

The UBCM supports community-based energy policies and programs.

The UBCM does not support the privatization or sale of BC Hydro electrical generation, transmission or distribution functions, nor does it support the contracting of administrative services to Accenture, and urges the provincial government

to recognize BC Hydro as a strategic core public asset to preserve and promote energy advantages for British Columbians.

The UBCM supports a program that ensures low cost service extensions to provide electrical power to all areas of the province.

The UBCM urges the BC Utilities Commission, when considering future policy development, to review and articulate the tax load presently affecting BC electricity rates in order to present the true-cost of electricity in the province.

The UBCM recommends the consideration of implications of the Kyoto Protocol and federal legislation that may affect provincial policy.

**Note:** UBCM support for the improvement of BC Hydro transmission lines, the export of hydro electricity after domestic needs are met and access to transmission lines allowing independent power producers access to export markets was referred to the UBCM Executive.

#### POLICY PAPER #5: 2002 ENVIRONMENT ACTION PLAN

All recommendations endorsed (see pages 27-29 in policy book #1)

#### POLICY PAPER #6: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PROVINCE OF B.C. ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN THE NEGOTIATION OF TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

The Convention approved the following motion:

1. That the UBCM Executive be authorized to sign the MOU, which will be subject to an initial trial-use period;
2. That implementation of the MOU be monitored over the next 10 to 12 months and begin, if possible, with a workshop for provincial treaty negotiators on its contents; and that
3. the MOU be brought to the 2003 UBCM Convention with possible amendments to be considered for ratification by the membership.

**NOTE: INFORMATION TO BE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE SOON**

Visit our site at: <http://www.civinet.gov.bc.ca/>

**Please make copies of this Circular and distribute them to Council/Board Members and Staff**