



# MEMBER RELEASE

December 1, 2010

TO: Mayor and Council  
Chair and Regional District Boards

FROM: Barbara Steele, President

RE: **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARENESS WEEK: MAY 15 - MAY 21, 2011**

We would like to let you know that Local Government Awareness Week will be held from **May 15 - May 21, 2011**, in conjunction with National Public Works Week.

Local Government Awareness Week is a partnership between UBCM, CivicInfo BC, Local Government Management Association, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, Ministry of Education, Public Works Association and BC School Trustees Association.

This initiative was re-instated following the endorsement of resolution 2009-A2, which requested that the provincial government work with UBCM and other local government partner organizations to proclaim an annual local government week in British Columbia. The goal for the week is to generate awareness and educate the public about the roles and responsibilities of local government, and encourage the public to participate in local government processes, including voting in local elections.

Our theme for 2011 is **Be Heard**. This theme was chosen to reflect the upcoming local government elections.

We will be developing a quiz and other resources for you to use to encourage

your community to vote in the 2011 elections.

Check out our website, [www.lgaw.bc.ca](http://www.lgaw.bc.ca) to find out more information about Local Government Awareness Week, browse the resources on the site, and download information to help you get started.

And finally, to encourage local governments to participate in Local Government Awareness Week, we will again be offering an Excellence Award for Best Practices, Best Civic Engagement.

If your local government plans to participate in Awareness Week, this category is for you! We want to hear what you did and how you engaged your community. Please look for the Excellence Awards application package on the UBCM website starting early June.

Thank you for participating and we look forward to hearing about your activities!

For questions about this initiative, please contact our staff support, Marylyn Chiang, at [mchiang@ubcm.ca](mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca), or 604.270.8226 ext.110.