UBCM Welcomes Gitwinksihlkw

UBCM would like to welcome the Village of Gitwinksihlkw as a new member of UBCM. The Village of Gitwinksihlkw (prounounced Git-win-sihk) is one of four Nisga’a villages. It is located in northwestern BC on the north bank of the Nass River, 100 km northwest of Terrace.

When the Nisga’a treaty came into effect in 2000, the Village boundaries expanded to approximately 518 hectares. It has a population of 235 with an additional transient population of a further 25 people that reside in Gitwinksihlkw seasonally.

Primary employers for Gitwinksihlkw residents include the Village, School District #59, the Nisga’a Valley Health Authority, Wyly Wealth Ltd, Nisga’a Institute and the Nisga’a Lisims government. Private businesses located throughout the Nass Valley also employ some individuals while others have their own home-based businesses. Seasonal employment includes forestry, fisheries, and mining industries.

In the 1700s a volcanic eruption occurred in the Nisga’a territory, destroying two villages, Survivors eventually resettled at Gitwinksihlkw. which means Place of the Lizards. According to oral tradition, large lizards lived here before the eruption. Today, the lizards are gone but the vast lava beds still dominate the valley, acting as a memorial to those who lost their lives. The Village overlooks the Nisga’a Memorial Lava Bed Park.

Indigenous Recognition and Reconciliation Act Proposed

Background on the New Relationship

The provincial government developed the New Relationship vision document in 2005 with the BC First Nations Leadership Council. The Council includes the executive members of the First Nations umbrella organizations, First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the BC Assembly of First Nations. The Leadership Council agreed to a new government-to-government relationship which is based on respect, recognition and accommodation of Aboriginal title and rights.

Under the New Relationship, the Parties seek reconciliation of Aboriginal crown and non-crown jurisdictions. This includes seeking reconciliation of land and resource issues both in and out of the planning and management systems, and aims to close the socio-economic gap between First Nations and non-First Nations people.

In the vision document, the Parties agree to developing new approaches for consultation with First Nations and accommodation of Aboriginal title. The Parties further agree to establish processes and institutions for shared decision-making about land and resource issues (e.g. land use planning, management, tenure and revenue sharing. The Parties are proposing Indigenous Recognition and Reconciliation legislation that would formalize and implement the New Relationship.

Proposed Indigenous Recognition and Reconciliation Act

The proposed legislation is the topic of a discussion paper posted on the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation website. A summary of the discussion paper follows.

The purpose of the legislation, in part, is to:

- Recognize Aboriginal rights and title throughout BC;
- Establish mechanisms for shared decision-making in regard to planning, management and tenuring of crown land and resources; and
- Establish revenue and benefit sharing agreements between First Nations and the Province.

The Act would apply to all ministries and provincial agencies particularly those that have a role in the management of provincial lands and resources, and will take priority over all other provincial statutes.

In addition to recognizing Aboriginal rights and title, the proposed legislation would recognize Crown title.

The proposed legislation would not:

- Alter or create new constitutional rights;
- Alter constitutional division of powers;
- Affect the status of existing provincial crown grants or tenures in land or resources, including fee simple title.

Continued on page 13
Without question, the most significant development impacting local governments in B.C. this year has been the renewed emphasis on infrastructure rehabilitation. Infrastructure investment has been identified as a key driver to stimulate our economy. UBCM has been fully supportive of this statement of principle and the infrastructure file has the potential to result in very positive impacts for our membership. However, as we observe the roll out of federal stimulus funding in our province over the last year, the role of the funding promised in the Federal Budget 2009 will be delivered.

There certainly have been some very positive developments with the delivery of funding promised in the Federal Budget 2009. It was good to see the acceleration and top-up of the Building Canada program earlier this spring. It has also been good to see the rollout of the federal Community Adjustment Fund and the Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program.

As I write this, there are many uncertainties remain:

1. There is a question as to how funding decisions will be made with regard to B.C.'s portion of the $4 billion federal infrastructure stimulus fund and that has not yet been earmarked for the Communities Component of Building Canada. However, the provincial governments own more than half of the infrastructure in Canada. As a result, UBCM's position is that

50% of the stimulus funding should flow through to local governments at a minimum. Our membership needs to remain vigilant with both our federal and provincial partners to ensure that this stimulus funding is earmarked to rehabilitate local government infrastructure.

2. UBCM also wonders how funding will be delivered to larger communities in B.C. The 2009 federal budget committed an additional $500 million nationally for the Communities Component of Building Canada (for communities with populations less than 100,000) as well as a portion of the stimulus Fund. At present there is no clear path to bring new funding to B.C.'s larger communities. They are presently dealing directly with the Province to identify their infrastructure priorities. Some have received new funding but others have not.

3. The infrastructure stimulus funding also stipulates a requirement that matching funds must be available from the provincial government as well as local governments. In order to secure that, maximum funding is available for local governments in B.C. we must ensure the participation of both the federal and provincial governments.

One exception to the above criteria is the recently announced Recreation Infrastructure Canada Program which has recently been rolled out. This program requires a provincial contribution. However, this will likely mean that local governments will end up funding at least two-thirds of the project amount. I will be following up with the provincial government in the coming weeks and advocating that they contribute an equal share.

No doubt a contributing factor to the uncertainty is the timing of the provincial election, which requires that consolidation on such matters be put on hold. UBCM looks forward to the appointment of new cabinet and, continuing our discussions with the Premier and the Minister of Community Development. In recent years, B.C. has been at the forefront of other provinces, by ensuring that money dedicated to local infrastructure gets put in the hands of local governments.

Yes there are valid concerns being expressed by our membership concerning the speed at which these programs are being rolled out and the extent to which funding will flow through to local government infrastructure. However, I would still maintain that, overall, the infrastructure file presents opportunity, in addition to challenges. For years our governments have spoken loud and clear about an infrastructure deficit and the programs announced early this year would appear to acknowledge that reality. Now we must collectively turn this funding opportunity into reality.

We all need to do our part to make this happen. In early June a UBCM circular was sent to all local governments providing information on the various infrastructure programs. Our intention was to provide the membership with as much information as possible, on the various programs that have been announced. We also suggested that you reiterate your priorities by sending them to your MLAs and MPs. Our rationale behind this suggestion is that we need to keep local government infrastructure, first and foremost, on the minds of our MLAs and MPs. We would also encourage each local government to copy their correspondence to UBCM.

In other news we are now in the midst of our planning for our 2009 Convention in Vancouver. You will be receiving our convention brochure shortly and I urge each of you to ensure that you attend our annual convention at the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre from September 28 - October 2.
In Memoriam – Tony Green

On March 13, 2009, Tony Green passed away following an extended battle with Alzheimer’s and complications from pneumonia. He was 74 years old.

Mr. Green was born January 8, 1935, in Oldham, England, but spent the greater part of his life in Port Alberni, BC. Upon graduation from high school, he worked for a summer as a land surveyor. In 1950, he started his 35 year career in municipal administration by securing a junior position with the City. In 1956, Mr. Green became the Clerk/ Treasurer for the Okanagan community of Armstrong BC, and in 1962, the Clerk/Administrator for the City of Quesnel BC where he stayed for 17 years. In October 1981, Mr. Green became the Municipal Administrator/Clerk of North Saanich, BC. He retired from municipal administration in January 1986 at the age of 55, but did some short-term contract work during the next few years for several communities (e.g. Castlegar, View Royal, and Central Saanich). Mr. Green was a life member and former President of the Municipal Officer’s Association, an active member and former president of the Rotary Club of Quesnel, a certified patron for the Quesnel Ski Patrol, and a long-standing member and executive secretary (Treasurer, President, and President for the Glen Meadows Golf Members Association.

Although he will be greatly missed by family, friends, and former colleagues alike, Mr. Green’s influence will continue on through his municipal and community work.

If you would like to view or sign Mr. Green’s online memorial guest book, please visit the following link: www.legacys.com/Lookup/1-U500612522422X.

Aman Virk – In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Mayor Aman Virk of the Town of Golden. Mayor Virk passed away while vacationing in India on April 26, 2009 due to complications of a heart attack. He was 39 years old.

Mayor Virk was born in Coquitlam, England. In 1979 his family immigrated to Canada, settling in Golden. Throughout his life, he had been actively involved with a variety of community organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Golden Economic Development Commission and the Rotary Club. He was a business owner and Town Councillor for 12 years before becoming Mayor in December 2008. He was also a dedicated husband and father.

In the words of Jon Wilgower, Manager of Corporate Administration in the Town of Golden, Mayor Virk “was considered the great facilitator for Council – understanding the importance of all viewpoints, encouraging and even stating counter-arguments, that he may agree with, thereby all sides of an issue were considered. In doing so, he was forever able to elegantly summarize, simplify, and add balance to discussions for all of us to understand.”

Mayor Virk’s dedication, leadership and support, will be greatly missed by fellow citizens of Golden as well as colleagues from around the province.

TAGS 2009: The Anti Graffiti Symposium

Submitted by the Township of Kitimat

The Township of Esquimalt will be hosting the nation’s TAGS 2009 Anti Graffiti Symposium, with the Victoria Police Department (West Division) on October 21st and 22nd at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort which is located in Victoria, B.C., Canada.

The objective of the 2009 TAGS Anti Graffiti Symposium is to educate both law enforcement agencies, local governments and the general public about issues of graffiti crime in their communities and to clarify some of the following questions about tagger graffiti: Who is doing it, what does it mean, how do we investigate it, how do we prevent it, how do we control it?

The 2009 conference sessions will be based on three streams: law enforcement, municipal anti-graffiti initiatives and community crime prevention programming. These presentations will be given by experienced anti-graffiti investigators and speakers from Canada and the USA. The law enforcement presenters will share information regarding integrated graffiti identification and analysis, new graffiti-database tracking systems and interview techniques for investigating graffiti.

Presentations will also be given by members of municipal governments and community-based graffiti programs who will share successful prevention strategies currently being utilized in their communities. It is our hope that the delegates of this symposium will come away from the conference with an increased knowledge of how to fight the global graffiti problem that currently affects all our communities, as well as being re-energized and inspired to form their own anti-graffiti task forces to continue to fight the blight that affects everyone’s quality of life.

For more TAGS 2009 information and bookings, please visit www.esquimalt.ca/business-development/tags-2009 or contact the office at 250-361-1555.

Local Governments Exempted from Fees

The Land Title and Survey Authority (LTSA) confirms that effective April 1, 2009, Government ministries and central agencies will be exempt from paying for Land Title and Survey Authority (LTSA) statutory services. A list of fees-exempt customers is posted on the home page at www.ltsa.ca. The LTSA customer fee schedule (www.ltsa.ca/fees) will apply to all land customers. The list of exemptions does include the following: “Municipalities and Regional Districts in BC (for exempt only for transactions relating to the taxation of real property).”

The LTSA advises that this particular fee exemption is not new, but is a continuation of an old exemption. However, it appears that some local governments were not aware of this exemption.

For more information respecting eligibility at an LTSA fee exempt customer, please contact Grant Farrell at the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands at 250-356-5756 or Grant.Farrell@gov.bc.ca.

Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC (LIRN)

LIRN BC partnership has issued an Expression of Interest for rural and northern communities to apply to have a one-day learning event on a topic selected by the local community. Stakeholders are encouraged to come together to determine which issues are key to their community and what learning (topic(s) would help them to move forward. The LIRN partners will help you to develop the learning day, will attend and provide a presentation on the topic, and will facilitate discussion toward further action.

LIRN will partner with non-profit organizations, First Nations Band Councils and municipalities who are located in a rural, remote and/or Northern region of BC – rural is defined as communities that are below about 25,000 in population and beyond regular commuting distance from a larger centre.

Can demonstrate support or partnership within the community (including coordination to avoid multiple applications from the same community);

Can demonstrate local need for the learning event;

Can articulate anticipated outcomes for a LIRN event in their community.

Application deadline is July 3, 2009. The RFI can be downloaded at www.sparc.bc.ca/community-development
Area Associations

### Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mayor Christopher Causton</td>
<td>Oak Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Chair Joe Stanhope</td>
<td>Nanaimo RD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Barry Aris</td>
<td>Qualicum Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Mayor Barry Janyk</td>
<td>Gibsons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral Area Rep</td>
<td>Director Mary Marcotte</td>
<td>Cowichan Valley RD</td>
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<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Councillor Norma-Leonard</td>
<td>Courtenay</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Kerr Whitman</td>
<td>Port Alberni</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Merv Unger</td>
<td>Nanaimo City</td>
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The 2010 AVICC Convention will be held in Powell River, April 9-11, 2010.

### Lower Mainland Local Government Association

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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mayor James Aitken</td>
<td>Mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Sav O'Neill</td>
<td>Burnaby</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Barbara Steele</td>
<td>Surrey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Councillor Corinne Lonsdale</td>
<td>Squamish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Councillor Craig Spier</td>
<td>Maple Ridge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Doug McLean</td>
<td>White Rock</td>
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<td>Councillor Anne Peterson</td>
<td>Delta</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Lonnie Williams</td>
<td>New Westminster</td>
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The 2010 LMELGA Convention will be held in Harrison Hot Springs, May 10-12, 2010.

### Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments

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<th>Role</th>
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<td>Director Grace McGregor</td>
<td>Kootenay Boundary RD</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Wendy Graham</td>
<td>Creston</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Director Heath Slee</td>
<td>East Kootenay RD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Councillor Kirk Duff</td>
<td>City of Castlegar</td>
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<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Director Rob Gay</td>
<td>East Kootenay RD</td>
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<td>Councillor Al Graham</td>
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<td>Councillor Debra Kozak</td>
<td>Nelson</td>
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<td>Councillor Randall Macnair</td>
<td>Fernie</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Director Andy Shadrack</td>
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The 2010 AKELGA Convention will be held in Castlegar, April 22-24, 2010.

### North Central Local Government Association

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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Chair Karen Goodings</td>
<td>Peace River RD</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Mayor Mike Bernier</td>
<td>Dawson Creek</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Chair Art Kaelin</td>
<td>Fraser-Fort George RD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Councillor Murray Krause</td>
<td>Prince George</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Mayor Larry White</td>
<td>Tumbler Ridge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Coralie Oakes</td>
<td>Queestel</td>
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<td>Councillor Cameron Stolz</td>
<td>Prince George</td>
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The 2010 NCLGA Convention will be held in Smithers, May 5-7, 2010.

### Southern Interior Local Government Association

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<tr>
<td>Pres/CSRD Rep</td>
<td>Councillor Kevin Flynn</td>
<td>Salmon Arm</td>
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<td>1st Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Noreen Cahter</td>
<td>Lake Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Harry Kroeker</td>
<td>Merritt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Director Rhona Martin</td>
<td>Columbia Shuswap RD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Mayor Wayne Lippert</td>
<td>Vernon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Councillor Marg Spina</td>
<td>Kamloops</td>
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The 2010 SILGA Convention will be held at Sun Peaks, April 28-30, 2010.

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### NET-WORK·BOOK

**UBCM MEMBER SERVICES PROGRAM**

**ORDER YOUR 2008 NET-WORK·BOOK NOW!**

The 2008 Directory is here. This Directory is a comprehensive workbook for those working in local government or who want to know who is who in B.C. local government.

- Municipal and regional government listings of elected officials and senior staff
- Ministry of Community Services
- Federal cabinet and B.C. MPs
- Selected provincial and local agencies and commissions
- Other organizations that have ties to local government.

**Yes! I want to order the 2008 Network·Book (prepayment required)**

<table>
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<th>Quantity</th>
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**Add 5% GST (Reg. #108130541)**

| **7% PST** | **$** |

**TOTAL** | **$**

**Attention:**

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HR SERVICES
Policy Update

CAO CASE STUDIES AVAILABLE ON BOARD OF EXAMINERS WEBSITE

The Provincial Board of Examiners is pleased to announce that case study papers, prepared by local government Chief Administrative Officers and Deputy Chief Administrative Officers, have been made available online for general interest and research purposes.

CAO’s and Deputy CAO’s must complete an oral and written presentation to the Board in order to fulfill the requirements for the Certificate in Local Government Executive Management. This certificate is one of four certificates that may be granted by the Board to local government staff who satisfy the work experience and academic requirements for certification (see the Local Government Employees Certification Regulation BC Reg. 52/2004 for full details).

The papers that make up the provincial board of examiners’ program are written in the form of a “case study” and must be on a topic related to local government experience. The case study should touch on as many of the challenges that can be expected to be faced by the local government officer and should provide insight into the officer’s approach towards local government administration. The emphasis of the case study must be on professional practice. It should demonstrate the officer’s knowledge of the dynamics of a challenging situation that was handled.

The case studies now on-line provide a historical perspective of the challenges faced and how those challenges were met relative to the legislative framework and the management tools available at the time the papers were written.

What’s New Online?
The following are some new additions and key updates to the UBCM website (www civivnet.ubcm.ca):

Nominations & Elections
Convention / Nominations & Elections
The 2009 Call for Nominations to the UBCM Executive has been posted. Please check this page for information and guidelines related to the UBCM’s nominations and elections process.

Community Excellence Awards
Programs & Services / Community Excellence Awards Program
The 2009 Application Booklet for the Community Excellence Awards Program is available online. Remember to submit your community’s application prior to the July 24 deadline! While you’re there, check out past award winners, and review previous submissions in the online Community Excellence Awards Library.

Convention Session Proposals
Convention / 2009 Convention / Session Proposals
The online submission form for Convention session proposals is now live. Deadline for submission of proposals is June 26.

UBCM Resolutions
Resolutions & Policy / Resolutions Database
When drafting resolutions for the 2009 Convention, remember to look through some previous resolutions in the online UBCM historical resolutions database. Use this resource to research UBCM policy positions based on past resolutions, or to assist in drafting your own resolutions on a particular topic. Contact Roko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator (604.270.0226 ext. 115 or rtagami@civivnet.ubcm.ca) with any questions about the resolutions database.

Staff
About UBCM / Staff
UBCM has had some staffing changes over the past few months. Visit the Staff page to learn about our new staff members and review which staff members handle UBCM’s various policy and other portfolios.

Changes Made to the National Do Not Call List

In 2008, the CRTC created a National Do Not Call List (DNCL) with the intention of reducing the number of telemarketing calls that Canadians receive. Certain groups were exempt from this list, including registered charities and newspapers.

The Board of Examiners considers this body of work to be a catalogue of types of issues faced by local government CAO’s and hopes that these case studies will be of interest to the local government community.

The Board wishes to gratefully acknowledge the assistance of CivivNet in preparing the case studies for online publication and for housing the work on their website.

To see the papers, please visit the Board’s website at: www.civivnet.ubcm.ca/ldg/structure/board/examiners/mtr.htm

Resolutions Update

Many high quality, clearly written and well-researched resolutions have been submitted to the UBCM for consideration at the 2009 Convention. We anticipate more arrivals as the June 30 deadline approaches. Some of this year’s hot topics include:

- local government elections
- provision of fire services
- rails with trails
- climate change
- recycling and product stewardship
- watershed management and land use
- independent power projects and alternative energy
- drinking water safety

A reminder memo went out to all UBCM members earlier this month, advising of the June 30 deadline for resolution submissions and the requirement for local governments to ensure that at least one member of their delegation is in attendance at resolutions sessions at Convention. Please contact Roko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator, with any questions about the UBCM resolutions process. Tel: 604.270.0226 ext. 115; Email: rtagami@civivnet.ubcm.ca

UBCM NEWS JUNE 2009 5
The Community Energy Association (CEA) is a collaboration of the Union of BC Municipalities, the Province, Planning Institute of BC, transit and energy providers and individual local governments. The organization assists BC local governments to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy through community energy/GHG planning and project implementation.

CEA Welcomes New Local Government Members

The City of North Vancouver and District of North Vancouver are the first local governments to join the Community Energy Association. While UBCM was a founder of CEA and remains the central agency on the CEA Board and Executive, CEA has recently opened its membership to individual local governments. Local government members have access to information, discussions and leadership opportunities. Richard White, Director of Community Development, City of North Vancouver, said: “CEA’s energy planning and project implementation services have been proven to be very effective. We are excited to be a part of this important initiative.”

CEA Engages New Executive Director – Norm Connelly

The CEA is pleased to announce the appointment of Norm Connelly as Executive Director. Norm Connelly is an urban planning professional with ten years experience in corporate, municipal, federal, and not-for-profit sectors. He has served the past ten years as a senior researcher and project manager for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, managing sustainable communities planning workshops and integrated design charrettes for prominent projects throughout western Canada. Most recently Norm has been managing a team developing a 20-year renewal plan for Granville Island, addressing infrastructure, sustainability, transportation and land use challenges. Norm holds a Masters in Environmental Design – Urban Planning from University of Calgary, LEED™ accreditation and a Bachelor of Commerce.

Norm Connelly will replace Laura Forcher, who has served as CEA Executive Director since 2003 and has chosen to return to her roots and take a more focused role. Norm Connolly joins CEA staff Dale Littlejohn, Manager of CEA Local Government Advisory Services; Patricia Bell, Sr. Community Energy Planner; Community Energy Planners Peter Robinson (in Kelowna), Patricia Dehn (in Nelson) and Adam James (in Warfield); and Laura Porch, Partnership Development (in Victoria), in helping BC local governments meet provincial climate objectives.

BC Local Government Energy Survey 2008

CEA conducted an energy survey in November 2008 on behalf of the Province and other partners. Goals of the survey were to identify status of energy initiatives, interest in various actions, barriers to implementation and support that would be of most use. Results indicate that planning is well underway: approximately half of respondents have energy/GHG plans underway and just under a third have completed them. Implementation and monitoring are largely under way and GHG reductions. Top drivers for action on both energy and GHG were the BC Climate Action Charter and a leadership role. Leadership in operations is seen as important both for developing community-wide action and reducing energy costs were the other leading driver. The next frontier in local government climate and energy activity may be the shift from planning to implementation and the integration of climate and energy into economic development strategies. There is great opportunity over the next two years with establishing CEC targets in Official Community Plans by 2010, locking in planning and policies, and moving toward implementation. Survey results, including barriers and priority initiatives, are posted to CEA’s website at: www.communityenergy.bc.ca/resources-introduction/2008-energy-survey-report.

A regional approach to this large scale is unique in Canada – the Carbon Neutral Kootenays project involves 37 local governments: 29 Kootenay municipalities, 5 First Nation communities and 3 Bands.

CEA’s 2009 Energy & Climate Action Awards – Deadline August 20

The Community Energy Association, Union of British Columbia Municipalities and BC Hydro Power Smart are pleased to invite all local governments in British Columbia to participate in the 2009 Energy Action Awards competition. The awards are offered annually to a municipality or regional district implementing a project or program that best integrates energy and climate action planning into community planning processes and development strategies. Awards are offered in two categories:

- Community-level planning and development
- Corporate operations

All BC municipalities and regional districts are encouraged to apply. Winners come from all sizes of communities – leadership demonstrated to surmount challenges is an important judging criterion. Awards will be presented at the UBCM Convention. Please download the new easy-to-complete electronic application from the Community Energy Association website at www.communityenergy.bc.ca (Showcase and Awards). Deadline August 20, 2009.

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CEA Launches Local Government Advisory Services

For more than a decade the Community Energy Association has been the only BC organization focused exclusively on supporting local governments to achieve energy and climate awareness, knowledge, transfer and action. We have earned a reputation as a trusted independent advisor, helping a variety of local government leaders take steps toward energy sustainability and GHG reduction. To complement our standard support program, we are now offering fee-for-service advisory services for projects that require more in-depth assistance.

CEA Local Government Advisory Services is committed to developing capacity within local government as we collaborate with you at every step. Upon project start-up, we engage project participants to establish capacity development commitments for knowledge, skills and key activities. Our advisory team will also help identify links to potential funding sources. Our rates are competitive with others in the profit and non-profit sectors and as a charitable non-profit, all proceeds from CEA Advisory Services go to supporting CEA’s non-profit educational activities for local governments. For more information about how we can help you, please contact: Dale Littlejohn, Manager, CEA Local Government Advisory Services dlittlejohn@communityenergy.bc.ca 604-287-7076.
Police Issues in Brief

RCMP Contract Renewal

The current RCMP contract will expire in 2012, and the federal and provincial/territorial governments are in the process of identifying policy issues related to the contract that need to be changed. The purpose is to ensure that there is a clear understanding of each issue before detailed contract discussions are undertaken. It is anticipated that RCMP contract discussions may begin in the fall of 2008.

The Province intends to amend the Police Act, the changes were originally introduced in the spring sitting of the legislature, however the legislation died on the order paper when the provincial election was called. It is anticipated that the legislative amendments will be reintroduced at the next sitting of the legislature.

The underlying intent of the Police Act amendments will be to:
- change the public complaints process to ensure that it is an open process and reflects public concerns;
- expand the inspection powers of the province – give it broader authority to undertake value for money and management audits of police agencies falling under its jurisdiction;
- clarify the authority of the province to establish police standards.

Ontario Court Decision – RCMP Labour Relations

A recent decision by the Ontario Supreme Court has brought into question the future direction of labour relations between the federal government and police officers employed by the RCMP. Two underlying issues were raised. The first issue was whether or not RCMP officers have the ability to unionize if they choose to. The second issue was what the nature of the labour relations model should be between the federal government and police officers employed by the RCMP.

The Mountie Police Association of Ontario and the BC Mounted Police Professional Association filed a declaration in the Ontario Supreme Court that the Public Service Labour Relations Act (PSLRA) c. 22, s. 41 (Royal Canadian Mounted Police Regulations (s. 96), unjustifiably infringe on the guarantees of freedom of expression and association and the right to equal protection and benefit of the law under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The two associations requested that the provisions be identified as infringing on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and declared as having no force or effect.

Justice MacDonnell from the Ontario Supreme Court specifically upheld the exclusion of RCMP officers from the PSRLA s. 96, restricting his ruling of invalidity to s. 96 of the RCMP Regulations. The Court ruled that the alternative statutory model of employee representation established for the policing profession under the Staff Relations Representation Program (SRPP), failed to meet the new standard for Constitutional collective bargaining. Justice MacDonnell ruled that the SRPP was not independent of the employer, so that the fact that the employer can choose to deal only with the SRPP and thereby refuse to bargain with other independent representatives freely chosen by the workers effectively denies the workers the right to bargain through an independent body.

The Court also ruled that the process engaged in between the employer and the SRPP was one of “consultation” and not collective bargaining. Ultimately, all decisions rested unilaterally with the employer. Justice MacDonnell ruled that the “SRPP not only substantially interferes with the right of workers to collective bargaining... completely precludes it.”

The court ruled that Royal Canadian Mounted Police Regulations (s. 96) was unconstitutional – of “no force and effect” and gave the federal government 18 months to consider its options and provide a new statutory framework for collective bargaining before the decision came into effect.

The federal government has reviewed the decision and indicated that it will appeal the decision to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Prolific Offender Program

The Prolific Offender Management Program (POMP) is a pilot project being undertaken by the RCMP in the following six communities: Kamloops, Nanaimo, Prince George, Surrey, Victoria and Williams Lake. The object of the pilot project is to bring together resources from enforcement agencies (police, corrections, Crown), and health and social service agencies to provide more timely supervision and intervention to a small group of prolific offenders, with the intent of reducing their criminal behaviour.

The goal of the approach is to:
- reduce offending by these chronic offenders;
- reduce the crime rate in pilot communities attributable to these offenders;
- better information to Crown and the court to support sentencing decisions;
- improve compliance with sentencing conditions and treatment; improve coordination and cost effectiveness of services;
- improve outcomes for offenders (health, housing, and other).

There are currently 90 offenders included in the pilot project. 90% are adult males, 4% are adult women and 6% are male youth. The main type of offenders committed by those offenders have been the following 80% have at least one property crime conviction, 78% have at least one violent crime and 58% have at least one drug offence. On average the offenders have 5 provincial convictions. The main criteria used to select offenders were a history of frequent offending: information that they were criminally active, and an assessment that they are at a medium to high risk to re-offend.

The pilot is in the early stages and it is too early to determine the impact it may have on community crime rates. The program seems to be having a positive impact on some of the offenders, as over a third appear to have responded to the program by decreasing criminal activity and using a number of services that are available to them. In other cases the courts are taking into consideration the additional opportunities made available to these chronic offenders and are sentencing them to longer jail terms for criminal activity.
New Fire Services Model

The development of a new model for the delivery of fire services, particularly as it relates to training, new funding sources to assist local government in providing fire services, and additional flexibility in the management of these services is an important issue that needs to be addressed. A new approach to fire services is needed which recognizes the valuable service that firefighters provide to local communities and ensures that these services are delivered in the most cost effective and efficient way.

UBCM sent out a survey to local governments in December of 2008 regarding a draft report prepared by the Fire Services Liaison Group on the new fire service model. The majority of responses were supportive of the need to review the fire service model and the need to address the problems faced by fire services, particularly those in small fire departments. The support for the model was conditional upon:

- clarification of the cost of the changes and resources to be provided;
- clarification around how the delivery will impact the Fire Service Volunteers.

The Fire Services Liaison Group (FSLG) – which includes representatives from the Fire Chiefs Association of BC, BC Professional Fire Fighters Association, Volunteer Fire Fighters Association of BC, Fire Prevention Officers Association of BC, and Fire Training Officers Association of BC – outlined a broad range of issues to be addressed in developing a new fire service model. In reviewing the report, the UBCM identified the following issues as high priority:

- Improved Training – particularly as it relates to volunteer firefighters;
- Improved Liability Protection – provide liability protection to local government when it is responding to a request for fire services outside its jurisdiction;
- New Financial Resources – need to enhance the financial resources available to provide fire services, and recognize that the province and other provincial agencies that are benefiting from the delivery of fire services contribute to the cost of these services;
- Creation of a Fire Services Advisory Board.

The UBCM also supported the need to strengthen the Office of the Fire Commissions so that it can provide the assistance and research that local governments need to deliver a more effective fire service. These include such measures as the development of a common vision around the delivery of fire services, increased public education around fire prevention, improved fire investigation services, and best practices guidelines to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the service.

For more information about the history of the Local Government Department and the local government system, visit: www.cdi.gov.bc.ca/lgd/history/index.htm

LGD AT 75

In 1934, in the midst of the Great Depression and under the government of Premier Duff Pattullo, the Department of Municipal Affairs was established. In 2009, the new Local Government Department of the Ministry of Community Development marks its 75th anniversary.

Recommended in 1933 by the Harper Commission, Municipal Affairs was established as the medium of communication between the province and municipalities. The environment was challenging, with many municipalities under financial stress and facing bankruptcy. What had started as the one-person Office of Inspector of Municipalities in 1914 became a full department of government. Arthur Wellesley Gray, former mayor of New Westminster and former UBCM president, was appointed as the first minister. Robert Baird, who had been Inspector of Municipalities, served as Gray’s deputy. From the start, the focus for department staff – many of whom came from municipal administrations – was collaboration, problem-solving, and an appreciation of local government as a system of government. Local autonomy was already clearly established in BC, and that too shaped the department.

In turn, the department helped shape the local government system from the establishment of collaborative institutions such as the Municipal Finance Authority to the creation of the unique federations known as regional districts. Responsibility for developing core legislation such as the Local Government Act and the Community Charter also fell to the department.

Today, these values of collaboration, respect for local autonomy, and integrity of the local government system, combined with innovative and practical problem-solving, continue to guide the work of the Local Government Department, and its relationship with local governments and with UBCM.

UBCM offers its congratulations to the Local Government Department on reaching this 75-year milestone, and looks forward to many more years of productive partnership for local governments in BC.

Member Visits 2009

Throughout the late spring and early summer, UBCM staff members are once again traveling the province to visit with local governments in a variety of regions. The annual visits to our members provide an opportunity for local governments to talk about the issues, concerns and opportunities that are specific to their community. UBCM staff look forward to the annual visits as a chance to learn more about the inner workings of local governments and to hear more about the local and provincial issues that are impacting our members.

The information gathered is brought back and shared with colleagues to enrich our work both in advocacy and program delivery. The annual member visits continue to be a vital part of the two-way communication between UBCM and our membership. This year, UBCM plans to visit local governments in the following communities:

Bulkeley-Nechako & Skeena-Queen Charlotte & Fraser-Fort George & Kitimat-Stikine

Bulkeley-Nechako RD
Burns Lake
Fort St. James
Fraser Lake
Grande Slde
Houston
Smither's
Tielo
Vanderhoof
Fraser-Fort George RD
Prince George
Kitimat-Stikine RD
Hazelton
New Hazelton
Terrace
Kitimat
Nisga’a

Central Kootenay & Kootenay-Boundary

Central Kootenay RD
Castlegar
Kaslo
Nelson
New Denver
Salmo
Silverton
Slocan
Kootenay-Boundary RD
Fruitvale
Montrose
Rossland
Trail
Central Saanich
Highlands
Langford
Metchosin
Saanich
Sidney
Sooke
View Royal

Singleton Urquhart
AN ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS
PROVIDING CREATIVE SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROBLEMS
CONTRACTS
CONSULTANT SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Singleton Urquhart Inc.
3500 – 901 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1S2
604.681.1273 / 604.681.1280
www.singleton.com / juli@singleton.com

For more information about the history of the Local Government Department and the local government system, visit: www.cdi.gov.bc.ca/lgd/history/index.htm

Continued on page 12
New and Amended Ministry of Environment Regulations

The Province has enacted or amended several regulations under the Environment Management Act (EMA), the Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Emission Standards) Act (GGRESA), and the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act (GGRTA).

Enacted in 2004, the EMA fundamentally changes the way the ministry authorizes introductions of waste into the environment. Brought into force on January 1, 2008, the GGRTA legislates BC’s reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions, and the government’s commitment to a carbon-neutral public sector by 2010. The GGRESA was brought into force on May 21, 2008, and gives the Ministry of Environment the authority to regulate waste management facilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provides authority to require the recovery of energy potential from greenhouse gases in the context of waste management.

The following table summarises the recently enacted or amended regulations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulation</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Agricultural Waste Control Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>Stricter air emission standards for greenhouse boilers</td>
<td>December 2, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Contaminated Sites Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>New salt, barrier, vapour and wellfield standards; site profile streamlining</td>
<td>January 1, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Hazardous Waste Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>Improve compliance and accountability within the industry</td>
<td>April 1, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Recycling Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>Adding a variety of electronic and electrical products, including accessories such as light bulbs and batteries to the schedule of products</td>
<td>December 9, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update to Spill Reporting Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>Align provincial requirements with federal requirements</td>
<td>December 9, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antifreeze Regulation (EMA)</td>
<td>Mandates the addition of a bittering agent to ethylene glycol antifreeze</td>
<td>January 1, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landfill Gas Management Regulation (GGRESA)</td>
<td>Sets requirements for the collection of landfill gas from landfills</td>
<td>January 1, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emission Offsets Regulation (GGRTA)</td>
<td>Sets out requirements for greenhouse gas reductions and removals from projects to be recognized as emission offsets, in order to fulfill the provincial government’s commitment to a carbon-neutral public sector. Details available at: <a href="http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/ggrra/offsets_reg.htm">http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/ggrra/offsets_reg.htm</a></td>
<td>December 9, 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information on the new and amended regulations under the EMA are available on the Ministry of Environment website at: www.env.gov.bc.ca/codes/index.htm.
Convention 2009

2009 UBCM CONVENTION THEME
A Province of Champions

The 2009 UBCM Convention celebrates the recent successes of local governments across British Columbia, and encourages us to share in each other's pride and achievements as we open our communities to the world.

It seems appropriate that at a time when we are honouring excellence and accomplishment in the sporting realm, that we take a moment to appreciate everyday champions, as well. As local government leaders, this is what you can be — champions of your communities. By examining the ideals that we value in our Olympians, we can also identify the attributes that we would like to see in our communities and ourselves. Determination, dedication and perseverance are just as important to our activities as they are to those preparing for the podium, and the local results can be equally inspirational.

While this past year has presented difficulties for communities throughout the province, country and world, there cannot be a more ideal time to celebrate the outstanding work that has been done on a local scale. The countless local projects and programs that have been executed this year show that BC's local governments are committed to success, despite substantial obstacles. We are well positioned to showcase this province's communities during a time when all eyes are cast toward us.

This convention will be a platform upon which we can all prepare for the unique time ahead. Moreover, this week will give every delegate the opportunity to widen their scope of knowledge, strengthen connections, and develop a strategy for approaching local challenges. Through discussions and knowledge sharing on issues such as crime prevention, economic development and volunteerism, this convention will highlight and inspire growth and development in many facets of local government.

For BC’s local governments, winning is so much more than coming first — it is working collaboratively to create a lasting legacy that will span 2010 and beyond. We hope that this year’s delegates use this convention to pass the knowledge "torch" on to those with similar goals, as well as to spark inspiration for upcoming projects and ambitions. We have much to share, and even more to gain from each other’s accomplishments. It is time to embrace our experiences and challenges and welcome the opportunity to emerge as champions.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES FOR THE UBCM EXECUTIVE

The ongoing administration and policy determination of the UBCM is governed by a 19-person Executive Board that is elected and appointed at the Annual Convention.

There are ELEVEN elected positions:
- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President
- Third Vice-President
- Director at Large (five positions)
- Small Community Representative
- Electoral Area Representative
- Vancouver Representative
- GVRD (Metro Vancouver) Representative
- Area Association Representatives – AKELGA, AVICC, LMLGA, DLCMLA, and SLGLA

Nominating Committee - is appointed under provisions of the UBCM bylaws and is composed of the Immediate Past President and representatives of the five Area Associations. The Nominating Committee is responsible for overseeing the nominating and election process.

Members of the 2009 Nominating Committee include:
- Director Susan Gime, Past President, UBCM, Chair
- Chair Karen Goodings, North Central Local Government Association
- Councillor Kevin Flynn, Southern Interior Local Government Association
- Director Grace McGregor, Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments
- Councillor Corinne Lonsdale, Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- Mayor Christopher Castron, Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

The 2009 Nominations PROCESS

May/June
Nominating Committee circulates a Call for Nominations notice that contains the following information:
- positions open for nomination;
- process for nomination;
- qualifications for office;
- role of Nominating Committee;
- closing date for nominations (prior to the Convention); and
- general duties of an Executive member.

It includes instructions on how to access additional information on UBCM Executive responsibilities and how to submit a nomination.

Continued on Page 11
2009 COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Application now available at www.civicnet.bc.ca!

The UBCM Community Excellence Awards has become the benchmark awards program for municipalities and regional districts in BC. Through the creation of a successful partnership, UBCM has been able to identify key areas of concern for local governments. While identifying what our members want to work on, we have also been able to profile the excellent programs and services being offered. The focus on knowledge-sharing makes the Excellence Awards a great example of a program that gives credit where due, but also contributes to the continued development of BC communities.

The 2009 awards program will offer the following categories:

- BEST PRACTICES: Website
- BEST PRACTICES: Annual Reporting
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Small Community
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Mid-Size Community
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Large Community
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Regional District

In addition to the above-mentioned categories, the PARTNERSHIPS Category is also available, but with a different focus each year. In the past, we have focused on First Nations, School Districts, Healthy Living and Tourism. The PARTNERSHIPS Category focus for 2009 is: Local Government Partnerships Supporting Physical Activity & Healthy Living. If you have any questions regarding category criteria, please contact Marylin Chiang, Policy Analyst at 604.270.8226 Ext. 110 or mc@ucmnbc.ca.

Do not miss this opportunity to share your successes with other BC communities. Think about what your Best Practice or Partnership is about and let us know! Consider how you have shown leadership and innovation and allow your peers to follow in your footsteps by learning about it. Applications are now available on the UBCM website at www.civicnet.bc.ca under Programs & Services/Community Excellence Awards Program. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Angela Elliott, Executive Coordinator at 604.270.8226 Ext. 103 or aelliott@civicnet.bc.ca.

2008 WINNERS

- BEST PRACTICES: Winner: Town of Creston, Physician Recruitment in the Creston Valley
- BEST PRACTICES: Honourable Mention: City of Kamloops, Co-collection of Waste & Recyclables
- BEST PRACTICES: Annual Reporting: Winner: City of Smithers
- BEST PRACTICES: Website: Winner: City of Pitt Meadows
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Small Community: District of Ucluelet, Ucluelet Sustainability Initiatives
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Mid-Size Community: City of Colwood & City of Langford, Jointly Developed Official Community Plan
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Large Community: District of Saanich, Municipal Carbon Neutral Reserve Fund
- LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION: Regional District: Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, Naramata Water System

2009 CONVENTION INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON UBCM WEBSITE

For the latest information on the 2009 Convention, check out the UBCM website at www.civicnet.bc.ca. Here, along with other information important to members, you will find the Convention Page. The Convention Page will be updated regularly as Convention planning unfolds.

As the Convention approaches, you will find everything from the President’s message to registration and accommodations information here. You will be able to read about planned sessions, as well as print out the registration brochure and learn about other Convention details. Currently, the site includes information on location, accommodations, the trade show and sessions, “The Trade Show” link provides information on the always-popular Municipal Marketplace and the “Sessions” link provides information on how to submit a workshop or clinic idea.

Just follow the path: www.civicnet.bc.ca and select Convention/2009 Convention. We recommend bookmarking the site for easy access to the most recent Convention information. Please note that the UBCM Website is currently being redesigned, but as it is updated, Convention information will continue to be available.

REMEMBER

- The Long Service Awards Deadline is: August 31, 2009
- Guidelines and nominating procedures will be distributed to members by fax shortly.
- Questions can be forwarded to Angela Elliott, 604.270.8226 ext. 103.
- The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2009.
- Please submit your completed nomination material – including consent form, picture and bio – to the Nominating Committee c/o the UBCM office.

Conventional Registration Underway

Registration materials for the 2009 UBCM Convention will be distributed to members by early July. For the first time this year, delegates will have the opportunity to register online. The online and paper registration forms, along with pre-conference session information, will be available on the UBCM website, at www.civicnet.bc.ca.

Be sure to register before August 14th in order to take advantage of the lowest registration fee.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AWARD

Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation, Stanley Park Restoration
Partnerships – Local Government and First Nations Partnerships
Winner: City of Nanaimo, Newcastle Island Collaborative Management Agreement

We look forward to receiving your application!

UBCM would like to thank Hemmra, LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION Category Partner.

Nomination Procedures

Continued from Page 10

July 31 – Last Business Day in July
Advance nominations close – all candidates must have their documentation submitted.

Following this deadline the Nominating Committee will review the credentials and prepare its report. It is not the role of the Nominating Committee to recommend any one nomination, rather Committee members are to ensure nominations are complete and according to policies and procedures.

Mid-August

The Nominating Committee report will be distributed to all UBCM members which will include:
- names of members and positions
- photo (optional), biography (Committee Chair)
- biographical information. (The maximum length of such information shall be 300 words. If the information provided is incorrect, the Nominating Committee Chair shall return it for editing; if it still does not meet the maximum, the Nominating Committee Chair shall edit as required).

For further information on the nomination and election process contact:
Director Susan Graime
Chair, UBCM Nominating Committee
c/o UBCM office
193-1055 Shettlebridge Way
Richmond, BC V6X 2N9
Chair email: sg@telus.net
Chair Ph: 604.902.0277
UBCM Ph: 604.270.8226 Fax: 604.270.9116

REMEMBER:
- The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2009.
- Please submit your completed nomination material – including consent form, picture and bio – to the Nominating Committee c/o the UBCM office.

Accommodation Reminder

UBCM Convention accommodations should be booked immediately. A list of hotels holding room blocks for UBCM can be found on our website, at www.civicnet.bc.ca under Convention/2009 Convention/Accommodations.

In consideration of other delegates, please release any unneeded rooms as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you in September!
Advantages of Joining UBCM Group Benefits Plan

Are you aware that UBCM provides coverage for almost 3,000 municipal and regional district employees and elected officials? The UBCM Plan, available to all local governments, can be flexible to provide benefits including:

- Extended Health
- Dental
- Short Term Disability (Weekly Indemnity) Insurance
- Long Term Disability Insurance
- Group Life, Optional Life and Dependent Life
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Critical Illness Benefit
- Employee Assistance Program
- Health Spending Accounts
- Life/Wellness Program

Our Advantage

- Flexibility. You are the policyholder, so you can tailor your plans to meet your specific needs or if you need to align plan design with local collective agreements.
- Improved Access to Benefit Coverage. You can get coverage that may otherwise not be available in the marketplace to local governments.
- Increased Bargaining Power. Negotiate rates on premiums, renewals, and claims management.
- Reduced Cost. No broker payments/commissions and more cost efficient administration due to the size of the UBCM plan.
- UBCM Value-Added Services
- UBCM representation/assistance with claims issues
- UBCM provides employee booklets
- Ensuring timely information/quotes are received
- Assistance during negotiations
- Staff member is a trustee on the Board of Municipal Pension Plan
- Conferences/networking opportunities
- Access to Professional Assistance
- Benefit program design, monitoring insurance company practices and reporting trends in the marketplace with assistance from Towers Perrin and UBCM.
- Annual audit of plan underwriting provisions, including a detailed analysis of current and historical financial experience, and review of annual expense levels relative to competitive practice of groups of similar size and structure through an international consulting firm.
- Evaluation. Periodically market the plan to demonstrate good governance and test the competitiveness of the plan.

Renewal Process Underway for the UBCM Group Benefits Plan

Usually each year premium rates for the next policy year are negotiated and all benefits are due for renewal on October 1, 2008. Our Plan’s benefit consultant, Towers Perrin, a global HR services consulting firm, is reviewing Pacific Blue Cross’s (PBC) proposal and will be negotiating the renewal rates on our behalf. Information is provided from PBC including historical premiums and claims experience, required reserves, and expenses. This information is analyzed and there will be negotiations on the rates during July and August.

Towers Perrin’s objective in analyzing the renewal is to determine whether the proposed premium rate adjustments are appropriate and competitive at the aggregate level, and to ensure that the renewal rates for each local government are determined in accordance with the predetermined methodologies and reflect applicable claims experience, where appropriate.

We believe that the UBCM Plan continues to deliver considerable value and, in particular, will continue to provide stable, aggregate costs which has been proven over the past several years.

You will be receiving your renewal notice by the beginning of September and new rates are effective October 1, 2009.

Energy & Climate

Continued from page 6

Regional Districts, going carbon neutral by 2012, together. The Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary, as well as the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) have funded this initiative, facilitated by The Shelter Group and the Community Energy Association (CEA). The initiative will allow for the Regional Districts, local governments and First Nations communities within the Kootenay region to benefit from shared resources, expertise and learning to take tangible action on climate change. Energy and emissions inventories will be developed for the operations of each of the 37 local governments, with carbon neutral action plans for the regional districts as well as action templates for the First Nations and municipalities. Local efforts and ongoing collaborative opportunities will also be explored.

Province Releases Draft 2007 Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) Reports

The Province’s Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) program is a provincial database of community-by-community energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The draft 2007 CEEI Reports for BC local governments can be accessed through the BC Climate Action Toolkit: www.toolkit.bc.ca/ceei. These reports present estimates of annual community energy use and GHG emissions in three primary sectors - on-road transportation, buildings and solid waste. A community can use the CEEI inventory for several purposes:
- identifying where energy is used and emissions created, to focus appropriate actions
- to trace community-wide targets and track progress in reducing energy consumption and emissions over time.

CEEI is a multi-agency effort guided by provincial ministries, UBCM, utilities, ICBC, local government, non-profits, consultants and others. For more information on inventories and their role in community energy and emissions planning see Community Energy & Emissions Planning - A Guide for BC Local Governments at www.communityenergy.bc.ca/resources/coa-publications-0

Community Energy Association – connecting communities, energy and sustainability. Tel: 604-628-7076 Email: info@communityenergy.bc.ca Website: www.communityenergy.bc.ca
First Nations Relations Update

Indigenous Recognition
Continued from Page 1

The Province adopts the following recognition principles:
- Indigenous Nations and people pre-existed and continue to exist today with their own laws, governments, political structures, territories and rights inherited from their ancestors;
- Aboriginal rights and title exist in British Columbia;
- Crown title exists with Aboriginal title throughout BC;
- Aboriginal and Crown title come with obligations and responsibilities;
- Aboriginal title is a pre-existing interest in land and is held collectively;
- There are existing treaty rights in BC that must be honourably implemented;
- The relationship between Indigenous Nations and the Crown is a government-to-government relationship in which both parties exercise authority to make decisions.

The reconstitution of Indigenous Nations is key to achieving effective functioning of the framework for shared decision-making and, revenue and benefit sharing. In the Tsilhqot’in decision, the Court identified the proper title and rights holder to be the Nation and not an Indian Band. The Nation will be considered reconstituted for the purposes of the Act when a political structure has a mandate to enter into shared decision-making and revenue sharing agreements on behalf of the title and rights holders.

The legislation would enable three levels of engagement between the Province and Indigenous First Nations:
- Comprehensive: Application of recognition principles through shared decision-making and revenue sharing agreements (i.e., respecting, planning, management, tenure and revenue and benefit sharing) throughout an Indigenous Nation’s territory. Communities would need to be reconstituted into an Indigenous Nation.
- Interim: Application of recognition principles through shared decision-making and revenue sharing agreements with an Indigenous Nation for specified categories of development projects and “strategic decisions”. Categories of decisions will be agreed upon by BC and the First Nations Leadership Council, and listed in regulation.
- Default: In all other cases the Crown’s duty to consult and possibly accommodate would apply. BC’s engagement would focus on analyzing impacts on Aboriginal rights and title, and treaty rights. Its approach would be a consistent cross government approach in the application of the recognition principles with an objective to improving the status quo.

Implications for Local Governments

Sandra Carter, of the Valkyrie Law Group, completed a review of the proposed legislation with potential implications for local governments. These implications, which are speculative until the legislation is introduced, are discussed below.

1. The proposed legislation may affect local government land use or resource decisions with respect to those Crown lands that are not exempt from local government land use regulations (i.e., Crown lands leased to a third party).

2. Currently, under subsection 14 of the Interpretation Act, local government land use regulations do not apply to Crown land that is used by or for the Crown. However, once Crown land is leased to a third party then that land is subject to local government land use regulations and property taxation. That is, the land is no longer exempt from local government regulations.

3. The discussion paper states that the act, “will take priority over all other provincial statutes.” Therefore, if the proposed legislation is to supersede the Local Government Act, then it is possible that local governments will not have the final land use authority over Crown land occupied by a third party.

4. Legislation may apply to all future uses or changes in uses of Crown lands tenured or licensed to third parties where local government approvals for land use changes are required.

5. Currently, when a Crown land lease comes up for renewal and there is an interest in either maintaining or changing the land use with a third party occupier, the use of that Crown land must be in accordance with local government zoning bylaws. That is, local government has jurisdiction over the use of that Crown land.

The discussion paper on the proposed legislation states that the act, “will take priority over all other provincial statutes.” Therefore, it is possible that local government zoning powers, in this instance, may be superseded by the proposed legislation. This would result, again, in a reduction of local government land use authority over Crown land when that land is occupied by a third party.

What is UBCM Doing?

In March, the UBCM Executive met with the Honourable Mike de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, to discuss the proposed legislation. The UBCM President communicated to the Minister that under our recently signed MOU, the Province committed to early and ongoing consultation with local government on New Relationship activities. The Minister committed

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JOINT TAC MEETING

UBCM organized a Joint Treaty Advisory Committee Chairs and Administrators meeting on April 16, 2009 in Richmond. There were approximately 23 people in attendance with the majority of TACs/local governments involved in treaty negotiations represented. With many current First Nations issues affecting local governments, agenda items included treaty and non-treaty issues.

Jody Wilson Raybould and Jerry Lampert, Commissioners with the BC Treaty Commission, attended the meeting and provided an update on the BC Treaty process including the Common Table. Grand Chief Doug Kelly and Dan Smith of the First Nations Leadership Council also gave a presentation on the proposed Indigenous Recognition and Reconciliation Act. In addition Jonathan Rayner, from the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR), and Marlene Wells, UBCM staff, discussed the expanded MOU that UBCM signed with MARR during Convention in September 2008. The MOU provides a role for local government in the New Relationship with First Nations.

Discussion around the table included local government interests in the Common Table, implementing the MOU, and identifying local government priorities regarding the proposed Indigenous recognition legislation.

New Relationship Agreements

Every quarter UBCM receives from the Province a list of New Relationship agreements with First Nations. This list is emailed to members for information.

One of UBCM’s commitments under the expanded MOU with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation is to monitor the progress of provincial notification and consultation with local governments on relevant agreements with First Nations. UBCM is requesting members to provide feedback on this consultation process.

If you are not receiving these lists please contact Marlene Wells at the UBCM office. She can be reached at mwells@civiinet.bc.ca or at 604-270-8226, ext. 116.

Indigenous Recognition

Continued from Page 13

to establishing a process for consulting with local governments.

At its May meeting, the UBCM Executive adopted a motion to develop a policy paper on the proposed legislation for endorsement at Convention 2009. The purpose of the policy paper would be to advise the provincial government of:

• Implications for local governments
• Local government interests
• Recommendations for addressing local government interests

A survey will be going out to members in relation to this policy paper.

If you have any questions or comments that you would like UBCM to raise with the Ministry please forward them to Marlene Wells at the UBCM office at mwells@civiinet.bc.ca or at 604-270-8226, ext. 116.

Resources

“Discussion Paper on proposed Aboriginal Recognition and Reconciliation Act”

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) posted on its website a discussion paper on the proposed legislation titled, Discussion Paper on Instructions for Implementing the New Relationship. This paper can be viewed at MARR’s website at: www.newrelationship.gov.bc.ca/.

“Proposed Aboriginal Title and Rights Legislation: Implications for Local Governments”

Sandra Carter of Valkyrie Law Group published a review of the proposed Aboriginal Recognition and Reconciliation Act and the potential implications for local governments. To view this paper go to www.valkyrielaw.com/the_law/.

Treaty Commission Update

The BC Treaty Commission (BCTC) publishes a newsletter on treaty negotiations. The most recent one was published in May 2009 and can be found on the BCTC website at: www.bctreaty.net.
Healthy Communities

Engaging Communities for Climate Action

"It is about people developing capacities that empower them to make choices and to lead lives that they value" (United Nations Development Programme: Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world, 2007).

A key part of the provincial government strategy to begin reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions is through local government action. To date, approximately 175 BC local governments have signed on to the Climate Action Charter, which commits these municipalities to become carbon neutral by 2012. While there are supports, such as technical solutions for planning, transportation, procurement and building codes, and economic incentives and social marketing campaigns, there is much less support focused on citizen engagement, especially when it comes to the inner or "interior" individual.

Why does the "interior" individual, or interiority matter? Interiority refers to how human persons being, living and acting according to their fullest intrinsic potential. An individuals interior life consists of components such as community and family wellness, and moral and emotional capacity and awareness, while the exterior life is composed of organization that is committed to the ongoing development of healthy, thriving and resilient communities. BC Healthy Communities (BCHC) is a province-wide community engagement strategy to begin reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions is through local government action.

The Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC) is finalizing an Accessibility Building By-Law Analysis (ABBa). This project develops a set of model bylaws that BC municipalities can use to construct accessible communities as well as include people with disabilities in decisions that affect their lives. The bylaws cover all areas of parking, public facilities, transit, and buildings, and it includes access to employment policy. SPARC BC is working with an advisory committee which includes UBCM, staff, and representatives from rural and urban communities in BC to complete this project. Look out for this document in late summer/fall 2009. You can also contact Karen at kja@parc.bc.ca if you have any questions.

RHD Cost Sharing Review – implementation Team Formed

In 2008, the Ministry of Health Services and UBCM, with the assistance of a Steering Committee, reviewed the status of implementation of the recommendations from the 2003 Regional Health District Cost Sharing Review. The final report was completed in late 2008 and presented to Regional Health Districts (RHDs) and Health Authorities (HAs) in February 2009.

UBCM has accepted the monitoring role for the implementation of recommendations in the 2003 report.

A letter was sent in February 2009 asking RHDs, HAs, and their boards, if they were generally in agreement with the recommendations and if they had any other comments on the report or recommendations. UBCM received comments from four health authorities and 13 regional health authorities.

An Implementation Team has been gathered to create a workplan to implement the recommendations from the 2008 Regional Hospital District Cost Sharing Review. This team will create a workplan, review the comments on the report, and decide on the best way to consult with other RHDs and HAs. The final presentation of the workplan will be at the UBCM Convention on the weekend of September 27-29.

Update

Building Accessible Communities

The Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC) is finalizing an Accessibility Building By-Law Analysis (ABBa). This project develops a set of model bylaws that BC municipalities can use to construct accessible communities as well as include people with disabilities in decisions that affect their lives. The bylaws cover all areas of parking, public facilities, transit, and buildings, and it includes access to employment policy. SPARC BC is working with an advisory committee which includes UBCM, staff, and representatives from rural and urban communities in BC to complete this project. Look out for this document in late summer/fall 2009. You can also contact Karen at kja@parc.bc.ca if you have any questions.

March 2009 Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund Award Recipients

In 2007, the BC Emergency and Health Services Commission established a one-time $5,000,000 education fund with the Vancouver Foundation to provide financial support for primary education of paramedics in BC. The fund supports Primary Care Paramedics (PCP) and Advanced Care Paramedics (ACP) with the goal of increasing the number of PCPs in rural and remote areas of BC, and increasing the number of ACPs in BC.

UBCM participates in the Advisory Committee, which establishes and revises the criteria for awards, evaluates bursary application and advises the Vancouver Foundation with respect to the timing of the disbursements and use of the income and capital of the fund.

In March, the EMA Advisory Committee approved funding for 30 students, of which 6 were ACP students and 24 were PCP students. A total of $210,000 will be awarded in this round.

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Community Economic Development

Committee to Respond to Working Roundtable on Forestry

The Working Roundtable on Forestry was established in early 2008 to undertake a review of all facets of the forest industry and report to cabinet on ways to expedite workable improvements in that industry. The Roundtable completed its report this past March, which included 26 recommendations for action.

The Community Economic Development Committee had an opportunity to review the report and was asked to provide feedback to the Minister of Forests on the Roundtable’s recommendations. However, Committee members recognize that in order to adequately reflect the diversity of interests and concerns amongst the members throughout the province, with respect to the forest industry, Committee members need to hear from the membership directly. In April 2009 a memo was sent to all Area Associations Executive requesting their input and feedback on the Roundtable’s report and recommendations. In addition to the regional feedback from Area Associations, the Committee would also encourage individual members to advise of their specific comments and feedback.

As part of their May meeting, Committee members had an opportunity to review the report in detail. While most of the recommendations speak broadly about actions to improve the situation for BC’s forest industry, the following recommendations (15, 14, 22, 23 and 24) were identified as being of specific interest to local governments. These five recommendations speak specifically about actions directed at local governments or encompass issues where members have developed established policy positions.

10. The provincial government and Union of British Columbia Municipalities should work with industry to ensure municipal tax structures support competitiveness and industrial activity in British Columbia communities.
11. We should respond to the urgent needs of business, workers and communities during the current global downturn.
22. Logs that are surplus to British Columbia manufacturing needs should be exported until local manufacturing capacity exists. The surplus test currently in use should be reviewed to ensure it is practical.
23. We should expand the Community Forest Agreement Tenure program.
24. British Columbia forest policies should reflect the unique forest attributes and socio-economic circumstances in different parts of the province.

On the full report, please go to: www.fdi.gov.bc.ca/mof/forestry/roundtable

The judge concluded:

"I conclude that the fish which are raised in fish farms on the coast of British Columbia are either a part of the overall British Columbia’s fisheries or are a fisheries unto themselves. In either case they fell under the jurisdiction of Parliament under s. 91(12) of the Constitution Act, 1867."

By way of background, it was in the late 1980’s that the federal government delegated responsibility for licensing of fish farms to the provinces. In BC, licensing of fish farms is currently done by the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands. However, as a result of a recent BC Supreme Court ruling, the issue of what level of government should be regulating the industry has been called into question.

As a result of this court decision, the aquacultural management system has been redesigned, as it appears it will be a transition to a federal system.

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BC Supreme Court Decision on Aquaculture

On February 9, 2009, the BC Supreme Court ruled that the federal government – not the provinces – should regulate fish farms, because it is the federal government that has constitutional powers over the ocean. The Court found that certain provisions related to aquaculture regulation were inconsistent with the federal government’s jurisdiction over the fisheries management.

BC Utilities Commission Transmission Inquiry Update

In the March issue of UBCM News we advised that the Province had asked the BC Utilities Commission (Commission) to undertake an inquiry into the long-term transmission needs for the province. At their May Committee meeting, members of the Community Economic Development Committee met with Jim Fraser, Director, Transmission Inquiry at the BC Utilities Commission to obtain further information about the Inquiry and to discuss what role UBCM and the members may wish to play. Mr. Fraser provided an overview of the purpose, process, timeline and scope for the Inquiry.

Briefly, the general purpose of the Inquiry is for the Commission to make determinations with respect to BC’s electricity transmission infrastructure and capacity needs for a 30-year period in order to support efficient long-term development of transmission. The Commission must assess the electricity generation resources in BC that will potentially be developed during the 30-year period, grouped by geographical location, and the most cost-effective and most probable sequence(s) of development.

The Commission must also take into consideration various factors such as utility long-term resource plans, domestic load requirements, export opportunities for clean, renewable or low-carbon electricity, and areas in BC that will be inappropriate for development of generation resources, including but not limited to parks and protected areas. The terms of reference specify, however, that the Commission must not make determinations on the merits of specific generation projects or with respect to the specific routing or technology of transmission projects.

As a result of the delegation with Mr. Fraser, the Committee will be taking the following actions: circulating a memo to the membership advising them of the BCUC Inquiry and encouraging local government to register as participants, especially if they have specific local / regional transmission concerns that they wish to have considered as part of the Inquiry’s deliberations.


t* UBCM will register as an Inquiry participant and facilitate information to the membership about the Inquiry and its work as well as convey broad member policy related to transmission infrastructure and planning to the Inquiry on behalf of UBCM members.

As noted, members who have specific transmission interests/concerns are encouraged to register with the BCUC so they have an opportunity to raise their specific interests. As well, the Committee is also encouraging members to send their comments/concerns to UBCM if they are not registering so we can include your issues within the UBCM submission to the Inquiry.

For a copy of Mr. Fraser’s presentation to the Committee please go to: www.bcuc.com/Documents/Proceedings/2009/DOC_21866_A5_Commission%20B%20Presentation%20%20%20%231.pdf.

And, for more general information about the Inquiry, including schedule of activities, please go to: www.bcuc.com/sectionفتحinquiry.aspx.

If you’ve got questions, we’ve got the answers you’re looking for

We have been providing the public sector with audit opinions and accounting advice for well over 60 years. But that’s not all. Increasingly, our clients are turning to us for related services as well, such as management advice, feasibility studies, financial indicators reports, financial planning, information technology, and human resources planning. Our specialized skills, tailored for your needs, allow you to use your resources — people, facilities, and money — as productively as possible.

For more information on how we can help your Municipality or Regional District, contact one of our 21 offices in British Columbia, or one of our 98 offices across Canada. We’re got the answers.

Provincial Contact Partner: Bill Cox, Partner Tel: (604) 688-5421

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LGPS AT A GLANCE

For program details go to www.civinet.bc.ca. Look under Programs and Services/Local Government Program Services.

1. Applications now being accepted for:

- Building Governance Capacity – applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis as funding permits.

- Strategic Wildfire Prevention – accepting applications for the following programs on an ongoing basis:
  - Community Wildfire Protection Plans
  - Pilot Projects
  - Operational Fuel Management

- Supporting Treaty Implementation Pilot Project – applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis as funding permits.

- Treaty Knowledge Exchange Dialogue program – applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis as funding permits.

2. Grant Program Reporting Deadlines:

- Age-friendly Community Planning grants – progress reports due by June 30, 2009

- Built Environment & Active Transportation (Phase 2) – progress reports due by August 14, 2009

- Healthy Food & Beverage Sales (Phase 2) – final report due by August 14, 2009

New UBCM Building Minimizes Waste

Over the past year we have shared updates on the construction of UBCM’s new office building in Victoria. Along with housing UBCM’s Victoria Operations and providing a meeting space in the Capitol for UBCM’s members, the new building is targeting LEED Gold certification. From its green roof to the stormwater management system, UBCM’s Victoria office showcases how new building construction can contribute to environmental sustainability.

Sustainability, though, is about more than construction. While at work, the average office employee uses 19,008 sheets of paper and generates 73 kg of waste per year. In preparation for occupying the building, UBCM staff developed a comprehensive plan to minimize waste from its operations through re-use, recycling, composting, and thoughtful purchasing.

Simple steps, such as using duplexer, providing paper re-use boxes and removing full size garbage cans, have provided opportunities for all staff to be involved. A recycling system has also been developed that includes mixed paper and mixed materials (plastics, metals and glass), soft plastics and Styrofoam. Materials such as waxed paper, milk cartons and pizza boxes are collected as part of a large-scale program. In addition, the new building has developed an on-site composting system to collect kitchen scraps, yard waste, used paper towels and catering napkins to provide compost that can be used for onsite landscaping.

Staff began to implement the new waste management procedures shortly after occupying the building in April. The goal of minimal waste will be just one of many features of UBCM’s new building that will be celebrated at our grand opening later in July.

Gas Tax Outcomes Reporting Framework Introduced

The Gas Tax Agreement (GTA) uses an outcome-based approach. This provides considerable scope within eligible project categories so long as each project leads to one of three environmental outcomes contemplated under the agreement: reduced greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner air or cleaner water.

Reporting on outcomes is a key element in the overall program delivery and UBCM is required to report or outcomes by December 2009, and periodically thereafter. The GTA’s Partnership Committee has developed an Outcomes Reporting Framework that will guide the way in which outcomes will be reported in B.C.

One of UBCM’s key goals for the reporting framework was to ensure it provides credible information regarding program results, while minimizing the reporting burden for local governments. To achieve this, the framework focuses mandatory reporting on output indicators that are readily available to local governments through sources such as feasibility studies or detailed engineering reports.

For example, indicators include:

- For pipe replacement projects, the number of meters of pipes replaced
- For water or wastewater treatment projects, the increase in treatment capacity
- For recreational paths and trail projects, the kilometers of paths built and
- For building retrofit projects, the decrease in energy consumption

The mandatory reporting is supplemented by reporting on a range of additional outputs and benefits. UBCM encourages this additional reporting for all local governments that are able to do so, in order that we are able to tell a more fulsome story of the benefits of the Gas Tax program.

The First Outcomes Report will include all projects completed by December 31, 2008. All local governments with completed projects as of that date will soon be detailed guidelines about reporting the outcomes of those projects.

Contact Us:

Local Government Program Services
250.356.5134
lgps@civinet.bc.ca

Gas Tax – Public Transit Management Services
250.356.294
gt-p@civinet.bc.ca

New Mailing Address:
525 Government St
Victoria, BC
V8W 1G8
Climate Action

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What matters specific to engaging communities around climate change. The workshop series “Community Capacity Building and Climate Change: An Integral Exploration” will provide an introductory framing around climate change issues and action steps to engage communities. The content will also provide insight into how to engage the public and different sectors of community capacity building. Workshops will be experiential, and stimulate interdisciplinary thinking, leading to the discussion of responses to different scenarios.

If you are interested in finding out more about these workshops please contact:
Kerry Klein, Provincial Facilitator, BC Healthy Communities at kerryl@bchealthycommunities.ca.

New Fire Services Model

Continued from page 8

Efficiency of the fire services provided by local communities. The Office of the Commissioner plays an important role in providing information to fire departments and in providing assistance, particularly to the smaller fire departments around the province.

There were also number of issues raised in the report that UTSCM saw a need for further consultation to ensure a clear understanding around the intent of the changes before any action is taken. This includes issues such as the expansion of the delivery of fire services to include first responder services, motor vehicle accidents, and rescue services; the implementation of mandatory fire service standards across the province; and changing the underlying responsibility and accountability for the delivery of fire services across the province. The primary service provided by fire departments currently is fire suppression, if this to be expanded to include other services, and the roles and responsibilities of the various parties is to change, it is important to understand whether there is the capacity to undertake these changes.

There is an underlying concern from local government that a number of measures proposed in the new model will have financial implications. It is requested that the costs of each measure be identified, and that new revenue sources to support the measure be outlined and discussed with local government before any changes are made. It is very important that local governments understand what the costs of changes to the fire delivery model will be to its citizens and what new revenue sources will be provided to cover these additional costs prior to taking on any additional responsibilities.

UBCC are working collaboratively with the Local Government Management Association, other agencies and the province on the development of a new fire services model.

Federal Funding for Trails Available

Submitted by: National Trails Coalition

The National Trails Coalition (NTC) received a $25 million dollar investment from the Government of Canada in Budget 2009: Canada’s Economic Action Plan. These federal dollars must be matched by cash contributions from NTC member organizations or their partners which can include local government. There is $3 million available to BC in three trail envelopes: non-motorized trails; motorized summer trails; and motorized winter trails.

The application deadline for a trail grant under this program is June 26, 2009. The application form, guidelines for completing grant application, and further background are available at the NTC website www.ntcecanada.ca. The application needs to be submitted to the BC regional trails coordinator (RTC) at rch@ntcecanada.ca. The RTC (Terry Vold) can also be contacted at that email or 250-474-7720 for any questions.

Fund Award Recipients

Continued from Page 16

PCP award recipients have indicated an interest in serving in the following communities:

- Princeton, Fort St John, Calumet Island, Lumby, Smithers, Sechelt,
- Quesnel, Northern Vancouver Island, Gibson, Parksville, Port Renfrew, Vanderhoof, Prince George, Burns Lake and Terrace.

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Uprooting Those Bad Habits (Part 2)

By Eli Mina, Board Effectiveness Consultant & Registered Parliamentarian

In the March 2009 issue of the UBCM Newsletter, Part 1 in this series discussed four bad habits (or dysfunctions) that may tempt you over your three year term. For each dysfunction, the article described the damage it can inflict, as well as any remedial or preventative measures you might take to reduce its occurrence and damaging effects. This article analyzes three additional bad habits. For a fuller coverage of Boardroom Problems, look up Eli Mina’s book “101 Boardroom Problems and How to Solve Them.”

2. Sighing and Eye Rolling

During a lengthy debate, you may become impatient with a verbose Council member or citizen, or with someone who repeatedly embodies the same tired argument and always advocates for the same interest (sounding like a broken record). You may then notice your eyes wanting to roll, and your voice getting ready to utter an audible sigh.

The potential damage? If you do not control your body language, the meeting environment may become unsafe. Some individuals may fear that — if they speak up — they’ll risk being grated by the same impatient and dismissive reaction. To the observing public, Council will look like a group of childish and petty adults, who cannot possibly be trusted with the tasks of overseeing large budgets and making significant policy decisions.

The cure? Park your ego, biases and impatience at the door, and be fully committed to serving the needs of the municipality. Listen to your colleagues with an open mind and genuinely seek to learn from them. Even if they say something trivial or insignificant, try to find “the gems” hidden within “the fluff.” Respect your colleagues, accept their imperfections, and do everything within your power to help them function to their best.

Control your body language and avoid sending undesirable non-verbal messages that the viewer will pick up. Displaying absolute respect for your colleagues, even when one might argue they don’t deserve it, could become a self fulfilling prophesy. Taking the high road can become a clear and compelling invitation for others to join you up there.

3. Rambling and Repetition

Suppose your Procedure Bylaw does not impose meaningful limits on speaking. You may therefore take your time and use up every minute to present your views, fully and sometimes repetitively. Others may follow your lead, thinking that “even if this point was already made, the citizens need to hear my views, and it is my duty to keep them fully informed.”

The potential damage? Rambling and repetition can take up precious meeting time and therefore make less time available for significant issues scheduled later on the agenda. Other Council members may find it difficult to listen to a rambling and repetitive oration and may therefore tune out, thereby potentially missing significant points you may be making. Your positive and important message may therefore be drowned in the unnecessarily protracted delivery.

The cure? Don’t feel duty-bound to compete with your time-hogging colleagues. Just state your point and then stop. If your point was made clearly by a previous speaker and you still want the public to know

(briefly explain why).

Therefore I believe this is a great initiative, and I urge my colleagues on Council to vote ‘Yes.’ Conversely, if you are a Mayor and want to encourage efficiency, try this statement from time to time: “Council, our time is running short and we have a very busy agenda. Does anyone have anything new to add to this issue, and, if not, shall we move on?”

More to come in a future article.

Eli Mina, M.Sc., P.R.P. is a Vancouver based consultant, meeting mentor and Registered Parliamentarian. Since 1994, Eli has served his clients by chairing contentious meetings, demystifying and humanizing the rules of order, preventing and dealing with organizational dysfunctions, building better Boards and Councils, and advising on minute taking standards.

Eli’s new book “101 Boardroom Problems & How to Solve Them” was recently published. Eli is also the author of four other books on meetings, rules of order, shared decision-making and minute taking. Eli can be reached at 604-730-0377. For more information on Eli’s books visit www.elimina.com.
Encorp Pacific operates one of North America’s most highly regarded beverage container recycling programs

Encorp Pacific (Canada) is the Industry Product Stewardship (IPS) Corporation mandated to develop and manage a consumer-friendly and cost-effective system to recover end-of-life consumer products and packaging for recycling. You probably know them best through the Return-It™ Depot system which recovers 77% of beverage containers sold in the province.

Product stewardship is an environmental management strategy guided by the principle that whoever designs, produces, sells, or uses a product takes responsibility for minimizing the product’s environmental impact throughout all stages of the product’s lifetime.

Encorp is BC’s leading IPS Corporation. Encorp combines private-sector efficiencies with a high degree of public-sector transparency and accountability to manage collection and recycling programs for end-of-life products and packaging (see sidebar A).

Transparency is built in.
Encorp is 100% industry-operated and receives no government funding (see sidebar B). The governance model is based on Toronto Stock Exchange guidelines for publicly listed companies in Canada. The Board of Directors consists of representatives of the beverage and retail grocery industries and unrelated directors with no connection to the beverage industry.
Encorp makes public extensive information about its mission, key objectives, operational and financial performance.

Turning old containers into new products.
Last year about one billion ready-to-drink beverage containers of all materials (plastic bottles, cans, glass bottles, drink boxes and cartons) were returned to Return-It Depots and recycled into a variety of useful goods.

Old aluminum cans are back on the shelf again as new cans within six weeks. It takes 95% less energy to manufacture a can from recycled aluminum than it does to make it from brand new material.

Plastic bottles become new bottles and buckets. Recycling plastics uses about a third less energy than manufacturing new plastic.

Glass is used in the manufacturing of a variety of things such as fiberglass insulation, sandblasting material and even sand for golf-course sandtraps.

Bi-metal Cans (non-aluminum cans, usually steel) can be made into hundreds of products such as rebar and car parts.

Drink Boxes and Cartons (Polycoat Containers) are hydra-pulped and turned into paper products and cardboard boxes.

Last year, about 1 billion ready-to-drink beverage containers were returned to Return-It Depots.

A) THE PRINCIPLES FOR PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

01 Producer-User Responsibility
Costs covered by consumers and producers of products and not downloaded to local governments or taxpayers.

02 Level Playing Field
All producers are treated equitably with no cross-subsidization of container or product types.

03 Results Based
The goal is continuous improvement.

04 Transparency & Accountability
Financial statements are independently audited and publicly available.

B) TRANSPARENCY IS A PRIORITY
Here is a guide to Encorp’s financial system.

Revenues
The money that comes in is made up of:

Unredeemed Deposits – For every container sold in BC, beverage producers pay Encorp a deposit. Deposits unclaimed by consumers are used to pay part of the system cost.

Sale of Collected Materials – Collected materials, such as aluminum, glass and plastic, are sold in the marketplace.

Container Recycling Fees – For some container types, where the above two revenue streams are insufficient to cover costs, Encorp charges a Container Recycling Fee which is paid by the consumer and is not refundable.

Expenses
The money paid out is made up of:

Deposit Refunds – Reimbursements to depots and grocery retailers for the deposits refunded to consumers.

Handling Fees – Paid to depots and some retailers for collecting containers from the public.

Transportation and Processing – Encorp contracts with trucking companies to collect containers and with processing companies to compact containers for shipment to recyclers.

Consumer Awareness and Education – Encorp promotes beverage container recycling through general advertising and specialty programs.

Administration – Contract management, the collection of revenues and the payment of expenses to the dozens of independently-owned companies under contract to Encorp.

Learn more about Encorp Pacific (Canada) and find depot locations at encorp.ca.