Forging Gold Medal Standards ~ 2010 UBCM Convention

See page 10

North Island Communities, First Nations Sign Protocol

Local governments and First Nations in the Regional District of Mount Waddington have signed a new memorandum of understanding that will guide future bi-lateral and multi-party agreements.

Executive Structure Review

Policy development and advocacy on behalf of the membership are integral to UBCM. To support these important activities, UBCM has strived to remain effective and responsive by listening to member needs and concerns over the years, in order to evolve along with our membership. The structure of the UBCM Executive is currently under consideration. In November 2009, the Executive received a request from Metro Vancouver that UBCM review its Executive structure with the aim of improving communications and the working relationship between the two organizations. The Executive takes all such requests very seriously, and in order to consider the request the Executive struck a committee with the following members:

- the last four, active past Presidents, with the Immediate Past President serving as Chair;
- the Metro Vancouver representative; and
- the five Area Association representatives.

In the terms of reference set out by the Executive, the committee was tasked with reviewing the current composition of the UBCM Executive to ensure that it effectively reflected all regions of the province. The committee was also to consider the history of the Executive structure; the report accompanying Metro Vancouver’s request; and other correspondence on this topic.

Throughout its history, UBCM has amended its structure a number of times, and there are established procedures for doing so. UBCM’s structure is set out in its bylaws, which may be amended through an Extraordinary Resolution that is adopted by a three-fifths (60%) majority at Convention.

Beginning its work in early 2010, the committee has met multiple times to consider the many facets of this issue. A report will be prepared and submitted for the consideration of the UBCM membership at the upcoming Convention in Whistler.
As I write this column I am pleased to see the longer and summer is just around the corner. It is proof of how quickly a year has gone by. President’s Message I will focus my comments around a number of key files that UBCM is currently working on.

But the time you receive this newsletter the report of the Local Government Elections Task Force will has been released. This project has consumed considerable UBCM effort and resources this year and we would like to thank our many local government officials who took the time to submit their input.

Throughout the deliberations of the Task Force in BC, UBCM representatives were guided by existing membership policy. In areas where there was not existing policy we relied heavily on the membership to submit their comments that were received, the consultation session that was held in Richmond and feedback from the Area Association meetings.

But the Elections Task Force is by no means the only file that we are working on this year. We anticipate that the Industrial Tax Task Force will have a report ready for the members to review and provide direction on at our Convention in Whistler. This remains a crucial file with Class 4 Industrial assessment but it also has overarching autonomy issues for our entire membership.

UBCM is scheduled to appear before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Transportation on June 15 on the subject of the March 2011 infrastructure deadline. Both FCN and UBCM have been invited to attend on that day. We intend to bring forth a balanced message that expresses support for the very significant infusion of funding from senior levels of government to the Infrastructure Stimulus Program but also that the delayed timing of approval announcements in BC file led to challenges for a number of local governments to complete their work by March 31, 2010.

In the UBCM address to the various Area Association Conferences, we reported that a Structure Review Committee has been established to ensure that UBCM effectively represents all regions of the province. UBCM received a report from Metro Vancouver with a number of suggestions for improving the UBCM Executive structure including additional representation from Metro Vancouver. We have now, in existence for over 100 years and it is interesting to see that our Executive structure has changed significantly over this time period to address the needs of the day. Careful consideration was given to representation on this Structure Review Committee. Any proposed changes to the UBCM bylaws will be brought to Convention and will require support from the membership. We are working on reviewing the UBCM resolutions process. Again, we will be bringing forward proposed changes to address many of the comments the membership has made with respect to improving the process.

These recommendations will also be coming forward to the 2010 Convention. In closing, I wish to thank the members for their input to this work. The Area Association representatives who provided us with an opportunity to take part in your spring meetings, update you on our activities and more importantly share your communities with us. Your hospitality and friendship is appreciated.

Wood WORKS! BC – Your resource for the Wood First Act in BC

2010 marks a surge in the burgeoning wood culture in BC. With it has come a commitment from the BC government to generate new demand for wood with the introduction of the new Wood First Act, aiming to support forest-dependent communities while promoting climate-friendly construction. The Wood First Act, which received Royal Assent in October 2009, requires provincially-funded projects to use wood as the primary construction material where appropriate and within the BC building Code.

Wood WORKS! BC was asked by the provincial government to help local governments navigate their way through the “build with wood” requirements of the Act. In December, Wood WORKS! BC and UBCM staff met to discuss the Act and the potential opportunities and challenges for local governments. Both Wood WORKS! BC and UBCM staff felt that one of the ways to reach out and provide essential information would be to develop a webinar which would be made widely available in a DVD format.

A webinar has been produced featuring Wood WORKS! BC Wood First Advisor Werner Hofstatter, former director and key advisor of the province’s Wood First Initiative; and Wood WORKS! BC Technical Advisors Peter Moonen and Bill Billups. The webinar explains the Wood First Act and the value of building with wood, and also provides valuable information on how to put wood into local government projects. It is targeted specifically to
In Memoriam, George Hawksworth

In great sadness that UBCM acknowledges the passing of Councillor George Hawksworth on March 22, 2010 at the age of 70. He was serving his sixth term on Delta Council (1990-2002; 2005-2010), and was a valued fixture in the local government community.

A retired secondary school teacher with the New Westminster School District and Delta resident for over 40 years, Councillor Hawksworth was an accomplished member of his community whose commitment to making Delta a better place was unwavering.

During his time on Council, Councillor Hawksworth served on numerous Committees and acted as a liaison to many community groups, including the Community Planning Advisory Committee, Delta Council/Delta Board of Education Liaison Committee, and Fraser Valley Regional Library Board, among countless others.

Our deepest condolences go out to Councillor Hawksworth’s wife Noreen, sons Dan, Andrew and Paul and daughter Jeanine. Councillor Hawksworth was an invaluable voice for the residents of his community and he will truly be missed.

Local Government Awareness Week

Thank you to all the local governments who participated in Local Government Awareness Week from May 16-22, 2010!

As many of you know, Local Government Awareness Week was re-instated following the endorsement of resolution 2009-A2, which requested that the provincial government work with UBCM and other local government partner organizations to proclaim an annual local government week in British Columbia and provide support for local government week activities.

UBCM worked in partnership with CivicInfo BC, Local Government Management Association, Ministry of Community and Rural Development, and Ministry of Education, to proclaim the week of May 16-22, 2010 as Local Government Awareness Week in BC.

The goal for Local Government Awareness Week was to generate awareness and educate the public about the roles and responsibilities of local government, and encourage the public to participate in local government processes, including voting in local elections.

For those of you that participated in Local Government Awareness Week, we want to hear what you did and how you engaged your community.

There is a new category for UBCM’s Excellence Awards called Best Practices, Best Civic Engagement. And if you participated in Awareness Week, tell us about your activities and your community could win an Excellence Award! Look for the Excellence Awards application package on the UBCM website in early June.

If you didn’t get a chance to participate – you can join in next year, or hold Local Government Awareness events on another week or day of the year. You can use the resources and information on our website, www.lgaw.bc.ca, to get you started.

Thanks again for participating, and we look forward to hearing about your activities!

What did you do for Local Government Awareness Week?

Think your community deserves to win the newly established Best Civic Engagement category of the UBCM Excellence Awards? Be sure to apply – application forms on line in early June!

For more Awareness Week news, please go to page 18 for a look at the City of Victoria’s Youth Council in Action.

Further information about Local Government Awareness Week can be found at: www.lgaw.bc.ca
## Area Associations

### Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Mayor Christopher Causton</td>
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<td>Chair Joe Stanhope</td>
<td>Nanaimo RD</td>
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<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Barry Avis</td>
<td>Qualicum Beach</td>
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<td>Past President</td>
<td>Mayor Barry Janyk</td>
<td>Gibsons</td>
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<td>Director Mary Marquette</td>
<td>Cowichan Valley RD</td>
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<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Mayor John Fraser</td>
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<td>Mayor Darren Inkster</td>
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<td>Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard</td>
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The 2011 AVICC Convention will be held April 8-10 in Sidney.

### Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments

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<td>Councillor Wesly Graham</td>
<td>Creston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Director Andy Shadack</td>
<td>Central Kootenay RD</td>
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<td>Past President</td>
<td>Director Grace McGregor</td>
<td>Kootenay Boundary RD</td>
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<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Mayor Christina Benty</td>
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<td>Councillor Kirk Duff</td>
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<td>Director Rob Gay</td>
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<td>Councillor Al Graham</td>
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<td>Councillor Debra Kozak</td>
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<td>Councillor Christopher Stevenson</td>
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The 2011 AKBLG Convention will be held April 28-30 in Kimberley.

### Lower Mainland Local Government Association

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<td>Councillor Sav Dhaliwal</td>
<td>Burnaby</td>
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<td>Councillor Lorrie Williams</td>
<td>New Westminster</td>
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<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Barbara Steele</td>
<td>Surrey</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mayor James Atebe</td>
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<td>Maple Ridge</td>
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<td>Councillor Mary-Wade Anderson</td>
<td>White Rock</td>
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<td>Mayor Laurie French</td>
<td>Hope</td>
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<td>Director Dennis Adamson</td>
<td>Fraser Valley RD</td>
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<td>Councillor Raymond Louie</td>
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The 2011 LMLGA Convention will be held May 11-13 in Whistler.

### North Central Local Government Association

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<td>Fraser-Fort George RD</td>
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<td>Councillor Lianne Olson</td>
<td>Burns Lake</td>
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<td>Chair Karen Goodings</td>
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<td>Directors at Large</td>
<td>Councillor Coralee Oakes</td>
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<td>Councillor Theresa Gladue</td>
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<td>Mayor Larry White</td>
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### Southern Interior Local Government Association

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<td>President</td>
<td>Councillor Kevin Flynn</td>
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<td>1st Vice-President</td>
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<td>Lake Country</td>
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<td>2nd Vice-President</td>
<td>Councillor Harry Kroeker</td>
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<td>Director Bill H. Martin</td>
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<td>Councillor Ida Makaro</td>
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<td>Councillor Michelle Rule</td>
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The 2011 SILGA Convention will be held May 4 - 6 in Merritt.

## Hazelton Mayor Honoured for Long Service

Hazelton Mayor Alice Maitland has held for the past 34 years. She was born in Hazelton, the eldest of nine children. In addition to her outstanding service to local government, Alice has owned a variety of businesses, served as a tireless volunteer to many Hazelton organizations and currently serves as the Principal for the Northwest Community College. Her vision for Hazelton is reflected everywhere in the community as Hazelton has embraced its First Nations history and culture and as an important point on the early trade routes to the north and northwest of BC.

In recognizing her, outgoing NCLGA President Karen Goodings had these remarks to say about Mayor Maitland: "Alice Maitland stands a testament to the perseverance of Northern British Columbians and to the region itself. Her community has been hit hard over the years by changes in the forest industry economy, by a lack of resources to upgrade and modernize community facilities and a host of other challenges. However, through all the ‘tests’ Hazelton has faced during the past four decades, there has been a constant stabilizing force within the community and Mayor Maitland has been that force.”

On behalf of the UBCM membership, our congratulations and best wishes are extended to Mayor Maitland for her outstanding contribution and service to BC local government.
2010 Resolutions Update

Many high quality, clearly written and well-researched resolutions have been submitted to the UBCM for consideration at the 2010 Convention.

We anticipate more arrivals as the June 30 deadline approaches. Some of this year’s hot topics include:

- funding for policing, PRIME-BC & emergency management training;
- licensed medical marijuana site information;
- urban wildlife – deer, Canada geese & rabbits;
- community energy & greenhouse gas emission reduction targets;
- food security;
- watershed management & land use;
- health care in rural areas;
- school funding; and,
- arts & culture funding.

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 Reiko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator, with any questions about the UBCM resolutions process. Email: rtagami@ubcm.ca Tel: 604.270.8226 ext. 115.

REMINDER:
The deadline for submitting resolutions for consideration at the UBCM Convention is June 30, 2010.

Resolutions Process Review- Status Update

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on the proposed changes to the Resolutions Process!

We have received your surveys and are busy collating the results into a policy paper. You will receive this paper prior to Convention in the green booklet titled, “Policy Papers to be Considered at the 2010 UBCM Convention”.

Some of the changes may take effect for the 2010 Convention. The membership will be presented with Special Resolutions (to amend the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions) and Extraordinary Resolutions (to amend the UBCM bylaws) on the proposed changes at the 2010 Convention. If the Special and Extraordinary resolutions are endorsed by the membership, the changes will take effect immediately, for the remainder of the resolutions sessions at the 2010 Convention.

Please be sure to review the Resolutions Policy Paper when you receive it in July, so you are aware of the changes that could be in place for the 2010 Convention.

Information about the Resolutions Process Review can be found on the UBCM website at the following address: www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/resolutions/policy-areas/governance/resolutions-process-review.html.

2010 Net•work•book
UBCM Member Services Program

Union of British Columbia Municipalities
Suite #60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way, Richmond, BC V6X 2W9
Phone: 604.270.8226 ext. 100; Fax: 604.270.9116; Email: rhayes@ubcm.ca

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ORDER YOUR 2010 Net•work•book NOW!

This 2010 Directory is a comprehensive workbook for those working in local government or who want to know who’s who in BC local government including:

- municipal and regional government listings of elected officials and senior staff
- Ministry of Community Services
- federal cabinet and BC MPs
- selected provincial agencies and commissions
- other organizations that have ties to local government
- consulting services in the Professionals Directory section

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The Community Energy Association (CEA) is a collaboration of the Union of BC Municipalities, Province of British Columbia, 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 and greenhouse gas planning and project implementation.

New publications

Clean Energy for a Green Economy
An introduction for rural BC communities

In partnership with the Rural BC Secretariat of the Province of British Columbia, the Community Energy Association has developed a new guide for rural BC communities: Clean Energy for a Green Economy. This guide is written primarily for local government staff and board council, elected officials and staff, to support an active role in the development of clean energy and a green economy. It may also be useful to local economic development officers and others with an interest in clean energy and the green economy. The guide is targeted for communities outside urban centres of the Lower Mainland and Capital Region.

Download this new publication from Provincial or Community Energy Association websites: http://www.ruralbc.gov.bc.ca http://www.communityenergy.bc.ca

Funding guide

Download your June 2010 update to Funding Your Community Energy and Climate Change Initiatives – thanks to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for funding the guide update. This funding guide has become an invaluable tool for local government staff to navigate various programmatic and incentive funding tools that are available to local governments in the broad field of energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate action. The guide is a comprehensive listing of loan financing tools and grant funding programs available to BC local governments, that provide financial incentives for climate action, energy planning / efficiency, and renewable energy activities.

The updated Funding Guide can be downloaded from the Community Energy Association website mid-June: http://www.communityenergy.bc.ca

Accelerating to Zero

With funding support from Environment Canada EcoAction and other partners outlined below, the Community Energy Association has initiated its Accelerating to Zero project supporting local governments to significantly reduce emissions from buildings (Build to Zero) and transportation (Road to Zero). It is hoped that following these pilots in the Lower Mainland and Capital Region, similar initiatives might be offered in other regions of the province:

Build to Zero - Update

Two local government working groups have been established in the Lower Mainland to implement high-impact bylaws and policies to improve energy efficiency and lower GHG emissions from new and existing buildings. Over the next 12 months, these working groups will focus on the following:

1. Explore the use of energy retrofit financing mechanisms such as local improvement charges and service area bylaws to foster retrofits in single family dwellings and to foster district energy at the neighbourhood scale.
2. Identify and promote retrofit financing mechanisms for multi-unit residential buildings (MURBs).

Better New Buildings – Improved compliance with the BC Building Code and creation of model bylaws

3. Improve enforcement of the BC Building Code by ensuring that existing energy-related standards within the building code are achieved.
4. Working with the Province of BC, develop model bylaws requiring solar-ready and district-energy-ready homes.

Patricia Bell, Senior Community Energy Planner, is coordinating this initiative, and providing facilitation and research support for the local government working groups. Contact: Patricia Bell, Community Energy Association, at (604) 936 0470 or e-mail: pb@communityenergy.bc.ca.

The Community Energy Association website has information on Build to Zero, including current working group activities: http://www.communityenergy.bc.ca/community-energy-association-connecting-community-sustainability-and-energy/build-to-zero.

Build to Zero funders include Environment Canada, Vancity, Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, BC Hydro, CMHC, Terasen and Natural Resources Canada. Other partners include the Province of British Columbia, UBCM, Metro Vancouver, District of Maple Ridge and District of North Vancouver.

Road to Zero - Update

Road to Zero was launched in the Capital Regional District (CRD) in March 2010, initiating one year of Community Energy Association support of CRD local governments on land use and transportation measures to reduce transportation emissions. Support will be provided on:

• GHG target-setting
• Identifying most effective GHG-reducing policies and measures
• Implementing land use measures supporting traffic, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure
• Planning for sustainable transportation infrastructure.

Sustainability Solutions Group will provide GHG modeling of land use scenarios.

A Road to Zero workshop for the Capital Region is planned for fall 2010 to showcase most effective land use and transportation solutions, and to strategize next steps. Road to Zero project partners in the Capital Region include Environment Canada, Province of British Columbia, BC Transit, the Capital Regional District and the Community Energy Association.

To access Road to Zero support in the Capital Region, contact:
Laura Porcher, Community Energy Association (250) 598-4034 lporcher@communityenergy.bc.ca

A similar Road to Zero initiative is planned for the Lower Mainland. Project partners include Environment Canada, MetroVancouver, Translink and the Community Energy Association. Contact: Norm Connolly, Community Energy Association (604) 628-7076 normconnolly@communityenergy.bc.ca

Updates

Solar BC grants for local government buildings

SolarBC still has a limited number of grants remaining for installations of solar hot water systems on public buildings such as pools, recreation centres, fire halls and municipal halls. SolarBC provides an easy, one-stop shop for matching grants of up to 50% of total costs: up to $40,000 is available from SolarBC, and up to $400,000 from Natural Resources Canada. About 10 local governments have either received or are in the process of receiving rebates from SolarBC, and another 20 local governments across BC have indicated commitment to installing solar hot water systems and applying for the SolarBC rebates. Potential applicants should strive to submit their applications as soon as possible in order to maximize their chances to obtain the full rebates. Multiple applications from each local government will be accepted.

Continued on page 11

2010 Energy & Climate Action Awards – Application Deadline Friday, August 20

The Community Energy Association and Union of British Columbia Municipalities are pleased to invite all local governments in British Columbia to participate in the 2010 Energy & Climate 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 energy and greenhouse gas planning and project development processes. Awards are offered in two categories:

1. Community planning and development
2. 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.

Please download the electronic application from the Community Energy Association website at www.communityenergy.bc.ca (Showcase and Awards). Deadline August 20, 2010.
RCMP Policing – Key Questions Raised in Senate Report

A recent Senate Committee position paper entitled “Toward a Red Serge Revival” raises number of questions of interest to local government. The paper touches on three important issues related to the RCMP:

• workload of RCMP officers;
• vacancy rate; and,
• role of the RCMP.

Workload

The first issue raised in the policy paper focuses on the increase in the workload and whether or not the resources provided are adequate.

Has the funding provided kept up with any expansion that may have taken place in the RCMP’s responsibilities?

The RCMP budget has grown from $1.3 billion to $4.3 billion between 1988 and 2010. When inflation is taken into account, it means “the RCMP’s budget has doubled over the past 22 years.” However, the size and complexity of the Force’s mandate has grown even more. For example:

Charter of Rights and Freedoms – has had huge impact on police work.
• RCMP officers now spend between 5 and 10 hours dealing with a typical break and enter case, compared to 1 hour it regularly took in 1970.
• RCMP officers now spend an average of 5 hours on drunk driving cases that typically took 1 hour in 1970.
• RCMP officers now spend 10–12 hours on the average domestic assault case that took 1 hour in 1970.

Cybercrime – abuses of the internet including child pornography, money laundering, fraud and identity theft of mushroomed in the electronic age.

Anti-Terrorism Responsibilities – investigative workload for terrorism in Canada falls on the RCMP. As of September 2009, there were 26,698 people working for the RCMP. Of these, 18,989 were regular members, supported by nearly 10,000 public servants and contract workers.

Personnel - Vacancy Rates

The second issue raised focuses on the vacancy levels at RCMP detachments and whether or not the information is accurate and the RCMP has an effective process for managing human resources.

Is the RCMP fully staffed to carry out the responsibilities assigned to it?

The policy paper suggests that the RCMP has two key problems in meeting its staffing requirements.

The first is that management has not been able to fill all the positions that it has treasury board authority to fill. The second is that management does not effectively take into account predictable absences from the workplace – illness, training, and limits on number of hours worked.

The paper points out that the vacancy rate is higher in the area of federal policing, as noted below:

In terms of contract policing assignments for the provinces and municipalities, the RCMP maintains that it has people occupying almost 98 percent of authorized staff positions. But Assistant Commissioner Keith Clark admits that anyone who visits detachments will discover the reality is in fact different. He also acknowledges that the situation is far worse when it comes to federal policing, which coincidentally is where the federal government foots the entire bill.

Failure to Consult on New Liquor Licensing Legislation

The province on April 29, 2010 introduced Bill 20: The Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act No. 3. The legislation contains amendments to the Liquor Control and Licensing Act, which could affect local government.

The legislation raises two major issues of concern for local government. The first issue is the failure to consult with local government about the proposed changes prior to introducing the legislation. The second issue is the proposal to change provincial consultation requirements around liquor licensing. Outlined below is a summary of some of the changes proposed:

Major Public Safety Initiatives

• Clarify statutory authority to assess the personal suitability of anyone involved in the control or management of a licensed establishment to minimize risk of criminal/gang infiltration – currently in place through branch policy.
• Allow the LCLB general manager to temporarily suspend liquor licences for up to 14 days without a hearing in extraordinary circumstances.
• Allow the LCLB to charge the public to help monitor whether licensees are complying with ID checking rules – minors would be under supervision and not allowed to consume alcohol.
• Clarify that it is illegal to have open liquor in public.
• Provisions for greater control over who may obtain a special occasion licence and where the event may be held, and for holding special occasion licence holders accountable for infractions such as

Local Government Issues Regarding Liquor Policy

Local communities have a vested interest to be involved in and participate in the development of changes in liquor regulations and liquor policy. The liquor industry is an important business in many communities and can provide both positive and negative impacts in a community.

Liquor establishments provide employment opportunities and tax revenues. However, at the same time, liquor establishments – if not managed properly – can create major problems for local neighbourhoods and require increased community resources to ensure compliance and enforcement.

Streamlining, Good Governance and Deregulation Initiatives

• Allow for seniors’ care homes to serve liquor to residents and their guests – liquor service is currently restricted to residents.
• Provision to simplify the process for local government/First Nation input on low risk liquor-primary licence applications (e.g., small capacity lounges).

The failure by the province to meet the consultation requirements outlined in the Community Charter between the province and local government has raised questions about the underlying motives for the changes. The Charter in outlining the principles of municipal-provincial relations states that consultation is needed on matters of mutual interest and that local government is provided an opportunity to comment on the changes that are being proposed.

A number of the legislative changes introduced appear to place limitations on the need for the province to consult with local government over certain types of liquor licensing provisions. The potential impact of the changes and how it might limit local government input into the liquor licensing process is not known.

The UBCM Executive has taken the following action in response to the liquor licensing changes outlined in Bill 20. UBCM has written the province protesting the lack of consultation on the new liquor licensing legislation as required in the Community Charter prior to its introduction. UBCM, has also written local government requesting their feedback on the proposed legislative changes to liquor policy.
Issues Regarding Liquor Policy

the number of liquor licenses. A second issue is to control the number of special occasion licenses issued in the community and ensure they are being used as intended. Thirdly, there is a need to improve the enforcement of provincial liquor regulations by the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB), particularly with respect to local community concerns (i.e. noise etc.).

The determination of the number of drinking seats in a local community has been a challenge. Currently, Licensing Branch policy makes it difficult to determine what the real number of drinking seats are in a community because:
• dormant licenses have no expiry date;
• occupancy load provisions are historically tied to license, whether used or not;
• capacity increases have no deadline date (use or lose requirements); and,
• drinking seats in restaurants are determined by the Branch with no consultation with local government.

There appear to be two sets of numbers – one set of numbers identifies the number of drinking seats approved by the LCLB for liquor licensed establishments and a second set of numbers identifies the number of drinking seats being used by liquor establishments in the community. The determination of the number of drinking seats is important to local government as it is used as a measurement to determine whether or not additional drinking seats can be added in the community and what additional resources may be required to deal with potential problems that may arise (i.e. local government staff, police resources etc.).

The use of Special Occasion Licenses (SOLs), which are intended to allow liquor to be served at such things as banquets and weddings have proven difficult to manage in some communities. In some cases, individuals have found a way of using the SOL process to create a mobile cabaret business, moving from venue to venue and with it a range of community complaints regarding noise, underage drinking and rowdyism.

A further concern of local government is related to the enforcement of liquor licensing regulations and policy. The provincial liquor licensing process has traditionally been slow to respond to community concerns about the operation of a licensed establishment, and, local governments have had to employ additional police and bylaw enforcement resources in an effort to address police and bylaw enforcement issues that may arise (i.e. incitement of violence, illegal use or selling liquor, false information, etc.).

The implementation of a number of changes proposed in Bill 20 to the Liquor Control and Licensing Act will assist in dealing with local government concerns regarding the operation of Special Occasion licenses and some enforcement issues (i.e. availability of alcohol, gang associations etc.). These include the following measures:
• to minimize risk of criminal/gang infiltration currently in place through branch policy;
• to hold license rural agency, manufacturer, and private wine stores to the same compliance and enforcement rules as other private liquor retail outlets; and,
• to eliminate the requirement that police notify the LCLB general manager in writing whenever they seize liquor.

UBCM is looking to re-establish a Liquor Licensing Working Group to work with the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch to address other liquor licensing issues of concern to local government.

Key Questions Raised in Senate Report

Continued from page 7

The truth is that the provinces demand staffing that is at least within arm’s length of what they are paying for, so the vacancies in the contract detachments aren’t as serious as they are at the federal level. When provincial detachments run short of people, the replacements are often officers who are stolen away from their responsibilities at the federal level.

The paper also points out that the overall vacancy rate for regular RCMP members and special constables was 6.5% in 2007/2008 and 6.6% in 2008/2009.

Mandate and Role of the RCMP

A third issue raised in the policy paper of interest to local government is what the mandate of the RCMP should be and whether or not it is able to meet the requirements placed on it.

Is the Force fulfilling all the missions that can best be handled by a country’s national police force?

The RCMP’s mandate is to enforce more than 250 federal laws, provide other federal responsibilities and provide contract policing.

The report suggests that the RCMP should increase its activities in the following areas:
• Ports – Canada’s airports and seaports are riddled with crime;
• Border – needs more resources to provide proper surveillance along the Canada-US border; and,
• Organized Crime – only had the personnel to conduct surveillance on one third of the crime organizations in Canada that it knew about.

The report concludes that the RCMP needs more resources if it is to meet its current workload requirements, address its human resource requirements and meet its mandate. The policy paper recommends, “that the federal government provide funding to increase RCMP personnel by 5,000 (or more) regular members”:
• to deal with persistent and widespread vacancies within the RCMP;
• to provide increased border security at the country’s seaports and airports; and,
• to undertake the increasing responsibilities assigned to it in the national security sector.

The three issues identified are issues that local government has raised in recent RCMP contract negotiations and are matters that need to be addressed if the RCMP is to deliver effective and efficient police services at both the community level and the federal level. The Senate position paper is seen as a minority report at the federal level and it is not clear what action, if any, the federal government may take on the issues identified.

KATHLEEN HIGGINS OLGA RIVKIN BRIAN TAYLOR

BULL, HOUSER & TUPPER - LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRACTICE GROUP

Bull Houser & Tupper LLP is pleased to announce that Kathleen Higgins and Olga Rivkin have joined our Local Government Practice Group as Associate Counsel and Associate respectively making our team of local government lawyers one of the most experienced in the province. We are known for providing strategic, creative and practical legal advice in the areas of municipal, regulatory, real estate, environmental, military and litigation.

KATHLEEN HIGGINS has over 20 years’ experience focusing on local government, real estate, expropriation and aboriginal law. She has extensive real estate development experience and has advised on expropriation matters and First Nation issues. She has conducted bylaw prosecutions, injunctions and defences to bylaw challenges in British Columbia Provincial, Supreme and Appeal Courts.

Prior to joining Bull, Houser & Tupper, OLGA RIVKIN practiced as a national firm in their Real Estate Group focusing on local government law. Her experience includes advising clients on zoning, planning and building issues, development in riparian area, and compensation for expropriated property. Olga has also advised First Nations on development and local government related issues.
Environment Policy

ENVIRONMENT POLICY IN BRIEF

Climate Action

In the summer of 2007, UBCM and the Province developed a non-binding Climate Action Charter aimed at fostering collaborative relations for reducing greenhouse gases. The Charter commits local government signatories to: becoming carbon neutral in their operations by 2012; measuring and reporting on their GHG emissions profile; and creating complete, compact, more energy efficient rural and urban communities. To date, 178 local governments have provided UBCM with signed copies of the Climate Action Charter, while several other local governments have notified UBCM of their intent to sign the Charter.

For further information on the process for signing the charter, please contact Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst by email at jwright@ubcm.ca, or by phone at 604.270.8226 ext.113.

Controlled Alien Species Regulation

The Controlled Alien Species Regulation came into effect on April 10, 2010. Under the BC Wildlife Act, the new Controlled Alien Species Regulation controls the possession, breeding, shipping and releasing of alien animals that are seen to pose a serious risk to the health or safety of their owners or the general public. The Regulation will primarily affect owners and breeders of Controlled Alien Species, but it will also affect pet retailers, the film industry, zoos, and educational/research institutions.

The Province has acknowledged that the Controlled Alien Species Regulation is now the minimum standard across British Columbia. If any local government passes (or has passed) an exotic species bylaw, that bylaw can be more restrictive than the provincial Controlled Alien Species Regulation. Detailed information, including a complete list of the controlled alien species and applications, can be found on the Ministry of Environment’s website at www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlifeactreview/cas/ UBCM distributed a survey on intended compliance with the Regulation to local governments in May of this year. For more information on, or a copy of, the survey place contact Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst, UBCM at jwright@ubcm.ca.

Re: Solid Fuel Burning Domestic Appliance Regulation Consultation

The Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport intend to review and revise the Solid Fuel Burning Domestic Appliance Regulation in keeping with actions set out in the BC Air Action Plan. The objective of the review and proposed revisions is to reduce impacts on human health and ecosystems by reducing air pollution from domestic wood burning.

The ministries’ intentions are set out in a paper available for review and downloading at www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/solid-fuel/index.htm. The ministries are seeking comment and feedback on the proposed revisions described in the intentions paper. A response form (in a number of formats) and directions for providing comment on the ministries’ intentions are also posted at the same location. Comments on the ministries’ intentions should be submitted by July 2, 2010.

Species at Risk

The Ministry of Environment is seeking to develop, and obtain support from, local governments, UBCM, federal government agencies, land trusts and conservation groups for a provincial approach to protecting species at risk on local government and private lands. Through a consultative project, the Province is developing a discussion paper that will seek to raise awareness, align resources for shared priorities, outline options for local government engagement, and identify tools for species at risk protection. The discussion paper will provide a collective vision and identify strategies for improving conservation on local government and private lands. To date, 66 local government representatives have signed on to the project, and have participated in shaping the draft discussion paper.

For more information on the project, please contact Jennifer Heron, Invertebrate Specialist, Ministry of Environment at jennifer.heron@gov.bc.ca or Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst at UBCM at jwright@ubcm.ca.

Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations

In February 2010, Environment Canada released draft municipal wastewater systems effluent regulations for public consultation as part of the Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater Effluent. The regulations have been published in the Canada Gazette, and local governments and other stakeholders have been given 60 days to provide feedback. The new regulations are designed to establish national effluent quality standards that will reduce risks to human and environmental health. It is anticipated that draft regulations will be enacted as legislation under the Fisheries Act.

Under the proposed regulations, 13 facilities in BC will require upgrades in order to meet the new national standards. Of the 13 facilities, five are classified as “medium risk” facilities that require upgrades by 2030, while eight are classified as “high risk” with upgrades required by 2020 in order to protect the receiving waters. A backgrounder on the Canada-wide strategy and the draft regulations can be found in the February “News Release” section on Environment Canada’s website at www.ec.gc.ca.

Water Act Modernization

The provincial government is planning to modernize the Water Act, a key commitment in Living Water Smart: British Columbia’s Water Plan. To support this initiative, the Province launched the “Living Water Smart” blog to encourage water stewardship, share ideas and support dialogue on modernizing the Act.

The Province also developed a Water Act Modernization Discussion paper, which proposes principles, goals and objectives to guide the process of modernizing the Water Act. The document presents possible solutions and options to help realize the proposed goals and objectives. To frame discussions on the paper, the Province held 12 multi-stakeholder and First Nations engagement workshops. April 30th marked the deadline for formal submissions to the Water Act modernization process.

For more information on modernizing the Water Act, the discussion paper, or the regional workshops, please visit the Living Water Smart website at www.livingwatersmart.ca or contact Ted White, Water Stewardship Division, Ministry of Environment at ted.white@gov.bc.ca or 250.356.2791.

Zero Net Deforestation

On March 22nd, the British Columbia Minister of Forest and Range, Pat Bell, introduced Bill 5 to establish the Zero Net Deforestation Act (ZNDA). The proposed Act is designed to assist the provincial government in securing its climate change goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed legislation enshrines the 2008 Throne Speech provincial commitment to pursue net zero deforestation, which is achieved when the area of newly created forest land in the province is equal to or greater than the area of deforestation.

The Act is intended to encourage an equal area of trees to be planted for carbon storage to offset any forest land that is permanently cleared for another use. The Act defines deforestation as the permanent loss of trees from an area; requires annual progress reporting on net deforestation; and allows for the establishment of regulations on the timing, form and content of reports and records as well as on the scientifically based methodology for calculating...
2010 UBCM Convention
Forging Gold Medal Standards

2010 is a year that will not soon be forgotten. It has become synonymous with feelings of accomplishment, triumph and togetherness. It has provided an opportunity to showcase the beauty of this province, and the pride that comes along with living here.

More than anything, this year has been a time of learning. Some of the lessons have been inspirational and rewarding, while others have been challenging and unexpected. Regardless of the outcome, working toward a common goal has brought this province together on a scale never before realized.

Having hosted the world together, we have forged new bonds that will not easily be dissolved. This is the perfect time to nurture new relationships, and capitalize on forward momentum in our communities. This cooperation will equip each of us with new tools and fresh approaches to the challenges of local government leadership.

At the 2010 UBCM Convention, we will reflect on our relationships with our First Nations neighbours. We will also take time to discuss the relationships that have been cultivated with community organizations, intergovernmental partners and other local governments. We will use this coming together of BC’s local leaders to share and learn from one another’s experiences, and gain ideas to move our own communities forward.

The place that we gather this year has come to represent the amazing feats that can be accomplished with determination, dedication and cooperation. The mountains of Whistler, while laden with obstacles, provided a platform upon which athletes pursued and achieved excellence. Through community partnerships and newfound knowledge, we too can overcome impediments to community services and relationships for the benefit of all community members, province-wide.

More than ever, British Columbia is a community of communities. Local leaders from municipalities, regional districts and First Nations all strive toward a common goal of creating gold-medal communities. At the 2010 UBCM Convention, let us build upon our current and future relationships, and set the standard for local government operations.

REMINDER

The Long Service Awards Deadline is: August 30, 2010

Guidelines and nominating procedures will be distributed to members by email shortly.

Questions can be forwarded to: Angela Turner, 604.270.8226 (Ext. 117), or aturner@ubcm.ca.

2010 UBCM Convention Session Proposals Due June 25th

There are two session opportunities for participation in the 2010 Convention: Workshops and Clinics. Workshops are limited to four sessions of approximately two hours. Clinics are early morning sessions of 45 minutes in length that typically involve a presentation by a group to a small audience of delegates. Up to six clinics are offered on Tuesday and four each on Wednesday and Thursday.

If you are interested in hosting a session at the 2010 UBCM Convention, an online proposal form can be found under the Convention tab of the UBCM website at www.ubcm.ca. The deadline for proposals is June 25th, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding how to submit a proposal, please contact Angela Turner, Convention and Association Services Coordinator, at 604.270.8226 Ext. 117, or aturner@ubcm.ca.

Convention Registration Underway

Registration materials for the 2010 UBCM Convention will be distributed to members by early July. We are pleased to again provide delegates with the opportunity to register online. A registration guide with pre-conference session information will be distributed to members, and will be available on the UBCM website at www.ubcm.ca.

Be sure to register before August 13th in order to take advantage of the lowest registration fee.

UBCM Convention accommodations should be booked immediately. A list of hotels holding room blocks for UBCM can be found on our website at www.ubcm.ca.


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

For the latest information on the 2010 Convention, check out the UBCM website at www.ubcm.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.

Convention/2010 Convention/Registration.

Convention/2010 Convention/Chair.

REMINDER

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 view the registration brochure and learn about other Convention details. You will also be able to register online. Currently, the site includes information on location, accommodations, theme and sessions. The “Sessions” tab provides information on how to submit a workshop or clinic idea.

Just visit www.ubcm.ca and click on Convention/2010 Convention. We recommend book-marking the site for easy access to the most recent Convention information.


Convention/2010 Convention/Proposals.

Convention/2010 Convention/Information.


Convention/2010 Convention/Program.

Convention/2010 Convention/Website.

Convention/2010 Convention/Contact.

For the latest Convention information, visit UBCM’s website at www.ubcm.ca. This site will be updated regularly as the Convention planning unfolds. The Convention Page is where you will find information on location, accommodations, theme and sessions. The “Sessions” tab provides information on how to submit a workshop or clinic idea.
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  

There are EIGHT appointed positions:  
Immediate Past President  
Vancouver Representative  
GVRD (Metro Vancouver) Representative  
Area Association Representatives – AKBLG, AVICC, LMLGA, NCLGA, and SILGA

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 2010 Nominating Committee include:  
• Chair Robert Hobson, 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 Sav Dhaliwal, Lower Mainland Local Government Association  
• Mayor Christopher Causton, Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

The 2010 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.

July 30 – 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 (to size set by Nominating Committee Chair); and  
• biographical information. (The maximum length of such information shall be 300 words. If the information provided is in excess, the Nominating Committee Chair shall return it once 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:  
Chair Robert Hobson  
Chair, UBCM Nominating Committee  
c/o UBCM office  
60551 Shellbridge Way  
Richmond, BC  
V6X 2W9  
Chair email: rhobson@cord.bc.ca  
Chair Ph: 250.470.8030

UBCM Ph: 604.270.8226  
UBCM Fax: 604.270.9116

REMININDER:  
The deadline for nominations is July 30, 2010.  
PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED NOMINATION MATERIAL – INCLUDING CONSENT FORM, PICTURE AND BIO – to the Nominating Committee  
c/o the UBCM office.

ENVIRONMENT

Cont continued from page 9  
deforestation and afforestation.  
The Zero Net Deforestation Act helps move the Province towards its commitment to achieving net zero deforestation by 2015, thereby assisting in the reduction of provincial greenhouse gas emissions by 33% by 2020. The three keys to achieving net deforestation are to “avoid, minimize and mitigate deforestation.” In cases where the loss of land is necessary, such as in housing or highway development, the preferred option is to minimize the footprint and mitigate the impacts of deforestation through the creation of new forests on previously non-forested land.

The proposed legislation is a voluntary, incentive-based framework consistent with the cooperative local government/provincial approach in the Climate Action Charter. Implementation options for meeting ZND will primarily involve voluntary and existing incentive mechanisms. For local government planning related questions on ZND, please contact Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst, UBCM, at jwright@ubcm.ca. For other questions related to ZND, please visit www.for.gov.bc.ca/hp/znd/index.htm. A discussion paper on the provincial government’s policy of achieving Zero Net Deforestation by 2015 can be found at www.for.gov.bc.ca/hp/znd/discussion-paper.htm.
The application booklet became available at the end of May and submissions are rolling in. We have an exciting new category this year: Best Practices, Civic Engagement. Inspired by Local Government Awareness Week, this category is the perfect platform to share your stories of community involvement. What have you done to inform all generations and cultures in your community about local government processes? Tell us about it!

Following the excitement of the Olympics, we have brought back the Tourism focus for the Partnerships category. With BC being on the world stage, our communities had the opportunity to showcase what makes them special. Tourism is an important aspect of BC’s economy, and will continue to be so long after the Olympics. Submissions to the Tourism Partnerships category can be related to the Olympics, or focused on a completely different aspect of tourism. We want to know what partnerships and tourism related programs, projects and events have brought visitors to your community.

Another new feature of the awards program is the availability of helpful Submission Worksheets. These worksheets are available online and serve to assist you in the application process. Each category worksheet provides you with a list of questions that your submission should answer. This handy tool helps staff focus their application for optimal results during the adjudication process.

The UBCM Community Excellence Awards has become the benchmark awards program for municipalities and regional districts in BC. While identifying what our members want to work on, we have also been able to profile the excellent programs and services being offered in communities across the province.

Applications are available on the UBCM website at www.ubcm.ca under Services & Awards/Community Excellence Awards.

If you have any questions about making an application, contact Joslyn Young, Executive Coordinator at 604.270.8226, Ext. 103 or jyoung@ubcm.ca.

Don’t miss this opportunity to share your successes with other BC communities.

We look forward to receiving your application!

Excellence Awards Library

For those local governments who are considering making an application to the 2010 Awards program, we would draw your attention to the Excellence Awards Library of previous winners that are located on the UBCM website.

To access the library go to:

www.ubcm.ca Services & Awards/community Excellence Awards
First Nations Relations Update

Winds of Change are Blowing through the Pemberton Valley

Winds of Change is a collaborative initiative of the Village of Pemberton and the Lil’wat Nation (also known as Mount Currie Band) to reduce the harm associated with drug and alcohol misuse. Pemberton and Mount Currie are small rural communities situated in the Pemberton Valley, approximately a 30-minute drive north of Whistler.

Pemberton, with a population just under 2,300, occupies an area of approximately six square kilometres. It is part of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and is situated within the traditional territory of the Interior Salish people. Throughout its history, agriculture and forestry have been the mainstays of the local economy. As a fast-growing community, the Village has seen many changes in a short period of time. While agriculture and forestry are still important aspects of the local economy, tourism and its related services now employ the highest percentages of residents.

Pemberton’s closest neighbouring community is Mount Currie, six kilometres away. Mount Currie is a First Nation community of just over 2,000 members with the majority of them living on reserve land. It has ten reserves in and around the Pemberton Valley, comprising a combined area of about 2,930 hectares. Lil’wat Nation was one of the four host First Nations of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Opportunities

Winds of Change has brought substance misuse to the forefront of public awareness in the Pemberton Valley. It demonstrates that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities can collaborate effectively when there is respect, openness and trust. It also demonstrates the lead role that local communities can take to identify, and implement, appropriate harm reduction initiatives.

While the initial impetus to work together was a reaction to a tragedy, the relationship between Pemberton and Mount Currie continues to grow. Both communities remain committed to Winds of Change while there is increased communication and cooperation between the two councils. They now meet regularly to talk about other mutual issues and interests that affect all who live and work in the Pemberton Valley. Susie Gimse, Councillor of Pemberton Village and Director of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, describes the relationship as evolving into a friendship.

According to Sheldon Tetreault, Chair of the Winds of Change Steering Committee, it was unexpected that the relationship would build over time. He adds that sometimes one cannot plan what is going to bring two communities together. The issue may be servicing, land use planning, or something outside of the local government realm such as a social or health issue. The key to building the relationship is to find the common ground.

Finding Common Ground

In 2002, the violent death of a young person due to alcohol misuse shocked both communities. Both communities were in shock. Residents in Pemberton and Mount Currie pressured their respective Councils to address the issue of drugs and alcohol. It was recognized by the communities that finding solutions required coordinated action.

Both communities care for the safety of their children and the health of their families. Both communities are affected by the harm associated with drug and alcohol use. This shared problem became the common ground that brought Pemberton and Mount Currie together.

Due to public pressure, both Councils decided to work together and struck a task force in 2003 to increase community safety by reducing the harm associated with drugs and alcohol. In addition to the Village and the First Nation, task force members included other government agencies such as the RCMP, Stl’atl’imx Tribal Police and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority.

Thus began the working relationship between Pemberton and Mount Currie. It was the first time that the two communities worked together for an extended period of time. Community leaders committed to openness and patience, and acknowledging and respecting differences were critical to the success of the task force.

The task force met for 1½ years and produced Winds of Change: A Healing Vision (2004), which is a drugs and alcohol harm reduction strategy. The strategy includes a number of recommendations to guide efforts and planning for achieving overall health and well-being of both communities.

UBCM President Attends Federal Round Table on Aboriginal Rights and Title

On March 16, 2010, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) held a Federal Round Table on Aboriginal rights and title in BC, and achieving certainty over lands and resources.

The purpose of the discussion was to support Canada’s ongoing analysis of federal approaches to reconciling outstanding Aboriginal rights and title in BC, and achieving certainty over lands and resources.

Prior to the Round Table, INAC distributed information on two approaches it is taking to manage Aboriginal rights and title in BC. First, INAC would like to regularly share stories of partnerships between local governments and First Nations in our quarterly UBCM newsletter. If you would like to have your local government story featured here or if you would like to write your own story please contact Marlene Wells at mwells@ubcm.ca.

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Winds of Change
Continued from page 13

Over the last six years, the communities have been implementing the Winds of Change strategy on a project-by-project basis. Limited funding means the process has been slow but all those involved have exercised patience, commitment and persistence.

Since development of the Winds of Change strategy, there have been various projects completed or initiated. The two communities’ secured recreational facilities for all residents such as a BMX park, a skateboarding park, new community centres and a trail between Pemberton and Mount Currie is being planned. There have also been awareness campaigns and more frequent road checks by the RCMP and Tribal Police. Other projects include a feasibility study for a drug and alcohol treatment centre in the Pemberton Valley and an age-friendly community plan.

Conclusion

In the Fall 2009, the five-year anniversary of the Winds of Change strategy, the communities held a Community to Community forum to review the progress in implementing the strategy. The Pemberton and Lil’wat Councils also passed a joint motion reconfirming their commitment to the Winds of Change.

Pemberton and Mount Currie are not alone in facing the challenges related to alcohol and drug use. However, they may be unique in that they are two small communities—one municipality and one First Nation—addressing the issue in partnership.

If you are interested in learning more about the Winds of Change and the partnership between Pemberton and Mount Currie please contact the communities directly: www.pemberton.ca or www.lilwat.ca

Federal Round Table
Continued from page 13

Canada is improving its ability to achieve treaties. It recently announced changes to its mandates. Canada is also re-examining how it can negotiate incremental agreements that build toward a treaty. In addition, Canada is working with BC and First Nations Summit at the Treaty Revitalization Table to identify and remove obstacles in the negotiation process.

Through its second approach, Canada continues to develop tools and approaches for managing Aboriginal rights and title outside the BC Treaty Process since some First Nations are not in the treaty process. For example, Canada has the ability to negotiate self-government agreements inside or outside the treaty process. Canada is also exploring approaches that manage consultation and accommodation while meeting federal objectives of economic recovery and job creation (e.g. Prince Rupert Port Authority negotiations). Finally, Canada is exploring federal participation in provincial alternative approaches. By joining BC in these kinds of arrangements, Canada could support operational certainty in the province, although full and final certainty would not be achieved.

UBCM President, Chair Harry Nyce, attended the Round Table. The following is a summary of his comments:

- Local governments are following the Province’s lead and meeting with our neighbours.
- Local governments involved in treaty negotiations seek open communication with Canada and BC particularly during land selection. There is also an interest in preserving access to resources for public purposes.
- Local governments are interested in treaties that provide certainty around overlap disputes.
- Uncertainty affects a local government’s ability to provide services to its community.

Local governments risk losing federal infrastructure grants when consultation has not been adequately dealt with. Local governments face delays when engaging First Nations. First Nations require resources so they may participate effectively in consultation processes.

UBCM encourages local governments to build relationships with First Nations. Local governments and First Nations meet through the Community to Community Forum program. This program needs the continued commitment of the federal government.

Communication with local governments is important especially during land selection. There is potential for impact on land use planning, and when land is removed from a municipality, the tax base is affected. There is interest in having land use planning and development on treaty settlement land harmonized with the neighbouring local government.

Ministry Staff Receive Premier’s Legacy Awards

Ministry of Community and Rural Development staff members Gary Paget and Brian Walisser were honoured at the recent Premier’s Innovation and Excellence Awards. Paget and Walisser received a Legacy Award for their visionary leadership in seeking creative improvements for BC’s local government system. Both recipients have contributed a combined 65 years of public service dedicated to BC’s local government system. The annual ceremony is the BC Public Service’s highest recognition event.

On behalf of the many local governments that have benefited from the advice, guidance and support that Gary and Brian have provided over the years, UBCM extends our heartfelt congratulations to both individuals.

Make your workplace a little healthier and breathe easy.

Suzanne Pimentel-Gluss is our LEED® Accredited Professional at Monk Office Interiors. She has a thorough understanding of green principles and products that can help you create a healthy, high-performance office space. Go green and start breathing a little easier knowing you’re minimizing your impact on the environment.

Now that’s helpful.
BCM recently confirmed the last round of age-friendly community grants. Since 2008, close to 60 applications for age-friendly projects have been funded and 30 local governments have been supported with some assistance from the Age-friendly Communities Implementation Team. With this support, local governments have taken on all kinds of projects such as amending Official Community Plan or other bylaws to incorporate age-friendly principles, engaging with local seniors in dialogues and community workshops, integrating age-friendly principles into other projects such as improving accessibility, and developing guides on local resources for seniors.

Though the Age Friendly Grant Program has been completed, the Age-friendly Communities Implementation Team is available to continue providing support for local governments through to September 2010. Communities can continue to contact the Team until September by emailing agefriendlycommunities@gmail.com.

The Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport is also creating a number of tools and resources for communities and individuals – to help communities adapt the built, physical and social environments to enable seniors to “age actively”, that is, to live in security, enjoy good health and continue to participate fully in society– including:

- profiles of communities that have developed age-friendly initiatives, so that others can learn how to succeed in creating an age-friendly community.
- All of these resources will be posted on the new website located at http://www.gov.bc.ca/seniors/life/healthy/agefriendly/ where local governments, seniors and others can find information and resources.
- a new website for seniors about government programs and services for older adults, including healthcare, finances, benefits, housing, transportation and more. www.SeniorsBC.ca

UBCM News June 2010
Community Economic Development

Community Economic Development Report Released

“It is our hope that the stories and information shared in this publication will inspire local governments to be forward-looking and realize the opportunities inherent within their own communities.”
- Mayor Mary Sjostrom, Chair Community Economic Development (CED) Committee

On April 23, 2010, UBCM distributed to each local government a copy of the recently published report entitled Evaluating the Economic Development Role of BC Local Governments, A Snapshot of Community Effect and Opportunity. This report represents work undertaken by the CED Committee on this topic, focusing on the findings from a 2009 survey on the roles of local governments in economic development planning. The CED Committee’s work in this area began in 2004 after a survey of local government issues identified economic development as the number one priority for communities.

Then, with additional funding support provided by the provincial government, UBCM held a conference in 2006 on economic development for local elected officials and senior staff. This was the first of its kind for UBCM and it gave local governments a venue to share stories, strategies and talk about issues. This recently released report combines the statistical analysis of the 2009 survey results with a series of community snapshots to provide an overview of the evolving role that local governments are playing in this policy area.

Specific topics that are addressed include: economic development delivery models, planning for economic development and foundations for success - an analysis of critical factors that play a role in economic development planning success. The report reflects the diversity of regions and communities and how they address economic development within their own circumstances.

It is hoped that the report will provide a valuable resource to UBCM members and promote dialogue and inspire solutions to the many challenges local governments face with respect to economic development planning. A supplementary report that presents only the statistical findings from the 2009 UBCM survey on economic development will be completed by end of May 2010. The full report is presently available on the UBCM website (www.ucm.ca). The supplementary report will be available on the web once it is completed.

The Committee wishes to thank Joanne Gaucci for her commitment to this project. She has guided this project through its early beginnings and seen it through to fruition. UBCM would welcome your feedback on this publication. Please direct your comments to the CED Committee by email at: mcrawford@ubcm.ca.

Off Road Vehicle Management Framework

In the December 2009 issue of UBCM news it was reported that the Province had announced the development of a new management framework for Off Road Vehicles (ORVs). The proposed framework is the result of many years of advocacy work by a number of organizations, including UBCM. In fact, ORV licensing and regulation has been a longstanding resolution request from UBCM members dating back to the early 1990s.

Under the new management framework, all ORV riders using Crown land will require one-time registration with a licence plate for their machines, in addition to wearing helmets and using lights at night. Appropriate safety measures and adult supervision will be required for young riders.

Due to the number of agencies, ministries, stakeholder groups and other interested parties, the development of the framework will take two years to fully implement.

UBCM has been invited to be part of the discussions related to the development of further policy and more detailed regulations that will accompany the new management framework. At the April Executive meeting, a recommendation was endorsed to appoint an Executive member to the large stakeholder group that will be addressing all aspects of the new ORV framework. As well, a smaller local government working group will be created to specifically provide feedback on matters affecting local government at the larger stakeholder table. Communities who have expressed an interest or have specifically identified issues with ORVs will be invited to be part of the working group. If your community has a direct interest in participating please contact: mcrawford@ubcm.ca.

For those electoral area directors attending the upcoming June 15-16 Electoral Area Directors Forum, provincial staff will be available with an update on the new ORV management framework. For further information on the new management framework for ORVs go to: www.tca.gov.bc.ca/tourism/orv/general_qa.htm.

Transition of Aquaculture Regulation Continues

Members will recall that in February, 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. UBCM reported on the court ruling in our June 2009 issue of UBCM News.

This transfer of regulatory authority is of interest to some UBCM members who presently have fish farms operating within their jurisdiction. Presently, local governments have the ability to zone for use and density and within their zoning bylaws can establish terms and conditions regarding how the facilities are operated.

Over the past year, members of the Community Economic Development Committee have been in discussions with the Minister of Agriculture and Lands last year indicating that many communities are interested in the transition process, inquiring as to what the new regulatory framework will look like and how it would impact communities.

On April 22, the Community Economic Development Committee had an opportunity to meet with the Minister of Agriculture and Lands, the Honourable Steve Thomson. One of the issues discussed was the status of negotiations between the Province and the federal government on this matter. The Committee was advised that discussions are continuing between the two orders of government with an expected completion by December 2010.

Committee Chair Mary Sjostrom has since written to the federal minister responsible, the Honourable Gail Shea, expressing our interest in this matter and seeking an opportunity for direct consultations with local governments who will be directly affected as a result of the transition.

The Committee is aware that this is an issue of interest to a number of coastal communities and would welcome any feedback or comments from other affected local governments.

PROVINCE INTRODUCES CLEAN ENERGY ACT

On April 18th, the provincial government introduced Bill 17 the ‘Clean Energy Act.’ The Act builds on the work of the Green Energy Advisory Task Force which was appointed in November 2009 to provide recommendations to the government on a number of energy matters. The New Act addresses the following:

- sets out 16 specific energy objectives, including specific greenhouse gas reduction targets; confirms no nuclear power; affirms that 93% of the electricity generated must come from clean or renewable energy; and “encourage(s) communities to reduce green house gas emissions and use energy efficiently.”
- establishes new structure and roles for BC Hydro: submit its integrated resource plan to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; actively market clean power and spearhead long-term export contracts with neighbours in Canada; transform the corporation to a private corporation.
- consolidate transmission function back into BC Hydro - previously the BC Transmission Corporation was a stand alone body;
- leverage new opportunities for growth in clean power technologies such as wind, solar and run of river across BC;
- strengthen Environmental Assessment Act process to specifically provide for assessments of potential cumulative environmental impacts. (This has been an issue identified in UBCM resolutions - cumulative impacts of IPP projects)

UBCM members (continued on page 18)
Kelowna Opens UBCO Transit Exchange

Kelowna Regional Transit partners recently opened an upgraded transit exchange on the UBC Okanagan (UBCO) campus. The new $200,000 structure, which shelters up to 40 people, features on-demand radiant heating, low-energy and solar-powered lighting, as well as powered doors for mobility and wheelchair access clients.

The new shelter is part of a project utilizing $2.3 million in federal and provincial funding from the public transit programs administered by UBCM. The remaining funds will be used to upgrade transit telecommunications along Highway 97 and construct a Traffic Management Centre.

“We are excited to see the first outcome of the funding which will provide increased service to students of UBCO and help improve the Kelowna Regional Transit System,” says Mayor Sharon Shepherd. UBCO’s recent implementation of a U-PASS for all full-time students, along with growth in student numbers has seen increased bus ridership on campus. With the transit exchange located entirely on university lands, a partnership between the City and UBCO has been developed to share administration and maintenance costs.

“The University of British Columbia places a high priority on sustainable transportation, and we are very pleased to be investing in this project with our partners in the federal and local governments,” says Jackie Podger, Associate Vice President, Finance and Administration at UBC’s Okanagan campus.

LGPS Reaches New Milestones

Local Government Program Services has delivered its fifth annual status report to Premier Gordon Campbell, Bill Bennett, the Minister of Community and Rural Development and other ministries. The report outlines the achievements to date for sixteen provincially funded grant programs administered by UBCM. Among the highlights in this year’s report:

- More than $88.6 million has been committed to projects throughout BC.
- Every local government in the province has accessed one or more programs, with 125 local governments accessing 5 or more.
- Over 2,200 projects have been completed.
- Close to 350 applications from First Nations, Aboriginal organizations or Treaty Advisory Committees have received funding, or have applications under review.
- More than 3,000 applications have been reviewed.

You can read the full text of the 2009 Premier’s report on the Funding Programs section at www.ubcm.ca.

Gas Tax – Public Transit Reporting Deadline

Receipts of Gas Tax and Public Transit funding are required to provide an annual report on activities from the fiscal year ending December 31. The deadline for these reports is July 1, 2010. As in previous years, reporting will occur through the Government of Canada’s online database.

Reporting directions are available in the Gas Tax section of UBCM’s website www.ubcm.ca.
CLEAN ENERGY ACT
Continued from page 16

• prohibits the development, or proposal, of energy projects in parks, protected areas and conservancies.
• restricts operation of Burrard Thermal to only emergency situations and supporting transmission reliability.
• with the exception of Site C, prohibits future development of large scale hydroelectric storage projects on all river systems in BC, including the 9 sites previously considered by BC Hydro.
• establishes a $5 million First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund to enable First Nations investments and partnerships in renewable power production.
• exempts the following hydro projects from BC Utilities Commission reviews / processes:
  - Northwest Transmission Line
  - Mica units 5 and 6
  - Revelstoke unit 6
  - Site C
  - Bioenergy Phase 2 Call for Power
  - The Clean Power Call
  - The Standing Offer program
  - The Feed-In Tariff Program
  - BC Hydro’s Smart Metering and Grid Program
• exempts export contracts from BC Utilities Commission review, but these projects will be subject to provincial environmental, First Nations and community consultation requirements.

For more information on the Clean Energy Act including fact sheets and backgrounders, go to www.gov.bc.ca/cleanenergyact. As well a summary of the Green Energy Advisory Task Force report can be found at: www.gov.bc.ca/empr/index.htm.

Healthy Youth
Continued from page 15

An Invitation to Municipalities

BCHC is currently working with the Columbia Basin Trust and the City of Castlegar to develop an iYES. We are excited to be offering this service to other municipalities and are actively seeking new partners to create Integral Youth Engagement Strategies across the province. The strategic framework is also a terrific tool for Regional Districts and neighbourhoods. To learn more or to discuss the opportunity to initiate a strategy in your community contact:

Jodi Mucha, Director,
BC Healthy Communities
250 356 0930
jodi@bchealthycommunities.ca

Awareness

Week in
Action!

Wood WORKS
Continued from page 2

elected local government officials, their respective staff and local government project design teams. It will be sent to councils and regional districts around the province this month, and will be available to view online beginning Tuesday, June 15. Go to the BC Wood WORKS! website at www.wood-works.ca, and click onto the Wood First Act button, or visit www.WoodFirstAct.info to view.

Why Wood WORKS?!

For more than a decade, Wood WORKS! BC has been actively involved in providing technical support and wood expertise to building and design professionals for major projects throughout the province. Wood WORKS! BC has worked extensively with local governments on projects ranging from firehalls to libraries, from pools to ice arenas and recreation centres.

Wood WORKS! BC looks forward to helping BC’s elected leaders and their staffs find their way to innovative and cost-effective uses of natural, beautiful, sustainable wood in design and construction.

Wood First Act Resources

• civicinfobc website www.civicinfo.bc.ca
• Wood First Act page on BC Wood WORKS! www.wood-works.ca
• Wood First Initiative website www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/woodfirst/
Questions? Please call:
Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, UBCM gmacisaac@ubcm.ca
Mary Tracey, Executive Director, Wood WORKS! BC mtracey@wood-works.ca

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Since 1980 our firm has restricted its practice to acting for local government and providing advice concerning municipal law to other clients.
Resistance to New Ideas?
By Eli Mina, Board Effectiveness Consultant & Registered Parliamentarian

From time to time I receive inquiries from Councillors who try to advance their own initiatives and encounter resistance from their colleagues or the administration. Typically these inquiries relate to parliamentary procedure: “Must I give a notice of motion before proposing it at a meeting?” or “Are there any rules on tabling?” or “Can an amendment be hostile to the intent of the original motion?”

In the early years of my practice I would sometimes respond to procedural inquiries by giving the person an off-the-cuff reply, especially when things appeared to be “simple.” I quickly learned that this approach was risky, as I would discover that I had been given only half the story. I then switched my approach to advising the person to consult his or her Corporate Officer (or Municipal Clerk) or check the Procedure Bylaw.

Although the above approach addresses the stated procedural issue, it does not tackle the real problem, namely: the frustrations that Councillors (especially new ones) experience when they attempt to advance new initiatives. Without a direct response to this problem, procedural tools are bound to provide limited value.

With this in mind, I propose that, instead of boosting their procedural knowledge, elected officials focus on becoming effective partners in decision-making, and on building their relationships and credibility with their colleagues and the management team. The following tips should help you reduce your frustrations as your term of office progresses:

1. Before you write any motion to advance a certain initiative, learn the history of issues and the evolution of the decision making process. There may be valid reasons for how things have been done, and you need to understand these reasons before proposing changes to current practices (or else you may end up suggesting solutions to non-existing problems). It is also wise to assess how any new proposal would fit within existing strategic initiatives. Doing this homework is likely to prevent embarrassment, reduce frustrations, and boost your credibility. It should also increase the likelihood that your fellow Council members will consider supporting your proposed initiative.

2. Collaborate with your colleagues. Although working “solo” can make you look smarter than others, it can also backfire and isolate you. It can also abort a potentially important initiative, not on its merit, but due to the fact that you did not give your colleagues sufficient notice. No one likes being ambushed, so they may retaliate by not even seconding your motions.

3. Avoid judging your colleagues harshly, including long standing Councillors who may resist your ideas. Treat them with respect and appreciate them for being willing to serve the community. Public service can be a thankless job, requiring a great deal of time and the need to tolerate abuse by vocal groups or individuals. Your colleagues undoubtedly have imperfections and annoying habits. But they are your partners and you owe a duty to the community to work with them to provide effective collective leadership. It is in the community’s interests that they function to their best, so instead of seeking to boost your image next to theirs, help them shine and everyone will benefit. If their habit of making, and on building their relationships and credibility with their colleagues and the management team. The following tips should help you reduce your frustrations as your term of office progresses:

4. Avoid placing barriers in front of your message. Valid messages often get lost in an aggressive or harsh delivery or in the adversarial tactics used by their presenters, with the listeners being distracted by their own defensive or emotional reactions. Keep the content and delivery of your messages positive and clean, so they stand a better chance of being fully heard and understood, especially when issues are contentious.

5. Avoid public attacks on your colleagues after a motion that you opposed was passed. The time to present your concerns about a decision is during the discussion and before the vote on a resolution or bylaw is taken. Post-decision attacks, especially when they are nasty and personal and imply malice or incompetence, are destructive and erode the trust and respect that are essential to the functioning of a decision-making team.

6. Operate with the community in mind and place its interests ahead of any other interests. Consider not only the community of today, but also the community of the future. It is easy to be distracted by loud voices. Consider those people who are or will be affected by Council’s decisions, but whose voices cannot be heard at Council chambers, because they are too young or were not born yet.

7. Appreciate and learn to work well with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and the management team. They are there to provide continuity and to conduct the day to day operations of the municipality. Their job is to provide professional expertise to help ensure your Council’s decisions are operationally, financially and legally sound, and to help your Council minimize risk while maximizing opportunities for the community. So before you draft a motion, seek historical details and ask for their feedback on the wording. Better yet, advise them of what you want done and ask them to draft motions for your review. With their input and professional expertise built into the wording of resolutions, the likelihood of technical errors and public embarrassment will be reduced.

8. Be patient and take a long view on things. Do not be discouraged by interim failures and setbacks. If your idea is right, it will survive the bumps on the road to achieving your Council’s vision of an ideal community. Learn from your failures and perfect your ideas and method for the next attempt.

The above eight tips should provide greater value than any procedural knowledge that you might acquire. If you follow them, you will boost the likelihood that your proposals will be listened to and evaluated with an open mind. Resistance to valid ideas should therefore diminish, and the communities of today and tomorrow will be grateful for your leadership.
More containers than ever saved from our landfills

There are more than 175 Return-It™ Depots and mobile collectors across BC

Environmental

Encorp Pacific (Canada) is BC’s largest Product Stewardship Corporation. It is 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.

There are more than 175 Return-It™ Depots and mobile collectors across BC which are independently owned and operated. Approximately 80% of the beverage containers sold in the province are recovered and recycled into something new. That’s over 1 billion containers kept out of our landfills.

Recycling by the numbers:
Although 27 million fewer containers were sold in 2009, we still recovered over 8.5 million more than we did in 2008. Here’s how the over 1 billion containers recycled in 2009 break out:

- Aluminum: over 377 million containers are recycled into new aluminum cans
- Plastic: over 372 million containers recycled into new plastic bottles and buckets
- Polycoat: over 84 million containers recycled into cardboard boxes and tissue paper
- Glass: over 227 million containers recycled into new glass bottles
- Other: over 12 million containers recycled into a variety of products

Giving Mother Nature a Hand:
Not only does recycling divert useful materials from landfills, it also saves energy. By recycling, we reduce the energy needed to acquire raw materials, transport and process them into usable materials.

In 2009, Encorp saved over 96,600 tonnes of material from our landfills. By recycling those materials, we saved approximately 652,500 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity – enough to power 65,000 BC homes for an entire year!

The burning of fossil fuels to produce energy releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which contributes to climate change. Recycling saves energy which reduces our carbon footprint.

In total, Encorp’s activities in 2009 contributed to the reduction of about 137,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent being released into the atmosphere. That’s equal to taking 37,000 vehicles off the road for a year.

Product stewardship to the rescue: Product stewardship is all about responsibility. The guiding principle of this environmental management strategy is that whoever designs, produces, sells or uses a product takes responsibility for minimizing that product’s environmental impact.

The aim is to divert recyclable materials from going to waste in landfills. The rewards are significant: We can reduce the need to develop new landfill sites and the diverted materials can be reused thus saving the energy needed to produce new products from raw materials.

Encorp follows the five key Principles for Product Stewardship. You can find them at return-it.ca

100% industry operated:
Expenses from operating the Return-It™ system include deposit refunds, handling fees to depots, transportation and processing of collected containers, consumer awareness and administration. Total expenses were $153,336,000 in 2009. Revenues are made up of the sale of collected materials to recyclers, container deposits and, if required, a container recycling fee (CRF). Total revenues were $150,112,000 in 2009.

Encorp is 100% industry operated and receives no government funding. There is no cross subsidization of container types. Once total expenses are paid from the total revenues, the net profit is zero. Any deficits or surpluses are managed by the adjustment of the CRF fee in future years. Ø

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JUST BY RECYCLING BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

- You take the equivalent of 37,000 cars off BC’s roads for a year.
- You save enough energy to light 65,000 BC homes for a year.
- You contribute to the reduction of about 137,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide being released into BC’s atmosphere.

For more information, visit return-it.ca or call 1-800-330-9767