



Minutes 116th Convention

Vancouver September 24 – 27, 2019

2018 – 2019 UBCM Executive

President	Councillor Arjun Singh	Kamloops
First Vice President	Mayor Maja Tait	Sooke
Second Vice President	Councillor Brian Frenkel	Vanderhoof
Third Vice President	<i>remains vacant for the year</i>	
Past President	Councillor Murry Krause	Prince George
Vancouver Rep.	Councillor Pete Fry	Vancouver
Metro/GVRD Rep.	Councillor Craig Hodge	Coquitlam
Small Community Rep.	Mayor Mitch Campsall	100 Mile House
Electoral Area Rep.	Chair Art Kaehn	Fraser-Fort George RD
Vancouver Metro Area Representatives	Councillor Paul Albrecht	Langley City
	Councillor Linda McPhail	Richmond
AKBLG	Chair Rob Gay	RD East Kootenay
AVICC	Director Edwin Grieve	Comox Valley RD
LMLGA	Mayor Jack Crompton	Whistler
NCLGA	Councillor Gord Klassen	Fort St. John
SILGA	Councillor Chad Eliason	Salmon Arm
Directors at Large	Councillor Jen Ford	Whistler
	Director Travis Hall	Central Coast RD
	Director Grace McGregor	RD Kootenay Boundary
	Councillor Claire Moglove	Campbell River
	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg	Quesnel
	Councillor Gerry Taft	Invermere

Following the October 2018 local elections, UBCM filled a number of vacancies:

- 3rd VP moved to fill vacant 2nd VP/Position of 3rd VP remains vacant for remainder of 2018-19
- Councillor Linda McPhail fills Vancouver Metro Area Representative vacancy
- Councillor Claire Moglove and Director Grace McGregor fill two Director at Large vacancies

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Minutes

Minutes of the One Hundred Sixteenth Annual Convention of the Union of BC Municipalities held in Vancouver, BC on September 24, 25, 26 and 27, 2019

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Tuesday Clinics

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019 the Electoral Area Directors, Small Talk, Mid-Sized Communities and Large Urban Communities Forums were preceded by the following clinics at 7:30 am:

- Emergency Health Services: Developing Municipal Agreements
- Hydrogen 101
- Moose Hide Campaign: Taking a Stand for Safety
- Championing Earthquake Safety and Risk Reduction
- Remuneration for Elected Officials: A Best Practices Approach

Electoral Area Directors Forum

Chair Art Kaehn, UBCM Electoral Area Representative, called the Forum to order at 9:00 am. The first session of the Forum addressed Community Economic Resilience with speakers Jeremy Stone, Director, Community Economic Development Program at Simon Fraser University, and Chair Roly Russell, from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

The second presentation also addressed resilience, but specifically following a forestry mill closure. Corrine Bomben, CFO and Deputy City Manager and Richard Pucci, Director of Operations from the City of Prince Rupert provided an overview of their economic diversification strategy after the closure of their local mill.

After a break, the session reconvened at 10:45 am for the Minister's speech and the Local Government Leadership Academy Certificate Presentations.

The final panel of the session addressed the transportation of dangerous goods by rail in BC with speakers from CN Rail: Joslyn Young, Manager of Public Affairs and Matt Leigh, Dangerous Goods Officer.

Chair Art Kaehn adjourned the Forum at 12:00 pm for a lunch, which was sponsored by CN.

Small Talk Forum

Mayor Mitch Campsall, UBCM Small Community Representative, called the Forum to order at 9:00 am on Tuesday September 24, 2019. The session began with UBCM President Arjun Singh introducing the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, who addressed the delegates and presented Local Government Leadership Academy certificates.

Following certificate presentations, Facilitator and Kitimat-Stikine Regional District CAO Ron Poole welcomed the attendees and provided opening remarks. He introduced District of Clearwater Mayor Merlin Blackwell, Councillor Shelley Sim and CAO Leslie Groulx, who gave a presentation on 'placemaking,' which entails leveraging the community's public amenities/assets to attract new investment and strengthen business relationships. Immediately following was a presentation from the Village of Canal Flats, represented by Mayor Karl Sterzer, BID Group CEO Brian Fehr, and Columbia Lake Technology Centre

CEO Lorri Fehr. Representatives discussed an economic diversification initiative that involved repurposing an old mill into a business hub.

The next group of presentations began with Councillors Rosemary Hruby and Lucille Green from the Village of McBride, who outlined how the Ancient Forest/Chun T'oh Whudujut Provincial Park has been incorporated into the Village's tourism strategy. This was followed by Town of Port McNeil Mayor Gaby Wickstrom, who delivered an overview of the North Island Community Forest LP, a successful regional partnership that has generated much needed revenue.

The Forum then moved to a block of two discussion topics. The first topic was raised by Village of Chase Councillor Alison Lauzon, who expressed concern about the financial burden created by rising highway rescue costs that are not being fully reimbursed by the provincial government. The second topic was presented by Mayor Wickstrom, who summarized challenges faced by smaller local governments in responding to new legislative requirements.

The final presentation before the refreshment break was by Gord Enemark, Executive Director, Housing Policy Branch at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Mr. Enemark provided an update on *Homes for BC, A 30-Point Plan for Housing Affordability in British Columbia*.

The second half of the Forum began with a presentation from Councillor Raquel Knust, City of Enderby. Councillor Knust outlined the City's Harvest Hut, which redistributes vegetables, herbs and other products to those who want/need those items, while also improving food security.

Village of Ashcroft Mayor Barbara Roden made the next presentation, a verbal appeal for increased cellphone coverage in BC, especially as it pertains to improving public safety. Susan Stanford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Citizens' Services, joined Mayor Roden to answer questions from attendees.

The Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction joined attendees to deliver information regarding the development of new provincial accessibility legislation. Minister Simpson also provided details regarding the Province's stakeholder consultation plan, which would run until November 29.

The next presentation was delivered by District of Vanderhoof Councillors Brian Frenkel and Kenneth Young, who outlined the concept of recreation hubs in small communities. Due in part to ideal funding opportunities and partnerships, this idea has thrived in Vanderhoof.

Ruby Decock, CAO, Village of Port Clements, Lori Wiedeman, CAO, Village of Queen Charlotte and Daniel Fish, CAO, North Coast Regional District, delivered the Forum's final presentation regarding the Tsunami Pole project. This collaborative effort involves painting visual indicators on existing infrastructure to help reduce the risk of injury and/or fatality in the event of a tsunami.

The Forum adjourned at 12:00 pm for the Small Talk Lunch sponsored by Municipal Insurance Association of BC.

Mid-Sized Communities Forum

Councillor Chad Eliason called the forum to order at 9:00am on Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

The Forum focused on Indigenous partnerships involving local governments, non-governmental organizations, and industry across a range of issues impacting local governments.

The Forum opened with a presentation on the Province's approach towards Indigenous relations and partnerships. Jessica Wood, Assistant Deputy Minister, Reconciliation, Transformation and Strategies Division, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, presented to the delegates.

A second panel discussed authentic reconciliation, keys to successful indigenous relationships, and the benefits of indigenous innovation to local governments. It explored some approaches and philosophies of engaging indigenous communities, and highlighted some partnerships that work. Panelists included:

- Mayor Barb Desjardins, City of Esquimalt
- Kevin Albers, Chief Executive Officer, M'akola Housing Society & M'akola Development Services
- Chief Russ Chipps, Chief Councillor, Scia'new (Beecher Bay) First Nation
- Mayor Aaron Stone, Town of Ladysmith
- Charla Huber, Director of Communications & Indigenous Relations, M'akola Housing Society & M'akola Development Services
- Carmen Driechel, Community & Indigenous Relations Manager, Fortis BC

A question and answer session followed the panel discussion.

A short break followed the question and answer session. At 10:35 am the Forum reconvened with the same panelists who spoke about successful partnerships in the areas of housing, economic development, climate action, environmental protection, and emergency management in mid-sized communities.

A question and answer session followed the panel discussion on the successful best practices/partnerships.

At 11:35 am, UBCM President Arjun Singh introduced the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, who spoke briefly to delegates.

The session adjourned at 12:00 pm for a lunch sponsored by the BC Council of Forest Industries.

Large Urban Communities Forum

Councillor Pete Fry called the session to order at 9:00 am on Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

The Forum opened with the first panel, Resilient Cities: Tackling the Housing Challenge. Presenters included:

- Jill Atkey, CEO, BC Non Profit Housing Association
- Greg Steves, Assistant Deputy Minister, Office of Housing and Construction Standards, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Armin Amrolia, Associate VP, Development Services, for BC Housing
- Kaela Schramm, Director of Projects and Planning, M'akola Development Services

Following the panel presentations, a question and answer session followed.

At 10:20 am, UBCM President Arjun Singh introduced the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, who spoke briefly to delegates.

Following a break, the Forum reconvened at 10:50 am with the second panel Resilient Cities: Adapting to Climate Change. Presenters for this session included:

- Angela Danyluk, Senior Sustainability Specialist, City of Vancouver
- Isabel Gordon, Chief Financial Officer, District of West Vancouver
- Joel Shaw, Infrastructure Engineering Manager, City of Kelowna
- Maya Chorobik, Community Energy Planner, Community Energy Association

After presentations, a question and answer session followed with delegates.

The session adjourned at 12:00 pm for a lunch sponsored by TELUS.

Plenary Session: BC's Energy Futures

The Plenary Session was opened at 1:45 pm by Councillor Arjun Singh, UBCM President. Panel members for this session included:

- Mayor Josie Osborne, District of Tofino
- Mayor Lisa Helps, City of Victoria
- Mayor Lori Ackerman, City of Fort St. John
- Caitlyn Vernon, Campaigns Director, Sierra Club
- Blair King, Environmental Scientist

The session adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Address by Councillor Bill Karsten, FCM President

At 2:45 pm, UBCM President, Councillor Arjun Singh, introduced Councillor Bill Karsten, FCM President, who spoke about the association's current priorities and activities.

President Singh thanked President Karsten for his remarks. President Karsten's address is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix A.

Provincial Policy Sessions

Five concurrent provincial policy sessions convened at 3:15 pm. The sessions were:

- Connected Communities BC: Enhancing Resiliency Through Connectivity
- Ride-Hailing: What Can Local Governments Expect
- Resiliency & Change in BC Forests
- Tourism by Design: Planning for Resilient Communities
- CleanBC & Provincial Adaption Strategy

Community Excellence Awards

Winners received their awards at a special Awards Ceremony, held from 5:00-6:00 pm. Winners of the 2019 Community Excellence Awards were:

Excellence in Asset Management

Winner: City of Colwood – Sustainable Infrastructure Replacement Plan

Excellence in Governance

Winner: City of Richmond – 2017-2022 Child Care Needs Assessment & Strategy

Honourable mention: Village of Canal Flats – Official Community Plan & Zoning Bylaw

Excellence in Service Delivery

Winner: Thompson-Nicola Regional District – A New Road Travelled: Mobile Library Provides Advanced Voting Opportunities for Rural Communities

Honourable mention: City of Surrey – Integrated Sustainability Education Program

Excellence in Sustainability

Winner: City of Castlegar – Columbia Avenue Complete Streets Project

Honourable mention: Village of Harrison Hot Springs – Lighting Upgrade

The Community Excellence Awards were sponsored by the Municipal Finance Authority of BC (Gold), Urban Systems (Gold), and the Joint Provincial – UBCM Green Communities Committee (Silver).

Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception was held from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Emerald and Sapphire Ballrooms of the Fairmont Pacific Rim, Vancouver. The Reception was sponsored by Lidstone & Company Law Corporation.

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Wednesday Clinics

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Convention commenced at 7:30 am with the following clinics:

- Be Fair: Responding Effectively to Complaints
- Revitalized Legislative Framework for the ALR
- Ship-source Oil Pollution: Compensation 101
- Elected Officials Must Themselves be Resilient
- UBCM Convention Finance & Sponsorship Review

Convention Opening Session

The UBCM President, Councillor Arjun Singh, called the 116th Annual Convention to order at 8:30 am on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

President's Address

The President, Councillor Arjun Singh, provided the Opening Address to delegates. The President's Address is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix B.

Annual Meeting

The First Vice President, Mayor Maja Tait, in the Chair opened the Annual Meeting.

Adoption of Conference Rules & Procedures

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Conference Rules and Procedures as printed in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book were adopted.

Adoption of Minutes of 2018 Convention

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Minutes of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Annual Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, held in Whistler, British Columbia, on September 10-14, 2018 were adopted as prepared and distributed.

Annual Report

The President, Councillor Arjun Singh, presented the Annual Report, which, on regular motion, duly moved and seconded, was adopted.

Adoption of Financial Statements

The Second Vice President, Councillor Brian Frenkel, presented the Audited Financial Statements of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for the year ending May 31, 2019. On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the statements were adopted. The Audited Financial Statements were circulated in the Annual Report. A copy of the budget for the year commencing June 1, 2019, as approved by the Executive, was also circulated to the membership for their information.

Appointment of Auditors

A regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Executive be empowered to appoint KPMG as auditors for the year commencing June 1, 2019, was adopted.

Appointment of Committees

In advance of Convention, the following Convention-related committees and officials were appointed:

Nominating Committee

Councillor Murry Krause, Immediate Past President, UBCM, Chair
Councillor Gord Klassen, North Central Local Government Association
Councillor Shelley Sim, Southern Interior Local Government Association
Chair Rob Gay, Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments
Mayor Jack Crompton, Lower Mainland Local Government Association
Councillor Carl Jensen, Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

Convention Committee

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, Chair
Councillor Chad Eliason, Vice Chair
Councillor Jen Ford
Mayor Jack Crompton
Councillor Pete Fry
Councillor Linda McPhail

Scrutineers

Leslie Groulx, CAO, District of Clearwater, Chief Scrutineer
Tom Kadla, CAO, Village of Lumby, Deputy Chief Scrutineer
Ron Poole, CAO, Kitimat-Stikine RD
Kris Boland, Deputy CAO, Kitimat-Stikine RD
Sukh Gill, CAO, Thompson-Nicola RD
Carolyn Black, Director of Legislative Services, Thompson-Nicola RD
Lynda Flynn, CAO, Squamish-Lillooet RD
Wendy Hunt, CAO, Village of New Hazelton
Kim Anema, CAO, Town of View Royal
Paul Gipps, CAO, City of West Kelowna
Patrick Robins, CAO, District of Central Saanich
Mike Younie, CAO, District of Mission

Barclay Pitkethly, Deputy CAO, District of Mission
Lynda Shykora, Deputy Manager, Corporate Administration Services, Columbia Shuswap RD
David Allen, CAO, City of Courtenay
Patti Bridal, Director, Corporate Services, City of Vernon

Parliamentarian

Ian Izard, Q.C., Clay and Company
Former Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, Legislative Assembly of BC

First Report of the Nominating Committee for the Positions of Table Officers

Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the first report with nominations for Table Officer positions:

President:	Mayor Maja Tait, District of Sooke
First Vice President:	Councillor Brian Frenkel, District of Vanderhoof
Second Vice President:	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, City of Quesnel
Third Vice President:	Councillor Paul Albrecht, City of Langley Councillor Jen Ford, Resort Municipality of Whistler

Keynote Address, Peter Mansbridge

At 9:25 am Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, Chair of the Convention Committee, introduced Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Chair of the Municipal Finance Authority and thanked the Municipal Finance Authority for sponsoring the Keynote speaker. Mayor Brodie addressed the delegates and introduced Peter Mansbridge's opening video presentation. Mr. Mansbridge was an anchor on CBC's the National for 29 years and throughout his career has guided Canada through the political, economic, and cultural events that have shaped the country. Following the presentation, Mr. Mansbridge fielded questions from the delegates. Councillor Roodenburg thanked Mr. Mansbridge for his keynote address.

UBCM Convention Finance & Sponsorship Review Survey

Councillor Gerry Taft, Chair of the Resolutions Committee introduced the members of the Independent Panel on Convention Finance and Sponsorship:

- Frank Leonard (Chair), Consultant; former Mayor of Saanich and UBCM President
- Wendy Booth, Consultant; former Director, Regional District of East Kootenay and UBCM President
- Chair Sav Dhaliwal, Chair of Metro Vancouver and Councillor, City of Burnaby; former UBCM President
- Chair Rhona Martin, Chair of Columbia Shuswap Regional District; former UBCM President

Panel Chair, Frank Leonard provided delegates with an overview of the Panel's work, scope and timelines and advised that delegate feedback was being sought on aspects of Convention finance and sponsorship.

Councillor Taft then proceeded to ask delegates a series of questions to gauge member opinion; the results of which were shared in real-time through the use of electronic voting devices. Following the survey questions Councillor Taft thanked the Panel.

Address by Andrew Weaver, MLA, Leader of the Green Party

At 10:25 am the First Vice President, Mayor Maja Tait introduced Andrew Weaver, MLA, Leader of the Green Party, who then addressed delegates.

Following his presentation Mayor Tait thanked him. Mr. Weaver's address is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix C.

Principal Policy Session – Resolutions

The first Resolutions session began at 11:00 am with Councillor Gerry Taft, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Councillor Taft was joined by the other members of the Resolutions Committee: Councillor Claire Moglove, Councillor Brian Frenkel, and Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg. They were assisted by Parliamentarian Ian Izard, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac, and other UBCM staff.

Section SR

The Chair commenced consideration of resolution SR1.

SR1 Provincial Consultation with Local Governments UBCM Executive

Whereas s. 2 of the *Community Charter* acknowledges that consultation on matters of mutual interest is a key principle defining the local-provincial relationship recognizing that the citizens of BC are best served when both orders of government respect each other's jurisdiction and work together;

And whereas recent examples of provincial processes and programs affecting the land base have not been conducted in a manner consistent with the principles espoused within the *Community Charter*:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the *Community Charter* are adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives.

On motion, was Endorsed

SR2 Modernizing Development Financing UBCM Executive

Whereas development cost charges, designed to help pay for the cost of off-site infrastructure required to deliver community services that are needed to accommodate growth, are currently restricted by the *Local Government Act* to areas of sewage, water, drainage, roads and parks;

And whereas the current development cost charge structure does not support the flexibility local governments require to make effective off-site infrastructure investments to deliver community services needed to accommodate growth, or reflect other important infrastructure services delivered by local governments impacted by growth:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province conduct a comprehensive review of existing funding mechanisms for financing growth-related infrastructure services, including development cost charges and amenity agreements, that would identify approaches to:

- capture growth related capital costs, including, but not limited to infrastructure needed to support: emergency services, solid waste, cultural services, transit, recreation, affordable housing and the expansion of sport-related park services;
- provide local government with the flexibility to ensure that financing growth-related infrastructure services better reflects community circumstances and community objectives; and
- create a consistent approach to land value capture and amenity charges that reduce the uncertainty associated with negotiated agreements.

On motion, was Endorsed

SR3 Pre-Hospital Emergency Services

UBCM Executive

Whereas in May 2018 the BC Emergency Health Services introduced a new dispatch protocol for pre-hospital care, where first responders such as fire departments are requested only for the most urgent events or for events where an ambulance will take more than 10 minutes to respond, and this has raised concerns from local governments regarding access to emergency services in their communities;

And whereas communities in BC are diverse and require solutions that consider local capacity and local emergency health care needs:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health, BCEHS and BC local governments work together to implement a co-ordinated approach to pre-hospital care, consistent with the recommendations in the February 2019 Auditor General Report on Access to Emergency Health Services, to:

- create signed agreements outlining the roles and responsibilities of fire departments based on local need; and
- to confirm that first responders are being notified of events where they can best contribute to patient care.

On motion, was Endorsed

Section A

The Chair then commenced consideration of resolution A1.

A1 Provincial Responsibility For Fire Services Act & Regulations

Cariboo RD

Whereas UBCM endorsed resolution 2015-A3 calling for the provincial government to provide the resources necessary to inspect and enforce provincial safety regulations, including the *Fire Services Act* and its regulations, through either the Office of the Fire Commissioner or the BC Safety Authority rather than downloading the responsibility for local governments to enforce provincial rules;

And whereas no decision has been made by the Province despite significant opposition, particularly by regional districts, regarding the proposed changes to the *Fire Safety Act* that would require enforcement by local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to expedite the enactment of legislation requiring provincial safety regulations to be enforced by the Office of the Fire Commissioner or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments.

On motion, was Endorsed

A2 Cannabis Revenue Sharing With Local Governments

Cariboo RD

Whereas only the federal and provincial governments are receiving tax revenue from the recently legalized sale of recreational cannabis, despite local governments encountering increased costs of the associated implementation;

And whereas UBCM endorsed a resolution (2018-SR1) calling for a principled approach to guide the negotiation of a cannabis excise tax revenue sharing agreement with the Government of British Columbia, and recommending that BC local governments receive 40 per cent of the projected excise tax revenue in the short-term, which has not received any response from the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to expedite a fair provincial-local government excise tax revenue sharing agreement regarding the sale of recreational cannabis.

On motion, was Endorsed

A3 Increase Provincial RCMP Contribution

Colwood

Whereas British Columbia municipalities may jointly participate in RCMP/policing to cost-effectively manage community safety in their region with the Province providing funding to each municipality based on population;

And whereas the 2018 West Shore RCMP General Duty Service Assessment has identified that the current 81 officer detachment needs to be bolstered by 9 officers immediately and another 4 by 2023 with the current share contributed by the Province providing 40 per cent fewer officers per capita, equating to an approximate \$720,000 short fall, forcing some municipalities to contribute more than their equitable share;

And whereas the Province does not hesitate to force a municipality to hire additional officers when it determines that the municipality requires them to meet the needs of the community, as was the case for the City of Victoria this year:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province immediately increase their contribution for the provincial component of RCMP funding to meet the immediate and projected service needs for the communities they serve where a General Duty Service Assessment has identified a short fall.

On motion, was Endorsed

A4 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Logan Lake

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has announced introduction of legislation to implement United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP);

And whereas the announcement did not specify details in relation to framework and process implementation;

And whereas local governments require a clear delineation of their responsibilities where the implementation of provincial legislation is concerned:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide clarity to local governments regarding implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) processes and framework;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide a clear delineation of the responsibilities of local governments in relation to the implementation of these processes.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the second enactment clause by adding the phrase “after full consultation with local governments, both rural and urban” following “these processes”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide clarity to local governments regarding implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) processes and framework;

*And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide a clear delineation of the responsibilities of local governments in relation to the implementation of these processes **after full consultation with local governments, both rural and urban.***

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

Section B – Part 1

Councillor Brian Frenkel assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section B resolutions.

Councillor Brian Frenkel commenced consideration of Section B – Part 1 resolutions.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that all Section B resolutions be admitted for debate, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section B – Part 1 be considered as a block, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B7 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B25 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B35 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B43 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B65 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B71 be removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in the Section B – Part 1 block as amended be adopted, was endorsed.

The resolutions remaining in the Section B – Part 1 block were endorsed as follows:

B1 Change the Requirements for Public Notification North Vancouver District

Whereas the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* require that all public notices be published in a newspaper;

And whereas printed newspapers are no longer the only or most effective means of giving public notice:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government amend the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* to allow statutorily required public notices to be published using a variety of media channels, including but not limited to: newspapers, social media, web sites and online advertising, as long as reasonably equivalent or better reach than that of solely using printed newspapers can be demonstrated.

On motion, was Endorsed

B2 Municipal Boundary Extension Consultation

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has deemed that municipal boundary extensions into adjacent electoral areas of a regional district be guided by the principle of consultation with those affected, including First Nations whose traditional territory encompasses the proposed area of extension;

And whereas the discretionary nature of municipal consultation with adjacent electoral area residents who are most affected by a municipal boundary extension with impacts to taxation, revenues, infrastructure and overall service provision by regional districts is inequitable to that of municipal residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of BC to amend the *Local Government Act* section 12(3) to remove the discretionary nature of the consultation process and mandate that the minister be required to direct that a vote on the question of including all or a portion of an adjacent electoral area into a municipality under this section be taken, in the form specified by the Minister.

On motion, was Endorsed

B3 Local Government Autonomy

Maple Ridge

Whereas Section 1 of the *Community Charter* confirms that municipalities and their councils are "democratically elected, autonomous, responsible and accountable" and must operate under strict statutory conditions associated with public consultation and public interest; and that Section 1 of the *Local Government Act* grants local governments the powers and flexibility required to fulfill their purpose and respond to the needs of their communities within that mandate;

And whereas the Government of BC has shown a willingness to overrule municipal land use regulations, dispense with public consultation functions mandated by the *Local Government Act*, and forego collaboration with local government, actions that can set a precedent in undermining the jurisdiction of municipal councils to determine and represent the interests of their communities through a fair and accountable public process:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to commit to working in collaboration with local governments within boundaries of their respective jurisdictions on all current and future projects of mutual concern.

On motion, was Endorsed

B4 Proceeds of Crime

Prince George

Whereas the provision of police services places a significant financial burden on local government;

And whereas the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Crime Remediation Grant Program funds community crime reduction and crime prevention activities, but does not address local government policing costs, including expenditures related to investigations and police work that result in seizures of proceeds of crime:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province share seizures of proceeds of crime with local governments to help address protective services costs.

On motion, was Endorsed

B5 Criminal Justice Reform

Abbotsford

Whereas British Columbia currently has the highest threshold/charge approval standard in Canada in proceeding with charges and criminal prosecution of gangsters while communities across British Columbia's lower mainland have concurrently seen a year over year rise in gang-related homicide and violence;

And whereas ongoing court delays favour the rights of the accused over the rights of victims and/or the community;

And whereas the Government of Canada committed \$328-million over 5 years beginning in 2018, and \$100-million annually thereafter to tackle the increase in gun related violence and gang activity in Canada as well as \$43 million annually in the National Crime Prevention Strategy to develop cost-effective ways to prevent crime among at-risk populations and vulnerable communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Mayor's Caucus and UBCM request that, in support of addressing the ongoing gang violence across the Lower Mainland of BC, the Province of BC and BC's Attorney General and Minister of Public Safety immediately begin working with the Government of Canada to take steps to explore initiatives to address issues within the British Columbia justice system including BC's restrictive charge approval standards, the ongoing high volume of court delays as well as measures to address community safety in support of the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

Therefore be it resolved that ~~the Mayor's Caucus and UBCM request that, in support of addressing the ongoing gang violence across the Lower Mainland of BC, the Province of BC and BC's Attorney General and Minister of Public Safety immediately begin working with the Government of Canada to take steps to explore initiatives to address issues within the British Columbia justice system including BC's restrictive charge approval standards, the ongoing high volume of court delays as well as measures to address community safety in support of the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities.~~

B6 Victims Services Funding

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the costs to local governments for providing police-based victim services continues to escalate due to increased demand and annual inflation;

And whereas the authority for providing victim services for: victims' issues; development of legislation, policies and programs; training; and delivering and funding programs that support victims and their families is the responsibility of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Province of BC, through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to increase the Ministry's funding contribution for the provision of police-based victim services within the Province of British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

B8 Local Government Photo Radar Implementation

West Kelowna

Whereas local governments, with limited and competing resources, must address traffic safety challenges to ensure the well-being of our residents;

And whereas traffic speed enforcement in residential areas, playgrounds, and school zones is labour intensive and the ability to use photo radar as a deterrent has proven to be effective and efficient in the management of speed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to permit local governments to independently implement photo radar, with the focus on changing driver behaviour, on local roads at the local government's request and expense.

On motion, was Endorsed

B9 Equitable Funding for Highway Rescue Services

Chase

Whereas British Columbia highways are handling larger volumes of traffic much of which is travelling at higher than posted speeds, with vehicle crashes more serious and frequent in all parts of BC in all seasons;

And whereas many small community volunteer fire departments and societies provide vital highway rescue services for crashes occurring on provincial highways primarily at their own cost either by fundraising or by local community taxation or both;

And whereas while Emergency Management BC reimburses highway rescue service providers for some of their costs, most small local governments and societies are paying 66 per cent of the costs associated with the provision of this valuable service performed on provincial highways, while the Province of BC funds 100 per cent of other emergency services attending to vehicle crashes on provincial highways;

And whereas the Province of BC has received resolutions for this very topic for several years, and to date, no equitable funding model has been developed to provide consistent, reliable and fair funding for this service provided on provincial highways:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC seriously commit to the development and implementation of an equitable funding model that is fair for all parties, to ensure that this important service continues to be delivered for people travelling on provincial highways, perhaps by way of a partnership between various provincial authorities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B10 Search & Rescue – Sustainable Funding

East Kootenay RD

Whereas search and rescue volunteers provide valuable service in support of police forces, the BC Ambulance Service, the Coroners Service, and local governments in the province, and the costs associated with providing the necessary training, equipment and facilities is increasing;

And whereas search and rescue groups rely on grants and other time consuming, short-term and unpredictable funding sources which do not provide financial security or allow long term strategic operational planning;

And whereas the Province has supported search and rescue groups with a series of one year grants for the last three years, there is no provision in the 2019 budget for any further financial support for search and rescue groups:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to implement a consistent and sustainable funding model for search and rescue groups to allow them to better provide efficient and effective search and rescue operations.

On motion, was Endorsed

B11 Downloading of Responsibility for Emergency Services

Quesnel

Whereas British Columbia's small and medium-sized local governments are finding it increasingly challenging to respond and most importantly to fund emergency response services that are not necessarily within the purview of their statutory mandate and responsibility;

And whereas many of these provincially downloaded responses to emergencies impact local police, ambulance, fire, fire-rescue, emergency highway rescue, and search and rescue services, many of which are volunteer-based;

And whereas emergencies originating on the land base outside the boundaries and beyond the limited financial resources, expertise, and staff and volunteer capacities of those local governments are in many cases climate change-driven:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia and where applicable the Government of Canada to recognize and assist local governments with funding and other aid in responding to emergency services that are not necessarily within the purview of their statutory mandate and responsibility.

On motion, was Endorsed

B12 Funding for Climate Change Adaptation – Flood Protection Delta

Whereas flood protection works are deficient in many areas throughout the Province of British Columbia and, in many areas, are adjacent to Wildlife Management Areas or environmentally protected areas;

And whereas climate change is increasing the risk of flooding in many coastal communities due to long term sea level rise;

And whereas there are limited funds to address long term dike improvement works:

Therefore be it resolved that senior levels of government work with local governments to fund and assist in implementing a streamlined approvals process for long term flood protection adaptation programs.

On motion, was Endorsed

B13 Provincial Forest Management Vernon

Whereas the wildfire burden to BC's society, economy and environment over the last decade can be measured in billions of dollars;

And whereas successive provincial governments have significantly underfunded mitigation programs;

And whereas the current wildfire management strategy is overly reliant on FireSmart, placing wildfire risk mitigation at the homeowner level while much of the land requiring treatment is government controlled;

And whereas the BC government inconsistently mitigates natural disasters:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support lobbying the provincial government to support and implement changes to its wildfire mitigation practices to significantly fund wildland urban interface (WUI) fuels treatments, provide fire resilient communities and to maintain an effective wildfire response capability.

On motion, was Endorsed

B14 Online Voting Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas resolutions supporting legislative changes to allow for online voting in local government elections were endorsed at the 2011 and 2015 UBCM Conventions;

And whereas the Province's response in 2015 indicated that it is open to exploring the topic further with UBCM and specific local governments who are interested in implementing internet voting:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be lobbied to initiate legislative changes that would allow local governments to implement online voting for upcoming elections and assent voting opportunities.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B15 Funding for Design of Cycling Infrastructure (Bike Lanes) Penticton
for Local Governments**

Whereas the Province of BC is cost sharing cycling infrastructure projects with local government through our BikeBC program to encourage healthy living and to help address climate change;

And whereas prior to building cycling infrastructure, such as bike lanes, it is necessary to conduct a design stage that can be a very expensive endeavor:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province cost share not only cycling infrastructure but also the design of the infrastructure, especially as it relates to bike lanes.

On motion, was Endorsed

B16 Alternative Transportation Infrastructure Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the federal government has committed itself to the Paris Accord to limit climate warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and the provincial government has committed itself to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 per cent below 2007 levels by 2050 and has committed to an active transportation strategy which outlines a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is the responsible authority to ensure safe and reliable road infrastructure throughout rural and unincorporated areas in BC:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be urged to fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support an increased investment in infrastructure improvements and ongoing maintenance necessary for the safe integration of low carbon alternative modes of transportation on rural roads which connect communities throughout BC.

On motion, was Endorsed

B17 Shipment of Dangerous Goods by Rail Kitimat-Stikine RD

Whereas the increase in rail shipment of petroleum products and other dangerous goods poses an increased chance for spills and greater environmental risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial and federal governments to improve Environmental Emergency Program regulations around rail transport of petroleum products and dangerous goods to strengthen and include improvements to spill preparedness, response and recovery.

On motion, was Endorsed

B18 BC Ferries Service Levels Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas BC Ferries vehicle traffic levels in 2018 were the highest ever experienced by BC Ferries and traffic demand is forecast to continue to grow;

And whereas coastal ferries are an extension of the provincial highway system relied upon to transport people and goods, safely, efficiently and on time, and are therefore crucial to the economic and social health of coastal communities and the BC tourism industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to review the Coastal Ferry Services Contract and implement changes to increase core service levels for coastal ferry routes that support additional sailings and reduce wait times during peak travel periods.

On motion, was Endorsed

B19 Extension of Vacancy Taxation Authority to Local Governments Victoria

Whereas the Province of British Columbia responded to a housing affordability crisis in 2016 with legislation empowering the City of Vancouver to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties, resulting in \$38-million in revenues for that community in 2018 and creating a strong disincentive to leaving properties vacant;

And whereas communities across British Columbia face housing affordability pressures, while a portion of the housing supply in all communities remains vacant, including properties that have remained derelict for years or decades, and vacant and derelict buildings pose substantial risks in terms of public safety in communities, as well as liveability and desirability for nearby and adjoining neighbourhoods and properties:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia extend the authority to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties to local governments across British Columbia, providing communities with the discretion to decide whether to introduce an additional tax to discourage vacant and derelict buildings, and encourage the occupancy, maintenance, and improvement of buildings to address housing affordability and public safety.

On motion, was Endorsed

B20 PST Exemption for Fire Apparatus & Firefighter Alberni-Clayoquot RD **Personal Protective Equipment**

Whereas the municipalities and regional districts that provide firefighting services must provide certified fire apparatus and regulatory compliant firefighter personal protective equipment to meet insurance standards and WorkSafe BC regulations;

And whereas the cost of providing the specialty apparatus and equipment has become an onerous challenge for large and small fire departments alike:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to provide an exemption from provincial sales tax for fire protection equipment and supplies for fire departments within the province.

On motion, was Endorsed

B21 Strong Fiscal Futures Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Province's response to the 2014 UBCM Strong Fiscal Futures resolution was limited to recognition of the need for more regular, structured dialogue between the Province and UBCM to better address shared duties to ensure the delivery of effective, responsive services to citizens;

And whereas local governments continue to face significant challenges in providing effective, sustainable services and infrastructure management under an outdated local government financial system and archaic revenue sources:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province commit to pursuing the Strong Fiscal Futures report as a flexible blueprint for a diversified local government finance system that is both fairer and more sustainable.

On motion, was Endorsed

B22 Isolation Allowance

Port Hardy

Whereas it is challenging to attract and retain employees in isolated communities because of a lack of full services and the extra cost to obtain these services elsewhere;

And whereas the provincial and federal governments recognize this challenge by providing isolation allowance to their employees:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments provide a tax credit/deduction to all employees living in and around the same communities that those governments recognize with isolation allowance.

On motion, was Endorsed

B23 Revenue Sharing

Port Hardy

Whereas small, rural communities in British Columbia are surrounded by lands within regional districts governed by the provincial government that collect revenue from industry for resource extraction from the lands;

And whereas the communities adjoining these lands provide services including parks, recreation and roads for the companies and employees and gain no apportionment of the revenue collected for providing these services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to consider revenue sharing of royalties and taxes with municipalities that provide services to those industries benefitting from the services of the adjoining municipalities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B24 Provincial Download

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas Section 2 of the *Community Charter* states that the provincial government must not assign responsibilities to municipalities unless there is provision for resources required to fulfill the responsibilities;

And whereas legislated changes have shifted responsibility for managing a wide range of complex issues, including but not limited to the significant impact of emergency response services onto local governments placing notable strain on local government resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure that adequate resources and funding are provided to local governments to fulfill the responsibilities that have been assigned to local governments.

On motion, was Endorsed

B26 Fire Department Capital Funding Program

East Kootenay RD

Whereas rural and municipal fire departments provide essential structural and wildfire mitigation services and are regularly called upon by the BC Wildfire Service to respond to wildfires in and around their response area;

And whereas the BC Wildfire Service relies on the support of rural and municipal fire departments to provide an effective wildfire response program, the Province of British Columbia benefits from having these additional resources available, and many communities struggle to pay for the infrastructure and equipment essential for the existence and operation of the fire department; yet the Province of British Columbia does not contribute towards this vital infrastructure and equipment;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be requested to develop an efficient and effective program to provide capital funding for rural and municipal fire departments.

On motion, was Endorsed

B27 Support for Fire Services

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the Office of the Fire Commissioner has, over the past three years, put more requirements in place for fire departments in British Columbia;

And whereas the cost and time commitment of these increased training, risk management, and records management requirements have negatively impacted volunteer and paid-on-call fire fighter recruitment and has resulted in increased local government taxation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be directed to work with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Office of the Fire Commissioner to explore provincial funding support to help fund staffing, compliance with standards, and capital costs of British Columbia fire departments.

On motion, was Endorsed

B28 Rural Library Funding

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the allocation of provincial funding grants for regional and municipal libraries is based on a formula of half the converted value of land and improvements, and half the population of the service area;

And whereas in rural areas with low population and lower land values this formula results in insufficient funding and hardship to the residents who are more dependent on library services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to implement a Rural Libraries Fund due to the current funding formula not working effectively for libraries in rural areas with a population of less than 5,000.

On motion, was Endorsed

B29 Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels

Sidney

Whereas libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments, and where provincial library funding has remained virtually stagnant for the past 30 years:

And whereas libraries in British Columbia provide open and equal public access to vital resources, including the internet, public computers, digital library tools and in-person service from expert staff to provide opportunities for all British Columbians to access knowledge and information and increase literacy in our

communities and present informative programmes: including First Nations programmes and material which advance public understanding and reconciliation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM strongly encourage the Government of British Columbia to give urgent attention to funding for BC public libraries by adding \$20 million to the BC Provincial Budget for 2020 for allocation to public libraries throughout BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to ensure that BC Libraries will henceforth receive Provincial Government financial support at a sustainable level in subsequent years following the 2020 Budget.

On motion, was Endorsed

B30 Property Transfer Tax Redistribution for Affordable Housing Comox Valley RD

Whereas affordable housing for low-income citizens is in critical need and is currently severely challenged by current supply conditions and lack of adequate funding;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia collects approximately \$2 billion annually through the Property Transfer Tax:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to provide an annual redistribution of 1 per cent of the Property Transfer Tax to local governments across the province for the specific purpose of addressing affordable housing.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to provide an annual redistribution of ~~1 per cent of the Property Transfer Tax~~ to local governments across the province for the specific purpose of addressing affordable housing.

B31 Share of Liquor Tax for Policing Courtenay

Whereas the policing cost for the City of Courtenay is one of the most significant expenditures in the city's financial plan;

And whereas the availability of alcohol under the jurisdiction of the BC Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch can have significant implications on local policing costs:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to provide a portion of the British Columbia Liquor Tax to communities to be used towards policing costs.

On motion, was Endorsed

B32 Agricultural Support Services Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas agricultural extension services support government and community priorities around food security, economic development, climate change adaptation and water management;

And whereas agricultural producers and stakeholders in each regional district are subject to unique challenges and opportunities that are difficult to address in the long-term or in a consistent manner without predictable, non-project-based funding:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture provide funding to regional districts through a stable, annual and accountable framework to establish strategic and long-term regional agricultural extension supports.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

*Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture provide funding to ~~Regional Districts~~ **local governments** through a stable, annual and accountable framework to establish strategic and long-term regional agricultural extension supports.*

B33 BC Hydro – Streetlight Inefficiency

Smithers

Whereas BC Hydro owns a significant percentage of streetlights in BC municipalities, especially in smaller communities, and many of these streetlights still use inefficient incandescent technology despite demonstrated energy and cost savings of 50-70 per cent with conversion to LED technology;

And whereas local governments are responsible for paying for the ongoing operating cost of BC Hydro-owned street lighting using property tax revenue:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to require BC Hydro to expeditiously replace all streetlights within BC municipalities with LED technology, or provide municipalities with the financial resources necessary to continue paying for the operation of its inefficient streetlights.

On motion, was Endorsed

B34 Short-term Rentals Assessment Classification

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas a dwelling unit that is used as a commercial enterprise for short-term rentals and does not serve as the primary residence for the owner, a manager or other person;

And whereas tourist overnight accommodation uses such as motels, hotels, and resorts are classed and taxed as businesses:

Therefore be it resolved that a dwelling unit, typically a detached dwelling, offered and used as a whole for short-term rentals be assigned the appropriate tax class and be redefined as “Class 6: Business and Other”;

And be it further resolved that where the property is offered, be it only seasonally, as a whole (rather than as a Bed & Breakfast with a permanent resident) this be in respect of the property as a whole rather than be limited to a portion or a split assessment between Class 1 and 6.

On motion, was Endorsed

B36 Legislation of Old Growth Management Area

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the timber supply areas within the province of British Columbia include both consumptive watersheds and old growth management areas designated for the purpose of enabling and securing ecological resilience to withstand the long-term effects of forest degradation;

And whereas these critical landscape elements are not protected under legislation and these watersheds are experiencing effects detrimental to slope stability, water quality and quantity which ultimately leads to forest decline and increased risk of wildfire, landslides, loss of water supply, and other effects that local governments must respond to and mitigate without having any concurrent decision-making authority over; and these areas are being traded for other areas within a tenure that do not have equivalent ecological value thereby accelerating the decline in forest resilience and ecological integrity:

Therefore be it resolved that Ministry of Forest Land Natural Resource Operations implement regulations to protect old growth management areas by removing the option to trade these areas within a tenure;

And be it further resolved that watersheds that are essential to land base resiliency be entrenched in legislation that requires local government consultation, consideration of community safety and water supply before resource extraction is permitted.

On motion, was Endorsed

B37 Forestry Development Plan Referral Best Practices Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas local governments have actively advocated for a larger role in the review of forest management plans in the province and are now increasingly being asked to provide input into the forest management plans proposed by the forest industry and BC Timber Sales, but without a clearly defined mandate, framework, or best practices within which to consider such plans;

And whereas the authority for managing and regulating the province's forest resources rests with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC, through the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to work with local governments and the forest industry to develop guidance documents intended to better define the role of local government in the review process and best practices for forest management plan referrals from the forest industry and provincial agencies.

On motion, was Endorsed

B38 Private Unmanaged Forest Land Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the BC government enacted the Private Land Forest Practices Regulation to set out forest management requirements for "identified lands";

And whereas not all private forest land owners subscribe to the Private Managed Forest Land Program and as a result are able to engage in large scale timber harvesting without regulation to the detriment of adjacent land owners, communities and the natural environment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations enact legislation requiring private forest land owners to enroll in the Private Managed Forest Land Program prior to issuing a timber mark to private forest land owners;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing strengthen development permit area legislation to allow regional districts the ability, similar to municipalities, to excel tree cutting bylaws to mitigate the impact of private land large scale timber harvesting on fish habitat, public safety and local government infrastructure.

On motion, was Endorsed

B39 Southern Mountain Caribou Prince George

Whereas the population of the Southern Mountain Caribou herds in British Columbia has been declining;

And whereas the provincial and federal governments are reviewing whether the Southern Mountain Caribou should be protected by the *Species at Risk Act*;

And whereas application of the Act will directly affect both the recreational pursuits of local residents as well as the regional tourism and natural resource sectors;

And whereas municipal and regional district governments have not been given the opportunity to participate in public consultation discussions to date about the Southern Mountain Caribou and the potential implications of the application of the *Species at Risk Act* despite the significant impacts on local recreation, tourism, and resource sectors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the participation of municipal and regional district governments that are likely to be affected and that the provincial and federal governments begin a process of public consultation in regards to the potential application of the *Species at Risk Act* pertaining to the Southern Mountain Caribou and Boreal Caribou.

On motion, was Endorsed

B40 Professional Reliance

Nelson

Whereas the provincial government is undertaking a review of BC's natural resource sector professional reliance model to be complete by Spring 2018;

And whereas the use of professional reliance within BC's resource sector is a long-standing practice;

And whereas over the past decade the use of professional reliance has increased in response to government's regulatory reform initiatives;

And whereas since 2013 the Environmental Appeal Board, Forest Practices Board, Office of the Auditor General and Office of the Ombudsperson have highlighted the need for adequate oversight of qualified professionals in providing independent, objective advice to government regulators;

And whereas there is increasing public concern related to specific instances of decision-making based on professional reliance:

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of British Columbia ensure that government oversight of professional associations and professional associations that oversee qualified professionals employ best practices to protect the public interest in the management of public land by the natural resource sector.

On motion, was Endorsed

B41 Brownfield Remediation

Lumby

Whereas the cost to remediate brownfields is quite onerous often costing more than the value of the property resulting in private property owners choosing to leave brownfields vacant/dormant to avoid these costs, leaving brownfields and contaminated sites a detriment to development and aesthetics in many communities;

And whereas the provincial and federal governments have not provided the funds or the means to local governments to remediate brownfields:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the province to allow local governments to create a municipal taxation structure for brownfields that would allow local governments to increase taxation value on brownfields over time up to the equivalent value of the property in a remediated state to encourage property owners to make efforts to remediate;

And be it further resolved that the local governments be required to create a remediation reserve fund from the additional taxes collected for the purposes of remediation of brownfields whether publicly or privately owned.

On motion, was Endorsed

B42 Comprehensive Provincial Single-use Item Reduction Strategy Richmond

Whereas the British Columbia extended producer responsibility program for packaging and printed paper currently provides recycling collection for single-use items generated by the residential sector, but does not yet focus on reduction or reuse, or cover single-use items that are compostable or disposed of at businesses or in the public realm;

And whereas inter-municipal differences in policy for reduction of single-use items make it challenging for businesses to comply with multiple regulations, and the business community has expressed a strong desire for harmonization and consistent regulation for single-use items on the broadest possible scale:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government adopt a provincial single-use item reduction strategy for single-use items that emphasizes reduction and reuse, covers single-use items generated by all sectors and made of all material types, and would include but not necessarily be limited to plastic and paper shopping bags, disposable drink cups, take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single-use items needed for medical use or accessibility needs.

On motion, was Endorsed

B44 Tax Exemption for Electric Bicycles Squamish

Whereas the sale of bicycles and tricycles, parts for bicycles and tricycles, bicycle and tricycle attachments and bicycle and tricycle accessories are Provincial Sales Tax exempt due to the health and environmental benefits provided by the use of bicycles and tricycles;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia through its recent Clean BC plan and 2019 budget has incentivized the transition to electric vehicles through financial incentives:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urged to exempt electric bicycles (pedal assist) from Provincial Sales Tax charges.

On motion, was Endorsed

B45 Funding for BC Parks Management Pemberton

Whereas the negative impacts to Lower Mainland provincial parks and Crown land recreation areas continue to occur due to increasing tourism and limited funding;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to allocate additional funding to managing BC Parks, specifically Joffre Lakes Provincial Park, and Crown land recreation areas in the Sea to Sky Corridor and Lower Mainland.

On motion, was Endorsed

B46 Private Commercial Forest Land Consultation with Local Government

**Fernie
Nelson**

Whereas many local governments in rural BC are surrounded by significant amounts of forested private land;

And whereas local governments are expected to manage the assets that support the value of their communities, which include sight line, municipal infrastructure, slope stability of land, and watersheds:

Therefore be it resolved that local governments be granted the authority to require private land owners to undertake annual consultations with local governments to provide information regarding long term disposition or development intentions for land adjacent to local government boundaries if intended for commercial purposes.

On motion, was Endorsed

B47 Logging in the Urban Interface

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas urban-rural fringe areas are transition zones where industrial land uses such as logging or other resource extraction, may conflict with local values or impact private water sources or contribute to property damage related to storm water management and erosion;

And whereas local government and private property owners have limited ability to influence resource extraction decisions:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government establish buffer zones adjacent to residential properties that reduce conflict and ensure that property owners are protected from the adverse effects of resource extraction.

On motion, was Endorsed

B48 Private Commercial Forest Land Regulations & Standards

**Fernie
Nelson**

Whereas many local governments in rural BC are surrounded by significant amounts of forested private land;

And whereas local governments are expected to manage the assets that support the value of their communities which include sight line, municipal infrastructure, slope stability of land, and watersheds:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province to implement regulations and standards that are equivalent to Crown forest land regulations and standards that address forest harvesting for commercial purposes on private lands.

On motion, was Endorsed

B49 Regulation of Privately Managed Forest Lands

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas forest management practices on privately managed forest lands are primarily governed by the Private Managed Forests Lands Council with an objective to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest lands, only taking into account the social, environmental and economic benefits of those practices;

And whereas forest management practices on privately managed forest lands can negatively impact the quality and quantity of water and effect ecosystem resilience to the impacts of climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to undertake a comprehensive review of, and amendments to the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and all relevant legislation to strengthen requirements of private managed forest land owners to prevent negative impacts to the quality, quantity and distribution of water in our watersheds.

On motion, was Endorsed

B50 Recreation Sites & Trails

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas provincial recreation sites and trails are highly valued community assets which are important to the provincial tourism economy and require dedicated, coordinated and ongoing management;

And whereas provincial funding provided through recreation sites and trails agreements has been significantly decreasing over the years, while local governments and non-profit community partners are becoming increasingly challenged to adequately manage the ongoing maintenance, operation and service demands required due to a lack of resources:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be urged to increase funding provided through recreation sites and trails partnership agreements to ensure local governments and community partners are properly resourced and have the necessary support required to be effective in their role as managers, caretakers and stewards of BC's provincial recreation assets.

On motion, was Endorsed

B51 Backcountry Closures

Sicamous

Whereas many local governments and communities rely on backcountry industries (e.g. forestry, tourism) for economic stability and development, and at the same time, those local governments and communities care about sustaining and protecting the environment;

And whereas some communities find their backcountry areas closed to all users, based on reports and recommendations of higher levels of government, without notice to communities, first nations, regional & local governments as well as industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the provincial and federal governments to ensure that there are no further closures of backcountry areas in BC, until and unless the local governments, stakeholders and communities are consulted on social and economic impact, and a sustainable solution for both be considered.

On motion, was Endorsed

B52 Preservation of Archaeological Artifacts

Delta

Whereas local governments routinely undertake excavation works for road, sewer and water services for their communities;

And whereas excavations, particularly in coastal areas, may uncover archaeological sites which are protected under the provincial *Heritage Conservation Act*;

And whereas the costs incurred by local government are often impossible to predict and may significantly impact the final costs of the project:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC government be requested to fund additional expenditures borne by local governments to record and document archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial *Heritage Conservation Act*.

On motion, was Endorsed

B53 Development Permit Area Requirements

Islands Trust

Whereas in 2003 and 2011 UBCM endorsed resolutions calling for legislative changes so local governments can issue municipal ticket information or bylaw violation notices for contraventions of the prohibition on altering land in designated development permit areas, or contrary to issued development permits, but these changes have not yet occurred;

And whereas in British Columbia, designation of development permit areas is the main legislative mechanism for addressing protection of riparian and environmentally sensitive area and for protecting development from hazardous conditions such as erosion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to improve the enforceability of development permit area requirements by enabling local governments to enforce violations by way of prosecution, ticket or bylaw notices.

On motion, was Endorsed

B54 Rural Broadband

Prince George

Whereas nearly 40 per cent of rural residents in north-central BC do not have access to broadband internet services;

And whereas broadband service would enhance public safety, economic development, access to information, and social inclusion for rural residents and allow them to fully participate in the knowledge-based economy and society at a level enjoyed by other Canadians;

And whereas the Government of Canada has recognized the disparity and established a Ministry of Rural Economic Development that includes rural broadband as a top priority:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in its advocacy work for a specific timetable regarding the implementation of affordable broadband service in rural Canada, and in particular, the rural parts of North Central British Columbia.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in its advocacy work for a specific timetable regarding the implementation of affordable broadband service in rural Canada, and in particular, the rural parts of North Central British Columbia.

B55 Diminishing Access to Provincial Government In-person Services

McBride

Whereas access to in-person provincial government services is gradually being removed from small, rural communities in British Columbia with these services being centralized to larger urban centres;

And whereas rural citizens and business owners are forced to travel long distances at great expense as there is limited and inconsistent public transportation available to access these services;

And whereas the lack of in-person provincial government services in small, rural communities negatively impacts economic growth and the ability to attract and retain rural citizens and business development:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Government of British Columbia to provide equitable local access to in-person provincial government services for all small, rural communities in British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

B56 Regulate & Enforce Vehicle Parking on Provincial Roads Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional districts have not been granted the authority to regulate vehicle parking on roadways in rural areas;

And whereas the Province and the RCMP have limited resources to regulate and enforce the increased volume of vehicles parked illegally on roads and right-of-ways that cause congestion and unsafe conditions for other vehicles, pedestrians and emergency first responders:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia extend authority to regional districts to regulate and enforce vehicle parking on provincial roads and right-of-ways.

On motion, was Endorsed

B57 Parking Enforcement in Rural Areas Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the RCMP are responsible for enforcing parking regulations in rural areas which takes policing resources away from other priorities;

And whereas the provincial response to UBCM resolution 2014-B102 requesting that regional districts be granted the authority to enforce parking regulations within their boundaries indicated that further research was required prior to undertaking any policy change:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General jointly review parking enforcement in the rural areas to either provide regional districts with the authority to enforce parking regulations within their boundaries or to adequately resource rural detachments to ensure that community safety issues related to illegal parking are addressed.

On motion, was Endorsed

B58 Tree Cutting Authority for Regional Districts Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas regional districts have no regulatory authority for tree cutting except as it relates to environmental hazard protection, while municipalities have broader powers to regulate tree protection;

And whereas unincorporated rural areas with high population densities may share similar concerns as municipalities with respect to protecting trees to mitigate potential ecosystem impacts, excessive storm water runoff impacting properties, general neighbourhood feel and control over sightlines, as well as the desire to protect certain species of trees:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to provide regional districts broader authority over tree cutting that is equal to the regulatory power of municipalities for tree protection, particularly in unincorporated rural areas that are more densely populated.

On motion, was Endorsed

B59 Regulate E-Cigarettes/Vapour Products to Minors**West Kelowna**

Whereas results from the 2018 BC Adolescent Health Survey, Balance and Connection in BC: The Health and Well-being of our Youth (McCreary Centre Society) show that 21 per cent of BC students have used a vaping product with nicotine in the past month and while the long term effect of using e-cigarettes and vapour products are being assessed, the effect of nicotine on youth are known to be detrimental to brain development;

And whereas e-cigarettes and vapour products are being specifically marketed to youth through fruit and candy flavours and easily concealed products:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC enact strict regulations regarding the marketing and selling of e-cigarettes and vapour products to minors.

On motion, was Endorsed

B60 Addition of Drug & Alcohol Recovery Facilities & Beds**Penticton**

Whereas an opioid crisis has been identified in British Columbia, and addictions can also take many other forms such as alcohol and other drugs, with addictions being so detrimental to an individual's health and well-being;

And whereas there are not enough drug and alcohol rehabilitation/recovery facilities and space available for those who are seeking help to combat addictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province fund significantly more licensed rehabilitation facilities and beds in every local government to enable all those who seek assistance in recovering from addictions an opportunity to beat addictions.

On motion, was Endorsed

B61 Additional Rehabilitation Detox Centres**Grand Forks**

Whereas substance use, particularly drug addiction, is considered a mental health issue;

And whereas smaller communities do not have many of the supports required to assist those wanting to recover from addiction and detox followed by immediate rehabilitation is necessary in order to recover and the wait time between the two can be up to three months:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health be encouraged to fund detox and rehabilitation centres throughout the province, particularly in rural and remote communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B62 Equitable Access to Health Services in Rural BC**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas the matters of sustained, accessible health services reflective of the needs of rural and remote communities have been raised through numerous resolutions over the past thirty years and where the provincial responses highlight unsuccessful and inadequate provincial programs;

And whereas existing services in rural and remote communities continue to decline, while communities remain removed from the planning and administration of health services in their areas;

And whereas regionalization of health service delivery is in an ongoing pursuit of both the regional health authorities and the Province of BC moving the planning and delivery of services further away from rural and remote communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC acknowledge that the challenges related to rural and remote health services persist and for many have continued to deteriorate over the past thirty years;

And be it further resolved that the Province of BC immediately recognize the highest priority of keeping residents in their communities with equitable access to health services and with adequate funding to support that model;

And be it further resolved that when medical travel is absolutely necessary for services not available at home, the Province of BC provide rural and remote residents with financial relief.

On motion, was Endorsed

B63 Attracting & Retaining Medical Specialists in Rural BC Burns Lake

Whereas there is limited access to timely specialized medical care in rural British Columbia, creating extended patient wait times, which results in prolonged and worsening medical conditions that are often more quickly resolved in large urban centres:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be lobbied to more effectively retain medical specialists and services in rural British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

B64 EHS Services Fraser Lake

Whereas the residents of rural communities require access to timely and professional emergency health care services to ensure their health and safety;

And whereas many rural communities lack after hour access to medical clinics or hospitals in their communities;

And whereas BC Emergency Health Services teams are relied upon to provide consistent and timely response to emergency health events, yet many rural BC Emergency Health Services teams are understaffed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia and BC Emergency Health Services to increase budgets, develop policies and evaluate hiring practices to ensure residents of rural communities have timely and reliable emergency health care services.

On motion, was Endorsed

B66 Food Security Port Coquitlam

Whereas it is important that BC communities have a local food system to enable access to affordable and healthy food options and improve community sustainability and BC communities should encourage awareness about and the expansion of a regional food system;

And whereas the provincial government is committed to promoting healthful living and making BC a healthy place to be:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Ministry of Health be requested to initiate programs and partnerships to increase community awareness of the benefits of nutritious and affordable food and support regional initiatives to enhance community food security.

On motion, was Endorsed

B67 Legal Aid Funding

North Vancouver District

Whereas legal aid is an essential service which provides the marginalized, vulnerable and poor with access to justice;

And whereas legal aid has been chronically underfunded for over 25 years making it very difficult for the marginalized, vulnerable and poor to get legal assistance from a lawyer;

And whereas many studies and reports, including those commissioned by government, have noted the serious consequences for society by the continued chronic underfunding of legal aid;

And whereas the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers has been attempting to negotiate appropriate levels of funding for legal aid;

And whereas over 575 members of the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers voted overwhelmingly to withdraw services on April 1, 2019, to protest the intolerable levels of funding;

And whereas the government and the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers have negotiated an interim funding plan to avert the withdrawal of services and allow time to continue to negotiate a permanent funding model:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognizes that legal aid is an essential public service that provides legal representation to the most vulnerable, marginalized and impoverished members of our city and that the chronic underfunding of legal aid has led to a serious inequality in the delivery of legal services in our communities;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourages the Province of British Columbia to resolve this matter with the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers and restore funding to legal aid.

On motion, was Endorsed

B68 Full Social Support Services for Homeless Housing

Penticton

Whereas the Province through BC Housing has invested in creating housing for those individuals struggling with homelessness;

And whereas individuals experiencing homelessness are often in need of social services:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province ensure all forms of social services (mental health services, addiction services, social assistance services, employment services, etc.) also referred to as “wrap-around services” are available to individuals housed in homeless housing at the housing site or within a short walking distance.

On motion, was Endorsed

B69 Income-based Solutions to Household Food Insecurity

Revelstoke

Whereas more than one in ten households in BC (1 in 7 households in the Interior Health region) experience household food insecurity and are more vulnerable to chronic conditions leading to health care costs that are two times higher than food secure households;

And whereas rates of household food insecurity are not reduced by food programs because they cannot address the root cause of household food insecurity, being lack of income and extreme material deprivation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM frame household food insecurity as an income-based problem and advocate to provincial and federal governments for evidence-based income policy solutions to food insecurity.

On motion, was Endorsed

B70 Provincial Universal School Food Program

Victoria

Whereas almost 500,000 individuals in BC experience food insecurity, and Canada remains one of the only Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations without a national school food program and Canada's current patchwork of school food programming reaches only a small percentage of students;

And whereas school food programs have been shown to increase children's consumption of vegetables, fruits and other healthy foods and decrease the consumption of unhealthy ones; improve students' mental health, including reductions in behavioural and emotional problems; improve cognitive skills and increase scholastic success:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government for a Universal Healthy School Food Program that will enable all students in BC to have access to healthy meals at school, building on existing programs and including food education to serve culturally appropriate, local, sustainable food to the fullest extent possible.

On motion, was Endorsed

B72 Wireless Connectivity in Rural Areas

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas intermittent or complete lack of cellular services in remote communities and along over 5,000 km of BC's rural highways creates a significant barrier for access to emergency services, negatively affects emergency response time, and increases public safety risk;

And whereas there is a market failure to provide cellular services where revenue cannot support costs to deploy and maintain the service:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province set targets to close gaps in cellular service in remote communities and along rural highway sections, and oblige service providers in partnership with all levels of government to close these gaps.

On motion, was Endorsed

B73 BC Hydro Pricing Structure

McBride

Whereas BC Hydro is utilizing a two-tier monthly pricing structure on their electrical utilities being consumed by their customers;

And whereas smaller northern communities have limited affordable options for their heating needs, therefore relying heavily on electricity for heating;

And whereas this dependency results in northern citizens reaching the second-tier pricing significantly sooner each month than other geographical locations creating inequitable heating costs for those who live in rural Northern communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support lobbying the provincial government to make the necessary changes to BC Hydro to restructure their two-tier pricing model for northern regions of the Province of BC and create an equitable pricing structure for all BC citizens.

On motion, was Endorsed

B74 Lobbyist Registration

Richmond

Whereas the BC *Lobbyists Registration Act* (LRA) requires individuals and organizations who lobby public office holders and meet specific criteria to register their lobbying activities in an online public registry;

And whereas the goal of the BC *Lobbyists Registration Act* is to promote transparency in lobbying and government decision-making:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that a lobbying regulation system for municipal government, similar to the provincial mechanism under the BC *Lobbyists Registration Act*, be established.

On motion, was Endorsed

Chair Frenkel then commenced consideration of the resolutions that had been removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration.

B7 Safer Slower Streets: 30 km/h Residential Street Pilot

Vancouver

Whereas currently, the *Motor Vehicle Act* (MVA) stipulates a speed limit of 50 kilometers per hour (km/h) within city limits;

And whereas the probability of pedestrian survival is about 90 per cent if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 30 km/h, while survival is reduced to 20 per cent if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 50 km/h;

And whereas lower speed limits are more compatible with active transportation, and create safer, better engaged, healthier and more inclusive communities;

And whereas in 2015, the BC Road Safety Strategy set out the goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries and discussed safe speeds, and in 2016, the Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report also recommended a 30 km/h speed limit in urban areas;

And whereas in June 2016, as part of its position paper, Modernizing the BC *Motor Vehicle Act*, the British Columbia-based Road Safety Law Reform Group recommended "A default provincial speed limit of 30 km/h for local (no centre line) streets should be included in the *Motor Vehicle Act*, with municipalities enabled to increase speed limits on local streets in a case by-case basis by by-law and posted signage":

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to consider an amendment to the *Motor Vehicle Act* that would allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas;

And be it further resolved this resolution be presented at the UBCM.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by adding the phrase “and regional districts”, while removing the second enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to consider an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act that would allow incorporated municipalities **and regional districts** to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas.*

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

Tools, Funding & Resources Session Door Prize Draw

At 11:53 am, Councillor Gerry Taft announced the winner of a door prize from the provincial government’s Tools, Funding and Resources Monday Session. The winner was Councillor Judy Armstrong from the District of Barriere.

Nominations from the Floor for UBCM Table Officers

At 11:55 am, Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee, assumed the Chair and called for nominations from the floor for Table Officer positions in addition to those already placed in nomination. Those nominated at the close of the nominations for Table Officer positions were:

President:	Mayor Maja Tait, District of Sooke
First Vice President:	Councillor Brian Frenkel, District of Vanderhoof
Second Vice President:	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, City of Quesnel
Third Vice President:	Councillor Paul Albrecht, City of Langley Councillor Jen Ford, Resort Municipality of Whistler

At the conclusion of nominations, Councillor Krause declared the positions of President, First Vice President and Second Vice President elected by acclamation. He advised that an election would be held for the position of Third Vice President.

The Convention adjourned for lunch at 12:00 pm. All Area Associations hosted lunches during this period.

The Convention re-convened at 2:00 pm.

Address by the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing

At 2:00 pm the President, Councillor Arjun Singh introduced Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing who then addressed the delegates.

First Vice President, Mayor Maja Tait thanked Minister Robinson. The Minister’s Address is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix D.

Candidates' Speeches

At 2:30 pm, Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee called forward the two candidates for Third Vice President. The delegates heard brief two-minute presentations from Councillor Albrecht and Councillor Ford.

Cabinet Town Halls

At 3:00 pm the following concurrent Cabinet Town Hall sessions were held:

Strong Community Infrastructure

Honourable Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure
Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education

Good Jobs & Training Opportunities

Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills & Training
Honourable Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade & Technology
Honourable Harry Bains, Minister of Labour
Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

A Place Worth Protecting

Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
Honourable Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources
Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General
Sheila Malcolmson, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary for Environment
Jennifer Rice, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness

Reconciliation: Moving Forward, Together

Honourable Carole James, Minister of Finance & Deputy Premier
Honourable Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
Honourable David Eby, Attorney General
Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children & Family Development

Energy & Climate Action Awards

At 4:15 pm, the 2019 Energy and Climate Action Awards sponsored by the Community Energy Association were presented.

The Convention adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Thursday, September 26, 2019

Thursday Clinics

On Thursday, September 26, 2019 the Convention commenced at 7:30 am with the following clinics:

- Getting Older Adults Active & Connected
- Libraries Support Resilient Communities
- Modernizing BC's *Emergency Program Act* (EPA)
- Protective Services: Changing the Negotiating Landscape
- Provincial Poverty & Homelessness Community Actions

Second Report of the Nominating Committee for Executive Positions

At 8:30 am, Councillor Murry Krause gave the second report of the Nominating Committee for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative and Director at Large. Those nominated were:

Small Community Representative:	Mayor Mitch Campsall, District of 100 Mile House Councillor Sarah Fowler, Village of Tahsis
Electoral Area Representative:	Director Steve Forseth, Cariboo Regional District Director Leonard Hiebert, Peace River Regional District Director Grace McGregor, Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Vancouver Metro Area Representative:	Councillor Trish Mandewo, City of Coquitlam Councillor Linda McPhail, City of Richmond
Director at Large:	Councillor Chad Eliason, City of Salmon Arm Councillor Mike Gray, Village of Radium Hot Springs Director Travis Hall, Central Coast Regional District Councillor Jason Lum, City of Chilliwack Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River Councillor Helen Poon, City of Port Alberni

Address by Andrew Wilkinson, MLA, Leader of the Official Opposition

The President, Councillor Arjun Singh, introduced Andrew Wilkinson, MLA, Leader of the Official Opposition, who addressed the delegates.

Following his remarks, First Vice President, Mayor Maja Tait thanked Mr. Wilkinson.

Policy Session – Resolutions

The Resolutions session resumed at 8:55 am with Councillor Gerry Taft, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Councillor Taft was joined by the other members of the Resolutions Committee: Councillor Claire Moglove, Councillor Brian Frenkel, and Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg. They were assisted by Parliamentarian Ian Izard, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac and other UBCM staff.

Section B – Part 1

Councillor Claire Moglove assumed the Chair and continued consideration of the resolutions that had been removed from the Section B – Part 1 block for individual consideration.

B25 Elected Local Government Officials Participation in the Municipal Pension Plan Burnaby

Whereas elected local government officials contribute a significant service to the communities they represent through the time and effort invested during their tenure of office;

And whereas elected local government officials in other Canadian jurisdictions, including Quebec and Ontario, are considered eligible to participate in the municipal pension plans in place in these locations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Finance, and any other applicable bodies, to amend the *Public Sector Pension Plans Act* to permit the eligibility of elected local government officials to participate in the Municipal Pension Plan.

On motion, was Endorsed

B35 Varied Tax Rate for the Residential Class

Langley City

Whereas the Province of British Columbia through the *BC Assessment Act* – Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 specifies that there is one assessment class for all types of residential properties and the *Community Charter* outlines that a municipal bylaw to establish the property value taxes each year under section 197(3) specifies there is a single rate for each property class;

And whereas the assessed value of multi-family housing and single family housing appreciates at vastly different rates, leading to large fluctuations and tax rates swings year-to-year between these housing types:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia amend the *BC Assessment Act* and the *Community Charter* to allow the residential class to be split into two distinct residential classes so that a different rate may be applied to each type of residential property to allow for better tax planning, and a more consistent application of property tax changes, for all residents no matter their housing type.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B43 Subsidized Recycling Options for Small Municipalities

McBride

Whereas few recycling opportunities are available in remote and smaller municipalities due to poor economies of scale for populations under 5,000, greater distances to recycling facilities and cost prohibitive infrastructure investment, resulting in inequities for recycling opportunities in different regions of the province;

And whereas recycling organizations continue to lack the viability to offer extended producer responsibility programs for remote and smaller municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide financial aid to small municipalities for the increase of recycling options including plastics, glass and bottles at recycling and transfer stations regardless of the size and location of each municipality in the province of BC.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by adding the phrase “to ensure the intent of the Recycling Regulation is met and that extended producer responsibility programs deliver service to communities regardless of the size and location”, while removing the phrase “provide financial aid to small municipalities for the increase of recycling options including plastics, glass and bottles at recycling and transfer stations regardless of the size and location”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure the intent of the Recycling Regulation is met and that extended producer responsibility programs deliver service to communities regardless of the size and location ~~provide financial aid to small municipalities for the increase of recycling options including plastics, glass and bottles at recycling and transfer stations regardless of the size and location~~ of each municipality in the province of BC.

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

B65 Support for Local Government Inclusion in the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy

Port Moody

Whereas BC's First Poverty Reduction Strategy is a great step in the right direction toward decreasing the escalating rates of poverty and inequity in BC;

And whereas poverty has different appearances and challenges in every community, and community staff, officials, and organizations have invaluable insights and solutions to contribute:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia include grants for municipalities and community non-governmental agencies in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, in order for communities to work with the Province to build vibrant communities by investing in community expertise, to prevent poverty by breaking the cycle, to alleviate the hardship of poverty through improved services, and to enable British Columbians to exit poverty by building capacity;

And be it further resolved that the above resolution be forwarded to all other BC municipalities for support.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by replacing municipalities with local governments, while removing the second enactment clause, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia include grants for **local governments** and community non-governmental agencies in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, in order for communities to work with the Province to build vibrant communities by investing in community expertise, to prevent poverty by breaking the cycle, to alleviate the hardship of poverty through improved services, and to enable British Columbians to exit poverty by building capacity.*

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

B71 Importance of 911 in Remote & Rural Areas

Northern Rockies RM

Whereas more than 500,000 motorists use the rural and remote corridors throughout the northern regions of the province annually, without access to consistent emergency 911 service;

And whereas the absence of 911 as a core emergency service has a financial and human cost, related to the health and safety of residents, visitors and commercial travellers, and with a negative impact on timely and appropriate emergency response:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province prioritize the establishment of 911 services across the province in its entirety including adequate policy, administrative and financial support.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by adding the phrase "emergency call-in services, such as" before "911 services", was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that the Province prioritize the establishment of **emergency call-in services, such as 911 services**, across the province in its entirety including adequate policy, administrative and financial support.*

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

Section B – Part 2-a

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg assumed the Chair and commenced consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-a.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section B – Part 2-a, be considered as a block, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B75 be removed from the Section B – Part 2-a block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that resolution B78 be removed from the Section B – Part 2-a block for individual consideration, was endorsed.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in the Section B – Part 2-a block as amended be adopted, was endorsed.

The resolutions remaining in the Section B – Part 2-a block were endorsed as follows:

B76 Fire Mitigation On Transportation Corridors Cariboo RD

Whereas safe access/egress are vital to human safety during the ever-increasing wildfire events British Columbians are experiencing;

And whereas transportation corridors have been left with dry, combustible brush after clearing the side of roadways, increasing the risk of wildfires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to establish a multi-agency approach to fire-smarting transportation corridors in the province in partnership with BC Hydro, Fortis BC, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

On motion, was Endorsed

B77 Fire Centre Funding Cariboo RD

Whereas the provincial government provides funding for support staff at fire centres throughout the province of British Columbia;

And whereas the Cariboo Fire Centre experienced record-breaking wildfires in 2017, and more wildfires are predicted in this area:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to increase funding to those fire centres that are experiencing substantial increased wildfire activity in their areas.

On motion, was Endorsed

Councillor Roodenburg then commenced consideration of the resolutions that had been removed from the Section B – Part 2-a block for individual consideration.

B75 Ministry of Agriculture Moratorium on Legislative Changes Spallumcheen

Whereas the Ministry of Agriculture has made legislation changes in regards to Bill 15 and Bill 52 that impact the Agricultural Land Commission authority with regards to land use applications;

And whereas these changes are impacting local governments and how they review and potentially refer their residents' applications that are located in the Agricultural Land Reserve to the Agricultural Land Commission:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture place a moratorium on the development of any new Agricultural Land Commission regulations until such time as local governments understand the implications on their residents and have provided input in developing any new regulations.

On motion, was Referred to UBCM Executive

B78 Support for Small Business & Creation of Non Residential Sub Classes in Property Tax Assessment

Port Moody

Whereas the price of land in our region has caused dislocations and hardships for small businesses in our communities, resulting in negative effects on rental options for homes and some businesses, with such dislocations creating many damages and posing a risk to general economic development;

And whereas our municipalities have an obligation to find ways and advocate for the means to reduce the harms affecting to our communities:

Therefore be it resolved the Province of British Columbia work with municipalities to explore opportunities to support small business, non-profits, and arts-related businesses, including making the necessary changes to property tax classes to create a small business related sub-class to allow municipalities to apply differentiated non-residential property tax rates to smaller businesses and cultural hubs.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by replacing the majority of the text of the enactment clause with new text, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved the Province of British Columbia work with municipalities **to make the necessary legislative and regulatory changes to enable implementation of the "Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class" approach in time for 2020 to enable municipalities to lower commercial property tax rate on properties where development potential has made it difficult to operate and provide the much needed relief for smaller businesses and the arts, culture and non-profit sectors.***

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

Results of Election for Table Officer

Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee, assumed the Chair and presented the Table Officer election results for:

Third Vice-President: Councillor Jen Ford, Resort Municipality of Whistler

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to destroy the ballots, was endorsed.

Resolutions Off the Floor

Councillor Gerry Taft assumed the Chair for consideration of the request to admit an off-the-floor resolution:

OF1, Rural Dividend Reconsideration, sponsored by the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to admit for debate resolution OF1 from off the floor, was endorsed. The Chair noted that in keeping with the bylaw amendments made effective for the 2019 UBCM Convention,

off-the-floor resolutions would be considered on Friday morning immediately following consideration of Policy Book 1 – Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.

Section B – Part 2-b

Councillor Brian Frenkel assumed the Chair and commenced consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b.

B79 Management of Provincially Regulated Utilities in Municipal Highways

Coquitlam

Whereas, under the *Community Charter*, the soil and freehold of every highway is vested in the municipality and a municipal Council may regulate and prohibit in relation to all uses of or involving a highway but subject to the *Utilities Commission Act* and to all orders given under that Act;

And whereas, the British Columbia Utilities Commission has full and exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any matter within its authority under the *Utilities Commission Act* and permits provincially regulated pipelines to be located within municipal highways despite objections from municipalities that the pipelines can hinder the ability of municipalities to manage highways and other utilities that use highway corridors;

And whereas, the urban landscape in the Lower Mainland has changed significantly since the development of the provincial utility regulators, absent of modernization which enables local governments to oversee the orderly use of municipal roads, resulting in unforeseen jurisdictional disagreements and a lack of clarity over regulatory functions:

Therefore be it resolved, that the Province, with the assistance of UBCM, undertake a holistic review of the regulatory framework surrounding provincial utility undertakings and update legislation accordingly to enable a collaborative approach to planning and managing civic infrastructure corridors.

On motion, was Endorsed

B80 Declaration of Employee Compensation as Part of Annual Statement of Financial Information Reporting

New Westminster

Whereas the *Financial Information Act* requires that local governments submit an annual Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report to the provincial government after the end of each fiscal year;

And whereas the Act requires the SOFI Report to include a schedule noting each employee earning more than a prescribed amount, the total remuneration paid to the employee and the total amount paid for the employee's expenses;

And whereas local governments, like many employers, are seeking to create safe and harassment-free spaces for their employees;

And whereas criticism of public employees has become more aggressive and personal in the social media age, as have expectations of privacy and ability to control personal data;

And whereas the public interest in knowing how local governments spend public money as compensation to employees would be duly served by publishing salaries linked to job position titles as opposed to personal names:

Therefore be it resolved that the *Financial Information Act* be amended to permit local governments to report salaries and expenses in their annual SOFI report by job title as opposed to employee name.

On motion, was Endorsed

B81 Amendment to SOFI Reporting Legislation

Coquitlam

Whereas the *Financial Information Act* requires the reporting of information including schedules of remuneration paid to employees in excess of a threshold of \$75,000 through a report entitled Statement of Financial Information (SOFI);

And whereas it is agreed that the intent of the Statement of Financial Information to provide transparency and public accountability for spending is achieved through this legislation;

And whereas the threshold was set in 2002 and has not been revisited despite increases in average weekly salaries in BC of 57 per cent, Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases totalling 29 per cent and local government's contractual obligations under labour agreements that increase salary and remuneration;

And whereas the lack of consistent review of the threshold results in the ever increasing reporting requirements of staff:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to amend threshold consistent with the CPI since 2002;

And be it further resolved that the threshold is reviewed and adjusted every 5 years to reflect changes in CPI.

On motion, was Endorsed

B82 Conflict of Interest Rules

Vancouver

Whereas when an elected official or senior staff leaves their municipal role and takes a new role with a private firm that does business with the municipality it undermines the public's trust in the elected official or senior staff member. Elected officials and senior civil servants have valuable knowledge and relationships that can potentially create unfair and profitable advantage for new employers simply because of the position they currently occupy with the City;

And whereas conflict of interest rules improve public confidence in municipal governance. Many municipal codes of conduct prohibit individuals from relaying confidential information for the purpose of securing a private benefit for themselves or for any other person, and requires avoidance of voting on issues when they personally think they are in conflict, but does not address conflict of interest post-employment or for family members. On December 12, 2018 Vancouver City Council resolved to ask its staff to report back on how Vancouver can improve its current Conflict of Interest Policy concerning elected officials and senior staff, and resolved to bring this issue to UBCM:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage other municipalities to consider adopting Conflict of Interest rules.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B83 Conflict of Interest Complaint Mechanism

Richmond

Whereas professional regulatory bodies, such as CPABC, BC Law Society, APEGBC, and others, have conflict of interest and ethics rules for their members and enforce them through a complaints process;

And whereas the public expects elected representatives to be held to a professional standard of conduct;

And whereas the only remedy for a citizen complaint of a municipal elected person's conflict of interest is through a judgement of the Supreme Court of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia consider a mechanism including to resolve and remedy conflict of interest complaints through a non-partisan Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner or expansion of the scope of powers of the BC Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

On motion, was Endorsed

B84 Council Meeting Chairing Opportunities for Councillors Pitt Meadows

Whereas the *Community Charter*, section 116 item 2.c, stipulates that it is the mayor's responsibility to preside at council meetings when in attendance;

And whereas the *Community Charter*, section 130, requires that councillors be prepared to fulfill the mayor's role in his/her absence, including presiding over council meetings, thus making it prudent that municipalities create learning opportunities for councillors to develop their leadership skills and gain confidence in meeting protocols and procedures:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be encouraged to consider an amendment of section 116 of the *Community Charter* to allow for councillors to periodically preside at council meetings when the mayor is in attendance for the purposes of learning, professional development, and as a practice of good government.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B85 Money Laundering Counter-measures in Casinos Delta

Whereas there is credible evidence that links casinos in British Columbia to organized crime and money-laundering on a very large scale;

And whereas the current regulatory and monitoring system has failed to stop money fraud in BC casinos:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC government be requested to take immediate steps to address money laundering in casinos, and to undertake an evaluation of cashless gaming systems, whereby account-based card technologies are used to verify player identity and track gambling transactions on all gaming devices.

On motion, was Endorsed

B86 Provincial Funding for Sexual Assault Clinics Saanich

Whereas crime rates have dropped in the province in recent years while rates of sexual assault have continued to rise;

And whereas statistics show that Indigenous women and girls are between 12 and 16 times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women and the Province is committed to implement United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and has an obligation to respond to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia take action to provide dedicated, predictable and secure funds for emergency sexual assault response through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, and with the support of the Ministry of Health.

On motion, was Endorsed

B87 Cannabis Production Odour Prevention

Lake Country

Whereas new federal legislation has legalized cannabis production and retail as of October 17, 2018 and that such legislation has left provincial and local governments with regulation gaps to fill;

And whereas cannabis production operations cause disturbing odours that can create issues and breathing problems to those with respiratory vulnerability:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that provincial legislation be created to enforce the federal regulation that cannabis operations install filtration systems to prevent pervasive odours from these operations to disperse into surrounding communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B88 Clean-Up of Needles & Other Harm Reduction Paraphernalia

Prince George

Whereas the low barrier distribution of harm reduction supplies, including syringes and other safe injection supplies, in communities across BC poses a significant safety and cleanliness concern;

And whereas local governments, businesses and residents are bearing the escalating cost of cleaning up needles and drug paraphernalia in public spaces:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request ongoing provincial funding to local governments to cover the cost of cleaning up needles and drug paraphernalia in their communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B89 Crime Statistics

Williams Lake

Whereas the collection of crime statistics for many municipalities does not take into consideration the population it services outside its boundaries, resulting in artificially inflated crime statistics;

And whereas by more accurately applying crime statistics to the population across a regional boundary, many municipalities' crime ranking would be significantly lower and more accurate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to direct the RCMP to amend its reporting statistics to accurately reflect crime statistics based on the regional service area the RCMP responds to, and that the recommendation be sent to Statistics Canada.

On motion, was Endorsed

B90 Port Policing

Delta

Whereas the Ports Canada Police was disbanded in 1997 and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority discontinued its financial contribution to the RCMP-led Waterfront Joint Forces Operation in 2015;

And whereas this loss of police resources has weakened the security of Canada's ports and allowed organized crime elements to proliferate, as evidenced by the 2019 Peter German report "Dirty Money";

And whereas both the federal and provincial governments have committed funding and resources to enhance law enforcement at Canada's borders, and improve policing capacity to fight money laundering:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC government be requested to work with the Canadian government and port municipalities to develop a strategic plan to re-establish dedicated resources to police ports and waterfronts, including the Port of Vancouver, in order to address the issue of organized crime operating through Canada's ports.

On motion, was Endorsed

B91 Enhancing Wildfire Forest Landscape Resiliency Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas the Province, in response to the 2018 Abbott/Chapman Report, is exploring a number of means to mitigate wildland fire frequency and severity and it is widely understood that one significant strategy is to develop a more wildfire resilient forest landscape that includes promoting the use of indigenous broadleaf species that typically reduce fire behaviour;

And whereas current provincial forest management regulations and policies create barriers towards the development of a more wildfire resilient forest landscape:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province review its forest management regulations and policies with an objective to expand, promote and enforce fire management based stocking standards post-harvest and post-wildfire events throughout the province resulting in a more wildfire resilient provincial forest landscape.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by including references to insect and disease, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province review its forest management regulations and policies with an objective to expand, promote and enforce **fire, insect and disease** management based stocking standards post-harvest, ~~and post-wildfire,~~ **post-insect and post-disease** events throughout the province resulting in a more wildfire, **insect and disease** resilient provincial forest landscape.*

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

B92 Wildfire Hazard Reduction Treatment on Private Lands Invermere

Whereas the province has experienced successive extreme wildfire years which, because of climate change, is expected to be the new normal;

And whereas many local governments have initiated fuel management treatments within their boundaries and on adjacent Crown lands to reduce wildfire risk;

And whereas significant wildfire risk still exists on private lands adjacent to many communities that are currently ineligible for funding under the Community Resilience Investments (CRI) Program for wildfire risk reduction treatments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to offer significant incentives under the CRI or an alternate program to private land owners to complete wildfire risk reduction treatments on private lands, adjacent or within communities which have been identified by the BC Wildfire Service as having a high or extreme wildfire risk.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B93 Community Resilience Investment Program – FireSmart
Community Funding**

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the Community Resilience Investment Program's funding model for FireSmart related activities on private property is capped at \$100,000 per local government regardless of population or geographic area;

And whereas the funding model and funding eligibility requirements put geographically large regional districts at a notable disadvantage compared to local governments with significantly less wildfire interface areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province develop eligibility requirements for Community Resilience Investment Program funding, and a funding model, that are equitable and based on local government need.

On motion, was Endorsed

B94 Wildfire Smoke

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas wildfire smoke is increasingly present in and around the Province of BC during the summer months;

And whereas wildfire smoke negatively impacts human health and the public's comfort and ability to enjoy the natural beauty of the Province of BC's parks and beaches, which has a negative impact to the economy of our Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province take a more proactive role in assessing risks associated with exposure to wildfire smoke and create decision making tools to assist communities in determining what measures should be taken to mitigate those risks.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B95 Access To Provincial Emergency Preparedness Funding For
Independent Fire Services**

Cariboo RD

Whereas independent fire department, fire brigade and fire cache societies provide an invaluable service for the unincorporated communities in regional districts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to change either its policy or legislative framework to ensure that independent fire, fire brigade or fire cache societies can apply directly to the Province for provincially administered emergency preparedness funding programs to support their training or capital requirements, similar to existing BC Gaming Grant programs.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B96 Emergency Program Act Amendment – Boating
Restrictions During a Local State of Emergency –
Flooding Events**

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas use of motorized watercraft during a flooding event can accelerate shoreline erosion and impact flood damage mitigation efforts;

And whereas local governments have no authority to impose temporary boating restrictions on waterways to reduce the flood damage risk to properties and critical infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that in order to support emergency response and damage mitigation efforts during freshet and other flood events, the Province be lobbied to amend the *Emergency Program Act* by including

the authority for local governments to restrict and prohibit the use and/or speed of motorized watercraft when a state of local emergency has been declared.

On motion, was Endorsed

B97 Disaster Relief & Recovery Funding

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the Province has delegated responsibility for emergency and disaster recovery to local governments under Section 6 of the *Emergency Program Act*;

And whereas the Province's current policy of providing funding for disaster relief and recovery to organizations other than local governments is proving ineffective in meeting the needs of many British Columbians who require such assistance;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work collaboratively with local governments to establish policy and best practices relating to the provision of disaster recovery assistance, and thereafter make all funding for this purpose available directly to local governments in support of their legislated responsibilities under the *Emergency Program Act*.

On motion, was Endorsed

B98 Resourcing A Collaborative System of Data Sharing in BC

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas natural disasters pose an increasing risk to the economic, social, and environmental well-being of British Columbians;

And whereas the provincial government is taking action to improve resilience by strengthening disaster preparedness and disaster risk governance in the context of climate change;

And whereas the sharing of integrated asset data, information, and knowledge across all sectors is key to improving emergency management and resiliency planning in BC;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urged to take a strong leadership role and provide long-term sufficient funding and resources to increase the coordination, assembly, and access of asset data, information, and knowledge across multiple levels and sectors of government and stakeholders (including First Nations, local governments, provincial and federal government agencies, qualified professionals, and industry sectors).

On motion, was Endorsed

B99 Evacuation Re-Entry Authorization Process & Document

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia enacted the Emergency Program Management Regulation under the authority of the *Emergency Program Act* in 1996, including amendments up to BC Reg. 200/98;

And whereas there is no standardized process or document provided by the Provincial Emergency Program for planning and authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas during emergencies to facilitate coordination and cooperation between local authorities, the government, government ministries, government corporations and government agencies:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to develop a process and standardized document for all local authorities and response agencies to utilize for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to incorporate the process and standardized document for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas, into future training and education materials supported by Emergency Management BC.

On motion, was Endorsed

B100 Permitting Entry Into an Evacuation Order Area

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas wildfire events are increasing in frequency, intensity, and duration, and local governments and the BC Wildfire Service are required to implement an efficient, effective, and coordinated approach to address the demand for persons, equipment, and supplies requiring entry into an evacuation order area;

And whereas the BC Wildfire Service does not have a comprehensive permitting process to facilitate the entry of support personnel, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area, and the *Emergency Program Act* and British Columbia Emergency Management System do not address, recognize, or provide any direction regarding the permitting of residents, farmers, or persons working in coordination with the BC Wildfire Service to enter into an evacuation order area:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work with local governments to develop a permitting system and associated policy, procedures, and best practices that facilitate the necessary entry of persons, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area;

And be it further resolved that the Province consider the need for legislation that addresses the risk management issues associated with allowing entry into an evacuation order area.

On motion, was Endorsed

B101 Stay & Defend Policy

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas wildfire events are increasing in frequency, intensity, and duration, and local governments and the BC Wildfire Service are increasingly required to deal with the issues created by residents who stay within an evacuation order area to defend their property and farmers who stay to look after livestock sheltering in place;

And whereas the *Emergency Program Act* and the British Columbia Emergency Management System do not address, recognize, or provide direction regarding the management of issues created by persons choosing to stay and defend their property from wildfire:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work with local governments to develop policy and best practices regarding stay and defend issues with consideration given to formally recognizing a person's right to stay and defend their property from wildfire.

On motion, was Endorsed

B102 Consistency in Access to Emergency Social Services Resources

Cariboo RD

Whereas during the 2017 wildfires, evacuees ended up in several different locations;

And whereas evacuees unfairly received varying degrees of Emergency Social Services supports depending on the location/provider/day, which caused confusion, additional stress and resentment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to take over management of Emergency Social Services during all Level III Provincial State of Emergencies to ensure consistency in the allocation of resources to evacuees and modernization of the ESS registration process.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by including reference to local capacity, local authorities and regional districts, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to **consider taking take** over management of Emergency Social Services during all Level III Provincial State of Emergencies **where local capacity is unable to provide basic ESS services, and that the provincial government facilitate regional/provincial Level III ESS planning with local authorities and regional districts to ensure a consistent base allocation of support and consistency in the allocation of resources to evacuees and that the Province modernize modernization of the ESS registration process.***

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

B103 Insurance Practices During & After Disasters

Grand Forks

Whereas many property owners and small businesses were recently affected by floods and fires across British Columbia;

And whereas many of those property owners and small businesses were unable to get insurance coverage, were unable to access that coverage in a timely manner, or were denied insurance coverage from their insurance provider:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Finance review insurance practices in British Columbia to identify ways to insure property owners and small businesses during and after a disaster.

On motion, was Endorsed

B104 Disaster Financial Assistance

Grand Forks

Whereas many small business owners in rural British Columbia have many different household income sources;

And whereas small businesses form a critical part of rural communities because of the employment, taxes, and services they provide:

Therefore be it resolved the Province change the Disaster Financial Assistance program criteria relating to income requirements, eligibility, and insurance availability to better address the needs of rural British Columbia small business owners.

On motion, was Endorsed

B105 Roles & Responsibilities for Emergency & Disaster Mitigation in BC

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia passed the *Emergency Program Act* in 1996;

And whereas the Act requires local authorities, ministries, Crown corporations, and government agencies to develop plans and programs to prepare and respond to emergencies and disasters in the province;

And whereas there is no acknowledgment of who is responsible to develop a proactive program to mitigate emergencies and disasters in the province:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to add mitigation to its Emergency Management BC mandate.

On motion, was Endorsed

B106 Disaster Response

Vernon

Whereas many areas across the province have suffered through a range of natural disasters that require the resources and response from all levels of government;

And whereas some natural disasters, such as flooding, can be reasonably predicted in advance of the actual disaster, and municipalities require provincial and federal approvals to mitigate potential impact:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM approach the Province of BC to ensure sufficient provincial staff are in place to administer necessary permitting processes, and to work with local jurisdictions such that imminent disasters are mitigated in advance of potential loss of life and serious destruction of private and public property.

On motion, was Endorsed

B107 Clothing Donations Bins

Vancouver

Whereas donation bins are an important part of zero-waste programs in many municipalities contributing to textile diversion, and deliver an important revenue stream for non-profit organizations, however, in recent years, they have been the site of a number of deaths of people who have been trapped inside them;

And whereas on January 15, 2019 and on May 28, 2019, Vancouver City Council took steps to regulate the placement and design of donation bins in the city, including the requirement for verified safe bin designs, and resolved to bring the issue to the annual UBCM conference with the goal of mitigating public safety issues and avoiding tragic deaths:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support a ban on clothing donation bins until safe alternatives certified by a professional engineer that do not pose danger or life safety issues for the public are available in member municipalities.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by replacing the majority of the text of the enactment clause with new text, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that ~~UBCM support a ban on clothing donation bins until safe alternatives certified by a professional engineer that do not pose danger or life safety issues for the public are available in member municipalities~~ **only those clothing donation bins that are certified by a professional engineer to not pose danger or life safety issues for the public be authorized for use in municipalities and regional districts.***

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

Councillor Claire Moglove assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b.

B108 Youth Voting in Local Government Elections

Victoria

Whereas youth have a strong interest in the future of local communities;

And whereas empowering young people to participate in democratic processes fosters ongoing and active civic participation:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia revise the voting age for local government elections to 16 years of age.

On motion, was Endorsed

B109 Fresh Voices #LostVotes Campaign

New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for permanent residents to vote in local government elections;

And whereas more than 45 countries have granted permanent residents some form of voting rights—including seven jurisdictions in the US and 25 European Union countries; and 11 municipalities in Canada are working toward extending local election voting rights to permanent residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia make the necessary changes to allow permanent residents to vote in local government elections in British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

B110 Voter Registration Waiting Period

Fruitvale

Whereas the current residency waiting period in BC of 6 months to register to vote is too long;

And whereas that limits newly arrived BC residents their ability to vote:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend relevant legislation to reduce the waiting period to register to vote from 6 months to 30 days.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B111 Removing Cap on Candidate Contribution to Their Own Campaign

Langley City

Whereas under the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* (LECFA), candidate contribution limits have been established which now put a cap on how much a candidate may contribute to his or her own campaign;

And whereas candidates who wish to fund their own campaigns without seeking external campaign contributions are now extremely limited in how much they can spend on their campaigns:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to raise the cap on how much a candidate may contribute to his or her own campaign from \$1,200 to \$5,000 per year.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B112 Statement of Disclosure Updates

Richmond

Whereas professional regulatory bodies, such as CPABC, BC Law Society, APEGBC, and others, have conflict of interest and ethics rules for their members, under which appearance of conflict of interest is disallowed;

And whereas the public expects elected representatives to act to a professional standard of conduct;

And whereas the scope of decisions and responsibilities of an elected representative can be broad and encompass a variety of issues:

Therefore be it resolved that the Statement of Disclosure for municipal nominees and elected representatives be updated to additionally include a spouse's assets; a spouse's liabilities; and real property, other than their primary residence, held singly or jointly by a spouse, child, brother, sister, mother or father, to the best knowledge of the candidate. Further, within 60 days of being sworn in, to file a confidential financial disclosure statement to a non-partisan Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

Nominations from the Floor for Executive Positions

At 11:30 am Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee, assumed the Chair.

Councillor Krause called for nominations from the floor for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative and Director at Large. Those nominated at the close of nominations were:

Small Community Representative:	Mayor Mitch Campsall, District of 100 Mile House Councillor Sarah Fowler, Village of Tahsis Mayor Gaby Wickstrom, Town of Port McNeill
Electoral Area Representative:	Director Steve Forseth, Cariboo Regional District Director Leonard Hiebert, Peace River Regional District Director Grace McGregor, Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Vancouver Metro Area Representative:	Councillor Paul Albrecht, City of Langley Councillor Trish Mandewo, City of Coquitlam Councillor Linda McPhail, City of Richmond
Director at Large:	Director Adam Casemore, Central Kootenay Regional District Councillor Chad Eliason, City of Salmon Arm Councillor Ben Geselbracht, City of Nanaimo Councillor Mike Gray, Village of Radium Hot Springs Director Travis Hall, Central Coast Regional District Councillor Jason Lum, City of Chilliwack Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River Councillor Helen Poon, City of Port Alberni

Councillor Krause declared there would be elections for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, and Director at Large.

Candidates' Speeches

The delegates heard brief two-minute speeches from each of the candidates for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative and Director at Large.

Delegates Lunch

The Annual Delegates Lunch was held in Ballrooms A/B/C, Vancouver Convention Centre.

The President, Councillor Arjun Singh, introduced Special Guests, MLAs, and Life Members who were in attendance.

UBCM/BCSTA Protocol on Consultation & Cooperation

UBCM and the BC School Trustees Association renewed their Protocol on Consultation and Cooperation. Originally signed in 2001, last signed in 2016, the three-year term had expired. The Protocol represents the two organizations' continued commitment to work together to achieve the province-wide benefits of collaboration on issues of mutual interest. A renewed Protocol was signed by President Arjun Singh on behalf of UBCM and Stephanie Higginson, President of the BC School Trustees Association.

Concurrent Workshops

At 2:30 pm the following concurrent workshops were held:

- Let's Not WASTE Time!
- Building Child Care, Building Strong Communities
- Tackling the Housing Crisis through Leadership & Co-Creation
- CityStudio Vancouver: A Model for Civic Innovation & Experimentation
- UBC Campus Sustainability Tour

UBCM Annual Banquet

In the evening, the reception and Annual Banquet were held for delegates and guests at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The evening event was jointly sponsored by: FortisBC (Reception and Platinum Sponsor), Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (Gold), Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project (Silver). The wine was sponsored by KPMG.

Friday, September 27, 2019

Policy Session – Resolutions

The Resolutions session resumed at 8:00 am with Councillor Gerry Taft, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Councillor Taft was joined by the other members of the Resolutions Committee: Councillor Clair Moglove, Councillor Brian Frenkel and Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg. They were assisted by Parliamentarian Ian Izard, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac and other UBCM staff.

Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline

Councillor Gerry Taft Chair commenced consideration of the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, delegates endorsed the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline. In accordance with the recommendations in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, resolutions LR1 and LR2 were admitted for debate; resolutions LR3 and LR4 were referred to the UBCM Executive; and resolution LR5 was not admitted for debate.

LR1 Enabling Viable & Competitive Transportation Network Services in Small Rural & Remote Communities

Enderby

Whereas the Province of BC has created a regulatory framework permitting transportation network services to operate in BC, which provides a passenger transportation option to address the significant public need for vehicles-for-hire and, in turn, reduce impaired driving, improve the ability of seniors and persons with barriers to access needed resources, and stimulate economic development;

And whereas the Province's regulatory framework is so onerous that it effectively prohibits the establishment of transportation network services outside of the Lower Mainland, and particularly in small, rural, and remote communities where it has the greatest potential to address areas underserved by traditional public transportation options:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM asks the Province of BC to amend the *Passenger Transportation Act* to establish an area-based, tiered, regulatory solution that will enable viable and competitive transportation network services in small rural and remote communities as well as other communities outside of the Lower Mainland.

On motion, was Endorsed

LR2 Ride-Hailing Companies' Licenses, Terms & Conditions

White Rock

Whereas British Columbia's Passenger Transportation Board's "Operational Policy: 'Introduction of Transportation Network Services, 2019'" allows ride-hailing companies to unfairly compete against British Columbia's taxi companies for passengers, and without having to comply with the same onerous rules, restrictions and requirements that the Board places on taxi companies;

And whereas the Passenger Transportation Board's Operational Policy allows individual ride-hailing companies to operate unlimited numbers of vehicles, and not operate any "accessible" vehicles that are capable of accommodating wheelchairs and other needs of persons with mobility impairments, while at the same time the Board severely restricts the numbers of vehicles that individual taxi companies may operate, and requires taxi companies to operate "accessible" vehicles that are capable of accommodating wheelchairs and other needs of persons with mobility impairments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM opposes the British Columbia Passenger Transportation Board's Operational Policy for licensing ride-hailing companies;

And be it further resolved that UBCM will expeditiously write to the Public Transportation Board requesting that its Operational Policy for licensing ride-hailing companies be immediately withdrawn;

And be it further resolved that UBCM will, in writing, request that the Public Transportation Board facilitates a comprehensive, fulsome public consultation process wherein BC's cities, municipalities, regional districts, public transit agencies, disabled persons' advocacy organizations, and the general public are invited and enabled to provide their views as to the terms, restrictions and requirements that should be included in the operating licenses that are issued to ride-hailing firms by the Public Transportation Board.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

Resolution Off the Floor

Councillor Gerry Taft continued as the Chair for consideration of an off-the-floor resolution.

Councillor Taft noted that on Thursday, UBCM members had endorsed a motion, duly moved and seconded, to admit for debate resolution OF1 from off the floor.

OF1 Rural Dividend Reconsideration

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the intention of the Rural Dividend program is to provide funding to support economic diversification beyond resource development in rural, remote and Indigenous communities that are currently forest dependent;

And whereas the Rural Dividend program has been effective at diversifying economies and enabling local governments to deliver important projects;

And whereas the recent decision from the Provincial Government of BC has migrated funding from the Rural Dividend program to a reactive support to communities impacted by mill closures and curtailments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC reconsider their decision to reallocate funding from the Rural Dividend program in order to maintain continuous delivery of the Rural Dividend program while identifying alternative funds to simultaneously deliver supports for communities impacted by mill closures and curtailments.

On motion, was Endorsed

Motion to Vary the Agenda

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to vary the agenda to admit for debate resolution C56, Widening of the Trans Canada Highway #1, was not endorsed.

Section B – Part 2-b

Councillor Claire Moglove assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b, resuming with resolution B113.

B113 Amend the Fare Collection Regulation

Burnaby

Whereas the levying of fare infraction tickets disproportionately impacts low-income and/or young persons who may not have access to means of payment;

And whereas the structure for fare infraction enforcement practices utilized by TransLink are outlined in the *South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Amendment Act* (2012), Fare Collection Regulation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and any other applicable ministry or body, to consider the elimination or reduction of fine levying to those under 18 years of age;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and any other applicable ministry or body, investigate the option of restorative justice and community service option(s) for settling fare infraction tickets by low-income individuals.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B114 Increase Transportation Assistance for Low-Income Individuals

Burnaby

Whereas British Columbians receiving income assistance continue to struggle to meet their basic needs, despite recent needed increases to monthly rates, leaving little funds available for transportation, including transit;

And whereas the monthly \$52 'transportation allowance' that British Columbians are issued as disability assistance, is not sufficient to off-set the costs associated with purchasing a monthly transit pass in most regions;

And whereas access to transit is vital to many individuals in accessing health care, seeking employment, and contributing to the community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to investigate avenues of providing free or further subsidized transit passes, regardless of region, to those British Columbians receiving income or disability assistance.

On motion, was Endorsed

B115 Traffic Calming

Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional district efforts to build more complete, compact communities within electoral areas have increased pedestrians and cyclists on roads in areas designated for growth;

And whereas the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on roads in rural areas designated for growth would be enhanced with traffic calming measures designed to reduce vehicle speeds and prioritize non-motorized traffic:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure develop new criteria and standards for traffic calming in areas designated for growth in electoral areas.

On motion, was Endorsed

B116 Traffic Control & Enforcement on Rural Roads

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Province and the RCMP have limited resources to regulate and enforce traffic regulations on provincial roads in rural areas;

And whereas the lack of visible presence and consistent enforcement of traffic regulations by the RCMP results in unchecked speeding, reckless driving, illegal parking and other unsafe conditions on rural roads:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia increase resources for regulation and enforcement of traffic regulations on rural roads.

On motion, was Endorsed

B117 Safety of First Responders Attending a Roadside Accident

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas many of the highway accident scenes in unincorporated areas in BC are supported by volunteer first responders who may have limited resources to attend to the accident scene including caring for accident victims while also having to control traffic passing through the accident scene;

And whereas these first responders and accident victims are regularly put at unnecessary risk by careless drivers who do not focus on their driving and/or do not lower their vehicle speed to a reasonable rate while moving through an accident scene:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province consider amending the motor vehicle legislation so that the maximum speed limit for motor vehicles driving through a highway accident scene on a highway is 30 kilometres per hour.

On motion, was Endorsed

B118 Support Transformational Improvements to Regional BC Transit Victoria

Whereas the transportation sector is the second-largest contributor of greenhouse gases (GHGs), some of the largest reductions in GHGs are possible through facilitating a mode shift to low carbon mobility options, such as increased ridership of emissions-free transit;

And whereas transforming regional public transit could drastically increase mode-shift to clean public transit system:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia and BC Transit take immediate actions to support and provide funding for transformational improvements to regional BC transit infrastructure to promote and enable rapid mode shift to transit, including transitioning the BC Transit fleet to zero emissions as early in the 2020s as possible.

On motion, was Endorsed

B119 BC Ferries Foot Passenger Service Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas passenger traffic levels on BC Ferries in 2018 were the highest experienced in the past 20 years and the trend for growth is forecast to continue;

And whereas the provincial *Climate Change Accountability Act* and CleanBC Plan include commitments for collaboration with all sectors to prepare for and adapt to climate change as well as support the growth of low carbon economies in communities throughout British Columbia;

And whereas BC Ferries' Business Plan commits to meeting changing and evolving customer travel needs and growing and diversifying their revenue base, including exploring the provision of a passenger-only service:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to work with BC Ferries to explore expanding their mandate to include dedicated foot passenger ferry service that would meet the forecasted growth in passenger traffic levels, while supporting a low carbon option that may lessen the demand for car ferry service, and encourage the use of public transit and alternative means of transportation where possible.

On motion, was Endorsed

B120 BC Rail Properties Squamish

Whereas BCR Properties Ltd. owns surplus lands not required for railway and port operations and has a mandate to dispose of those lands at the highest price attainable;

And whereas for many local governments, these lands can represent critical opportunities relating to diverse social, recreational, economic, environmental and infrastructure needs and purposes:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure review and amend the mandate of BCR Properties Ltd. such that it be directed to dispose of its surplus lands with consideration to local government land needs for critical infrastructure, environmental needs, community recreation and economic development, as well as for social needs such as affordable housing lands at significantly less than fair market value prices.

On motion, was Endorsed

B121 Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Management Framework

**Sayward
Tahsis**

Whereas the *Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Act* was intended to create safe and more convenient incidental access to public roads and highways to better connect BC's rural communities and support a first-rate ORV trail network, and to allow local governments to expand their trail networks to take advantage of economic development opportunities by way of tourism;

And whereas the current administrative process to obtain operation permits as permitted under the ORV Act is onerous and not conducive to convenient incidental access to trail networks connecting multiple communities as a separate operation permit must be obtained from each jurisdiction:

Therefore be it resolved that the following changes to legislation are made:

- Only one (1) operation permit required for approved access to multiple jurisdictions and/or communities along a connecting designated ORV route and trail network issued in any of the jurisdictions or communities along the route.
- Operation permits can be issued by any local RCMP or local government along a designated route.
- Operation permit term extended from 2 years to 5 years to align with the driver's licence term.

On motion, was Endorsed

B122 Modernization of Utility Taxation

Ucluelet

Whereas Section 644(2) of the *Local Government Act* is intended to define the requirements of a 1 per cent annual tax on utilities carrying on business in a municipality;

And whereas utility company services have expanded beyond electrical light, electric power, telephone, water, gas or television services to include Internet and cellular services:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province initiates the modernization of Section 644(2) of the *Local Government Act* to include Internet and cellular services.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B123 Tax Credit for Local Government Election Candidate
Campaign Contributions**

Langley City

Whereas tax credits are available for campaign contributions made to candidates in provincial and federal elections but are not available for campaign contributions made to candidates in local government elections;

And whereas there is not the same incentive for individuals to contribute to local government election campaigns as there is for provincial and federal election campaigns:

Therefore be it resolved that the *Income Tax Act* [RSBC 1996] Chapter 215 be amended to provide for the issuance of tax credits for campaign contributions made to candidates in local government elections.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B124 Property Taxation

Nanaimo City

Whereas Section 193 of the *Community Charter* restricts a municipality from imposing fees or taxes except as expressly authorized under the *Community Charter* or another Act;

And whereas urban sprawl creates higher infrastructure costs, transportation costs, and other expenses borne by society;

And whereas municipalities attempt to control urban sprawl whilst encouraging healthier lifestyles and alternative modes of transportation:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government amend the *Community Charter* to allow municipalities to adjust their property tax rates by setting density brackets in their jurisdiction, to use at their discretion, as an incentive to reduce urban sprawl and as a method of assigning infrastructure and maintenance costs more accurately amongst end users.

On motion, was Endorsed

B125 Stand-by Pay for Key Emergency Personnel

Sparwood

Whereas the Provincial Government of British Columbia has ceased to reimburse local governments for their expenditures of stand-by pay for key emergency staff during peak freshet and wildfire hazard seasons in 2018;

And whereas the Regional District of East Kootenay has observed an upsurge in the requirement of this service due to environmental circumstances, including climate change;

And whereas the Regional District of East Kootenay views the elimination of this funding by the Provincial Government of British Columbia as a downloading of provincial responsibilities to local governments;

And whereas the District of Sparwood is now required to pay a portion of that service cost to the Regional District of East Kootenay for participation in the Elk Valley and South Country Emergency Program to cover the cost of this service previously reimbursement by the Provincial Government of British Columbia to the Regional District of East Kootenay:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Provincial Government of British Columbia restore standby pay during freshet and wildfire seasons as an eligible expense for reimbursement to local governments.

On motion, was Endorsed

B126 Gas Tax Funding For Volunteer Or Paid On-call Fire Departments

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas volunteer or paid on-call fire departments provide emergency firefighting response services to rural communities throughout British Columbia while struggling to meet the increasing costs driven by expanded regulations to meet provincial, federal and insurance requirements;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia does not contribute directly to the delivery of emergency firefighting response services by volunteer fire departments resulting in service delivery challenges for fire departments in rural communities where costs are attributable to the citizens of that area:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to utilize gas tax funding for volunteer or paid on-call fire departments to assist with annual operating costs associated with purchase and maintenance of capital infrastructure and equipment, training, and the administration of the emergency firefighting response services.

On motion, was Endorsed

B127 Collection of Unpaid Bylaw Fines

Kaslo

Whereas municipalities lose a significant amount of non-tax revenue annually because of unpaid bylaw fines;

And whereas non-tax revenue sources such as a bylaw fines help offset costs to municipal services and reduce the property tax burden on residents.

And whereas the current methods available to municipalities for the collection of bylaw fines are slow, expensive and labor intensive;

And whereas the collection of bylaw fines with the cooperation of the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC will ensure prompt payment of any unpaid bylaw fines:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC collect outstanding bylaw fines on behalf of municipalities at the time of auto insurance and/or driver's licence renewal.

On motion, was Endorsed

B128 Expanded Asset Class Investments Under Prudent Investor Rules

Burnaby

Whereas financial investments form a critical part of the activities of a municipality, providing a source of revenues for capital expenditures and to offset cash flow fluctuations;

And whereas allowable investment parameters as laid out in the *Community Charter* is considered a "prescribed" set of legislated guidelines;

And whereas the Provinces of Alberta and Ontario have implemented a wider scope for local government investment, which responds to the needs of local governments of all sizes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to amend the *Community Charter* to provide municipalities with the ability to obtain improved returns through asset class diversification, which in return can reduce tax implications and funding costs associated with capital funding, while also reducing investment risk.

On motion, was Endorsed

**B129 Transparency & Legislative Reform of Beneficial Ownership of
Land & Corporations**

Richmond

Whereas the provincial Ministry of Finance has not proposed legislation around the establishment of a publicly searchable registry around beneficial ownership of corporations;

And whereas the federal Minister of Finance has not proposed legislation for a public registry of beneficial ownership of land or corporations:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the provincial Minister of Finance to propose both a new provincial publicly searchable registry of corporate beneficial ownership and advocate to the federal Minister of Finance to create a new national public registry around beneficial ownership of corporations and land.

On motion, was Endorsed

B130 Improvement District Governance Policy

Nanaimo RD

Whereas many improvement districts are wrestling with increased costs for replacing and improving water infrastructure, and in finding adequate sources of funding;

And whereas the residents of improvement districts contribute tax monies to the provincial and federal governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to change the Improvement District Governance Policy to allow citizens residing in improvement districts equal access to provincial and federal infrastructure grant monies.

On motion, was Endorsed

B131 Lottery Revenue Distribution

Armstrong

Whereas the Province of British Columbia received 1.4 billion dollars in 2018 from net gaming revenue, earned from lotteries, casinos and online gambling;

And whereas the vast majority of local governments do not receive any share of the net gambling revenue realized from their local populations:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia distribute to all BC local governments a 10 per cent share of the net gambling revenue earned from lotteries and online gambling to all local governments on the basis of population.

On motion, was Endorsed

B132 Consent for Property Classification

Pouce Coupe

Whereas local governments are unaware of when BC Assessment is making property classification changes, without regard to zoning for that particular piece of property;

And whereas local governments have the authority to determine land use zoning within their boundary, and should be consulted on changes to the assessment classification:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC require that BC Assessment Authority obtain consent from a local government prior to making any property classification changes.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B133 Broadband Infrastructure Taxation

East Kootenay RD

Whereas the cost to deploy broadband infrastructure to support connectivity services is significant and revenue opportunities in rural areas are often not adequate to provide a return on investment that would attract private investment, resulting in underserved rural communities throughout the province;

And whereas both the provincial and federal governments have made universal access to broadband services a priority including through the provision of infrastructure grants to encourage private investment in rural areas; however, the ongoing property taxation of broadband infrastructure creates a significant additional cost which further inhibits the already strained business case for private investment in broadband connectivity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to either exempt broadband telecommunication assets from property taxation or alter the valuation scheme for broadband infrastructure serving rural communities.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B134 Tax Relief for British Columbia Legions

Victoria

Whereas Royal Canadian Legion branches around British Columbia have a history of community service, neighbourhood social service partnership, and are active contributors to their host municipalities and residents, including those with and without past or current military service;

And whereas most BC municipalities in which a Legion branch exists offer a mechanism to relieve tax payment, but do so in a variety of different ways (e.g. grants to offset tax payments, or exemptions based on different classes of assessments as defined and allowed by BC Assessment, or classifications of use, etc.);

And whereas exemption applications to municipalities depend on widely variable municipal policies and consideration of differential tax assessments and unexpected increases in property tax assessment jeopardize the future sustainability and operational capacity of Legion branches:

Therefore be it resolved that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to provide exemptions to Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b, resuming with resolution B135.

B135 Climate Change

Fort St. John

Whereas 187 local governments in British Columbia—98 per cent of the total—are signatories to the Climate Action Charter that commits them to work towards carbon neutral operations, measure community-wide emissions and create complete compact, energy-efficient communities;

And whereas engaging in symbolic actions such as writing letters, passing resolutions and filing class-action lawsuits in the name of "climate liability" against major innovation drivers and employers is not an appropriate direction for BC municipalities because it will hinder rather than help the ability of municipalities and local communities to continue their work to implement the Climate Action Charter and enable healthy, thriving local economies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognize their role to represent and serve the common needs of all local governments in BC in our diverse, resource-based province and to affirm that decarbonisation and reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions should continue to be an important focus for civic policy-makers, industry, British Columbians and other stakeholders, recognizing the value of BC's resource sector

and its contribution to British Columbia's quality of life and that British Columbians support the resource sector to continue its work to serve the needs of society while transitioning to a low carbon economy.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to amend the enactment clause by adding the phrase “the need for a just transition for workers and communities and recognizes our” and removing the phrase “to serve the needs of society while”, was endorsed.

The resolution, as amended, then read:

*Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognize **the need for a just transition for workers and communities and recognizes our** ~~their~~ role to represent and serve the common needs of all local governments in BC in our diverse, resource-based province and to affirm that decarbonisation and reduction of GHG emissions should continue to be an important focus for civic policy-makers, industry, British Columbians and other stakeholders, recognizing the value of BC's resource sector and its contribution to British Columbia's quality of life and that British Columbians support the resource sector to continue its work ~~to serve the needs of society while~~ transitioning to a low carbon economy.*

On motion, as amended, was Endorsed

B136 Recovering Municipal Costs Arising from Climate Change

Victoria

Whereas local governments are incurring substantial costs in relation to the impacts of climate change, including volatile weather patterns, drought, wildfires, erosion and other impacts;

And whereas it is fiscally prudent to recover these costs from corporations that have profited from the burning of fossil fuels, with knowledge that these economic activities contribute to climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM explore the initiation of a class action lawsuit on behalf of member local governments to recover costs arising from climate change from major fossil fuels corporations;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia consider legislation to support local governments in recovering costs arising from climate change from major fossil fuel corporations.

On motion, was Withdrawn by the Sponsor

B137 Climate Accountability

Port Moody

Whereas an overwhelming scientific consensus maintains that climate change, the single greatest threat to the future of the planet, is due primarily to the human use of fossil fuels, which release carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the air;

And whereas fossil fuel producers are collectively responsible through their operations and products for almost 30 per cent of human-caused greenhouse gases, and taxpayers are bearing the entire burden of the climate costs caused by fossil fuels, while fossil fuel producers continue to make significant profit from selling them:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy be called upon to enact legislation that holds fossil fuel companies financially liable for climate-related harms caused by their contributions to climate change.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

Results of Election for Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative & Director at Large

Councillor Murry Krause, Chair of the Nominating Committee, assumed the Chair and presented the election results for:

Small Community Representative: Mayor Mitch Campsall, District of 100 Mile House

Electoral Area Representative: Director Grace McGregor, Kootenay Boundary RD

Vancouver Metro Area Representative: Councillor Paul Albrecht, City of Langley
Councillor Trish Mandewo, City of Coquitlam

Director at Large: Councillor Chad Eliason, City of Salmon Arm
Councillor Ben Geselbracht, City of Nanaimo
Director Travis Hall, Central Coast RD
Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River
Councilor Helen Poon, City of Port Alberni

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to destroy the ballots, was endorsed.

Councillor Roodenburg assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b, resuming with resolution B138.

B138 Subsidies to Fossil Fuel Companies

Victoria

Whereas the federal government recently released a scientific report that reveals that Canada is warming at twice the global rate, the provincial government recently approved a \$5.35-billion package of tax incentives for a \$40-billion LNG Canada megaproject, supported by \$1.275 billion from the federal government, and, according to a 2015 report by the International Monetary Fund, the annual federal government subsidy to the fossil fuel industry is \$46 billion;

And whereas the funding formula for local governments has changed little since 1867 with local governments receiving roughly 8 cents of every tax dollar leaving them unprepared for the emerging and significant costs of mitigation and adaption to climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to end all subsidies to fossil fuel companies and to invest the money instead in climate change mitigation and adaptation activities being undertaken by local governments in a predictable and regularized funding formula;

And be it further resolved that the UBCM through the FCM call on the federal government to end all subsidies to fossil fuel companies and to invest the money instead in climate change mitigation and adaptation activities being undertaken by local governments in a predictable and regularized funding formula.

On motion, was Endorsed

B139 Call to Action On Global Climate Emergency

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the earth's global climate has now tipped into an arguably irreversible and critical path, bringing unprecedented weather extremes and causing catastrophic loss of life and costly damage to property, crops and livestock;

And whereas these extremes are challenging the habitability of vast regions of the earth due to rising oceans, repetitive flooding, drought and wildfire devastation;

And whereas an unprecedented and rapid rise in the extinction of our planets species of plants, animals and indigenous cultures is causing an irreversible biodiversity crisis which is further accelerating the catastrophic impact to our planet;

And whereas the collapse of ecosystems threatens all life on earth;

And whereas the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change concluded that current levels of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in our atmosphere are higher than at any point over the past 800,000 years, and their ability to trap heat is changing our climate in multiple ways:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM supports a call to action and asks all orders of government (including local government) to adopt climate emergency motions and to take dramatic steps toward the protection of biodiversity and to accelerate the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which are a primary cause of this climate emergency.

On motion, was Endorsed

B140 Support for Property Assessed Clean Energy Legislation for BC Port Moody

Whereas climate change is the greatest threat to our municipalities;

And whereas the pillars of the Clean BC program include better buildings, incentivizing retrofits and upgrading BC's stock of public housing so residents, many of whom are low income families or seniors, can live in a more energy efficient, healthier, and comfortable home;

And whereas the cost of clean energy infrastructure is a major barrier for low and middle income earners, as well as small businesses and municipalities;

And whereas Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation has proven to be effective in financing retrofits in other jurisdictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia work with expert stakeholders with knowledge of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) best practices, including UBCM and FCM, to study the application of PACE in BC and develop PACE enabling legislation for BC municipalities.

On motion, was Endorsed

B141 Ramping Up BC Climate Action in Response to Climate Emergency Squamish

Whereas the detrimental effects of climate change are more and more evident in BC, Canada and the rest of the world;

And whereas the world is currently on track for a more than 3°C warming based on policies currently in place, and those policies will need to be strengthened significantly to limit warming to 1.5°C, based on recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

And whereas both the provincial and federal governments have been advancing climate emergency response through Clean BC and the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change respectively;

Therefore be it resolved that the local, regional, provincial and federal governments be urged to both recognize the climate change emergency and accelerate their efforts to fight climate change at levels that match the urgency of the issue;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government establish a remaining carbon budget for all public and private sector emissions commensurate with limiting warming to 1.5°C and report annually on the expenditure of the Province's remaining carbon budget;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government form a "Climate and Equity" working group to provide guidance and support a transition off of fossil fuels in ways that prioritize those most vulnerable to climate impacts and most in need of support in transitioning to renewable energy.

On motion, was Endorsed

B142 Promoting & Enabling Greenhouse Gas Reductions

Victoria

Whereas the world's leading climate scientists have warned that we have less than 12 years to meet our climate targets, and early action is required to avoid significant costs and impacts to social and environmental well-being in our communities, and worldwide, local governments are uniquely positioned to enable this mobilization effort, in a coordinated and integrated fashion across sectors, enabling individual action with timely and accurate information, incentives, directions, coordination, tools, targets and scalable, impactful programs;

And whereas local governments' greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plans will be effectively and expeditiously realized through a dedicated focus on cutting the most impactful GHG sources, including: retrofitting existing buildings to high-efficiency standards; renewable electricity; elimination of fossil fuel heating sources; shifting people to transit, active transportation, and renewably powered mobility options; and the electrification of commercial and passenger vehicle fleets, the complexity and pace/progress of GHG reductions in both local governments and community require additional resources and planning to reduce risks of missing interim and longer GHG and renewable energy targets:

Therefore be it resolved that local governments call on the Governments of Canada and British Columbia to pursue the following immediate sector actions to promote and enable GHG reductions and realize important social and economic co-benefits:

- Make available all ICBC municipal vehicle km/make/model/fuel economy information.
- Continue the development and implementation of world-class low carbon fuel standards.
- Fully invest in delivery of the zero-emission vehicles sales targets as established in the CleanBC Plan.
- Continue progressive and direct funding programs and partnerships for municipal low-carbon initiatives, including building retrofit, transportation, waste management and other priority and shared GHG reduction programs.

On motion, was Endorsed

B143 Shifting Investment to Low-Emission Transportation

Victoria

Whereas the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premiers of BC and most provinces signed the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change in 2016, endorsing a policy shift that could substantially reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution from transportation while funding public transit improvements, including inter-city and commuter bus and rail service;

And whereas the transportation sector is the second-largest contributor of GHG pollution in Canada, representing 23 per cent of total emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that local governments call on the Governments of Canada and British Columbia to fully implement their commitment in the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, to shift investments “from higher to lower-emitting types of transportation”.

On motion, was Endorsed

B144 Electric Vehicle Right-to-charge Rules

Vancouver

Whereas the Province of BC has legislated that all new light-duty vehicle sales will be zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2040 to support its goal of reducing greenhouse gases by at least 80 per cent by 2050, and that access to home charging infrastructure will continue to be a prerequisite for many ZEV owners;

And whereas British Columbians living in multi-family buildings without access to home charging infrastructure do not have legal recourse if they are refused permission to install and/or use electric vehicle charging infrastructure in their own parking stall:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province develop ‘right-to-charge’ rules, such as those in place in Ontario, California and Hawaii, to facilitate access to home charging infrastructure for British Columbians living in multi-family buildings.

On motion, was Endorsed

B145 Beverage Container Recycling System

Oak Bay

Whereas increasing the effectiveness of BC's beverage container recycling system will result in fewer containers becoming ocean litter, while reducing greenhouse gases through recycling, avoiding taxpayer waste management costs, and creating green jobs:

Therefore be resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC support the Ocean Legacy Foundation request to:

- Increase the regulated deposit rate;
- Add all beverage containers to the deposit refund system;
- Require producers to collect and report on the recycling of bottle caps;
- Raise regulated targets to at least that achieved by Alberta and Saskatchewan, with long-term targets matching the EU; and
- Enforce the regulated targets in a meaningful way, such as requiring producers to pay for the clean-up of ocean plastics equal to the amount by weight that they fail to collect and recycle.

On motion, was Endorsed

B146 Recycle BC – Industrial, Commercial & Institutional Printed Paper & Packaging

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the Recycle BC program is only responsible for residential printed paper and packaging, leaving the industrial, commercial and institutional sector including schools, hospitals, restaurants, stores, and entertainment events dependent on the private sector or local governments for access to recycling, and the producers of industrial, commercial and institutional printed paper and packaging unaccountable for the recovery of their product;

And whereas changes in the global recycling market has resulted in reduced access to recycling of industrial, commercial and institutional printed paper and packaging, local governments will be significantly challenged in meeting the Province's waste diversion targets and calls for restrictions on recyclable material entering landfills:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy expand the scope of the Recycling Regulation for printed paper and packaging to include the industrial, commercial and institutional sector;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change implement policy, consistent with the provincial goal to reduce per capita waste to 350 kg per year, to stabilize the market system by mandating recyclable material as a percentage into feedstock for finished products such as writing paper, toilet paper, facial tissue, paper towels, packaging, etc. as well as eliminating subsidies on virgin materials such as oil to create a more level playing field, reduce the carbon footprint and revitalize the already consumed cardboard and packaging waste.

On motion, was Endorsed

B147 Single-use Disposable Products

Powell River

Whereas single-use disposable products, whether they are recyclable or not, must be manufactured, handled and then disposed of which is not always done in the proper waste stream;

And whereas all petroleum plastic disposable products are derived from fossil fuels which increases carbon emissions in the atmosphere, and all plastic products created never "go away";

And whereas the "compostable" or "biodegradable" disposable products are not accepted at all composting facilities and can contaminate the recycling stream by being confused with recyclable plastic products;

And whereas the costs (both known and unaccounted for) associated with these disposable "products of convenience", should be borne by the manufacturers, the distributors and the retailers who are creating the products and then handing them out to consumers, would create an environment of responsibility and awareness by assigning an environmental handling fee to these products which is dispersed to local government responsible for financing solid waste and recycling:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to engage with retailers, manufacturers and industry to implement an environmental fee for all single use plastic products and packaged goods, (including compostable and biodegradable) entering the British Columbia market place to incentivize reduction, to help subsidize regional solid waste management programs, and to take action towards creating a Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a Provincial Zero Waste Strategy.

On motion, was Endorsed

B148 Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-use Items

West Vancouver

Whereas single-use items increase waste, are often not recyclable, and have various negative impacts on communities across British Columbia;

And whereas several municipalities in British Columbia recently have acted or are in the process of acting to restrict the use of single-use items;

And whereas the ability of municipalities to regulate to protect the environment is specifically circumscribed by s. 9 of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, which states that a municipality may not adopt a bylaw for the protection of the natural environment unless the bylaw is established in accordance with a regulation made by the Province, is established in accordance with an agreement by the Province, or is approved by the Minister responsible (and there are no applicable regulations, agreements or approvals):

Therefore be it resolved that the Province specifically allow local governments to regulate or restrict single-use items by the Province's agreement, by regulation, or by approval of the Minister.

On motion, was Endorsed

B149 Compostable Single-use Items

Richmond

Whereas businesses are beginning to switch to compostable single-use items for to-go meals and beverages, yet this material is not designed to biodegrade if littered, and is not guaranteed to biodegrade in industrial compost facilities because standards and certifications are not aligned with existing infrastructure that is designed to compost food scraps and yard waste;

And whereas local governments are facing increasing pressure to collect and manage this material, yet it is beyond local government's ability to control compostable packaging design or finance the specialized collection and processing infrastructure required for compostable packaging:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government ensure that compostable packaging (including single-use take-out food ware) distributed in Canada is designed to fully biodegrade if littered in the natural environment, that standards and certifications for compostable packaging are aligned with composting infrastructure, and that compostable single-use items are collected and managed through an extended producer responsibility program that covers the residential and commercial sectors as well as the public realm.

On motion, was Endorsed

B150 Standards for Microplastic Filtration, Liquid Waste Management

Powell River

Whereas British Columbia's coastal communities rely on healthy waterways and healthy marine ecosystems for economic, social and ecological well-being and where microplastic debris on land and in both marine and freshwater systems has become an emerging threat creating a growing need to understand the impacts of microplastics;

And whereas a number of organisms, both vertebrates and invertebrates have been found to ingest microplastics and become exposed to contaminants absorbed to the plastic which may then transport concentrated contaminants to other organisms including people;

And whereas these microplastic fibers are small enough to pass through wastewater treatment plants and enter the ocean or be distributed on to land:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia set standards for acceptable limits of microplastics being released into marine and freshwater environments or onto land as well as a standard methodology for testing and reporting and implementation of a governing body.

On motion, was Endorsed

B151 Canada Post Delivering Community Power

Powell River

Whereas Canada Post Corporation currently has no plans in place for replacing its aging vehicle fleet, the largest in the country, with zero emission electric vehicles;

And whereas Canada Post Corporation has 6,400 depots nationwide that are powered and heated by non-renewable sources contributing to a large carbon footprint:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Government of Canada to adopt the proposals described in the Canadian Union of Postal Workers program “Delivering Community Power”, and mandate that Canada Post Corporation adopt the policy of replacing all fossil fuel vehicles with zero emission electric vehicles by 2025 and begin the process of retrofitting all depots for increased energy efficiency and adding solar panels and other low carbon heating and power options so that each depot could be self-sufficient energy wise.

On motion, was Endorsed

B152 Greenhouse Gas Limits for New Buildings

Port Moody

Whereas climate change is recognized to be an urgent concern requiring rapid decarbonization of energy across all sectors, including buildings, in order to achieve 45 per cent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions by 2030 and net-zero GHG emissions by mid-century, as noted by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5C;

And whereas the British Columbia Energy Step Code establishes targets for increasing energy efficiency of new construction, but these may not result in the necessary levels of GHG emissions reductions to support local government GHG reduction targets nor BC’s legislated GHG emissions reduction targets;

And whereas new buildings can last for many decades and are difficult, expensive, and disruptive to retrofit for renewable energy after construction;

And whereas near-zero GHG emissions mechanical systems are well proven and can be cost effectively incorporated in new buildings, while also improving efficiency:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province include GHG limits for new construction as an enforceable element in Division B of the British Columbia Building Code, including a pathway to achieve zero GHG emissions for new construction in a timeline commensurate with the science of climate change and BC’s reduction targets;

And be it further resolved that the Province’s goal in the CleanBC Plan to “make every new building constructed in BC “net-zero energy ready” by 2032” be revised to “make every new building constructed in BC “zero emissions” and “net-zero energy ready” by 2032”.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B153 Water Sustainability Act Section 11 Change Approvals Review Time

Delta

Whereas the Province administers and processes *Water Sustainability Act* Section 11 change approvals (change approvals) to authorize users to make complex changes in and about a stream;

And whereas the Province no longer commits to completing change approval reviews within 140 days of receipt of the application, causing excessive delays that result in increased project costs, missed funding opportunities and uncertainty in project timelines:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province must re-commit to processing change approvals within 140 days of receipt;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide adequate funding and staffing to fulfill the target review period of 140 days.

On motion, was Endorsed

B154 Groundwater Extraction

Strathcona RD

Whereas water is an essential resource upon which all life, including all ecosystems and all local communities depend;

And whereas water is a public heritage and a public trust for present and future generations and access to water must not be compromised by commercial operations relating to commercial water bottling or commercial bulk water exports:

Therefore be it resolved that the Premier of British Columbia and the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development be requested to immediately cease the licensing and extraction of groundwater for commercial water bottling and/or bulk water exports from aquifers.

On motion, was Endorsed

B155 Key Marine Cumulative Effects Values

Islands Trust

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has adopted the use of a cumulative effects framework to help identify and manage cumulative effects across the natural resource sector;

And whereas the cumulative effects framework allows for the inclusion of marine values but the Province has not yet approved any marine values for cumulative effects assessment to inform decision making in coastal regions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to prioritize the approval of key marine cumulative effects values for long-term monitoring and cumulative effects assessments in coastal regions.

On motion, was Endorsed

B156 Regional Management of Forestry

North Cowichan

Whereas the forest industry in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with dozens mill closures, thousands of lost jobs and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline – due in large part to corporate mismanagement, misguided government policies, and lack of public oversight;

And whereas many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other common resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, there are significant social, economic and environmental benefits:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia explore the feasibility of:

- adopting a new model of regionally-based forestry management that will empower local communities to engage in long term planning of the regional economies and ecosystems;
- creating a Forest Charter passed by the legislature that includes an overall vision, sustainability principles, and standards for our forests; and
- appointing a Forester General to serve as a new independent officer who will report annually to the legislature and work with the diverse regions of our province on local land planning processes.

On motion, was Endorsed

B157 Indoor Agricultural Fertilization Practices

Nanaimo City

Whereas water sustainability, healthy watersheds and ground water are of vital importance and, commercial fertilizers can be damaging to groundwater and influence water quality in watersheds;

And whereas the use of fertilizers in greenhouses and indoor structures creates effluent that contains concentrated commercial fertilizers which, if released untreated can be damaging to groundwater and the overall watershed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government explore including in the BC Agricultural Best Practices, the requirement for closed loop greenhouse irrigation systems in commercial greenhouse and indoor agricultural structures, to prevent commercial fertilizers from being emitted into the environment.

On motion, was Endorsed

B158 Tier 1 Non-road Diesel Engine Ban

Maple Ridge

Whereas emissions of diesel soot are responsible for the significant lifetime cancer risk from air pollution and the reduction of diesel emissions from older diesel-powered machines and equipment is important to improve air quality and public health;

And whereas Tier 0 and Tier 1 non-road diesel-powered machines and equipment are not regulated outside of Metro Vancouver Regional District and Port Metro Vancouver lands, and will be prohibited in Metro Vancouver after January 31, 2020 with exceptions for engines less than 25 HP, those used in agricultural farm operations, personal recreational vehicles or emergency generators:

Therefore be it resolved that Tier 0 and Tier 1 non-road diesel-powered machines and equipment be prohibited across the province of British Columbia by January 1, 2021.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B159 Limited Entry Hunt for Cow/Calf Moose

Burns Lake

Whereas moose populations are in decline across the province and measures should be taken to increase populations, not to decrease them;

And whereas the increase in the cow/calf moose Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) announced by the Province in the Limited Entry Synopsis 2019-2020 in Regions 4 and 7, will put unnecessary pressure on already shrinking moose populations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to stop the cow/calf moose Limited Entry Hunt until moose populations recover;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government be encouraged to undertake extensive monitoring of moose populations in all regions of the province, in order to better determine their populations and measure their recoveries.

On motion, was Endorsed

B160 Glyphosate

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the chemical formula known as glyphosate is known to cause serious eye damage, is a toxic substance for aquatic life and is believed to be responsible for an 81 per cent decline in the Monarch Butterfly population in North America;

And whereas glyphosate is now banned in El Salvador, Sri Lanka, Bermuda, Colombia and Vietnam, and juries in California have awarded multi-million dollar settlements against producers of products containing glyphosate and there are now more than 13,000 such lawsuits in the United States alone:

Therefore be it resolved that the British Columbia Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development initiate an immediate scientific literature and litigation review of the chemical known as glyphosate;

And be it further resolved that until such time as the review is complete and indicates there is no liable risk to the Province of BC and its residents, the chemical known as glyphosate be suspended from all use across the province, including on all public and private forest lands.

On motion, was Endorsed

B161 Drone Usage

Salmon Arm

Whereas flying recreational drones is an increasingly popular hobby that can disturb and pose risks to wildlife in sensitive ecological areas and recreational drones are prohibited in Canada's national parks for similar reasons;

And whereas there are multiple stakeholders including federal and provincial agencies and complex regulations involved in drone usage:

Therefore be it resolved that the federal and provincial governments collaborate to provide clarity and options for local governments in restricting the use of drones in local sensitive ecological areas.

On motion, was Endorsed

B162 Cave Protection Act

Tahsis

Whereas caves are uncommon and unique environments that can harbour rare and threatened species, unique mineralogy and sediments, First Nation heritage values; and are non-renewable, site-specific landscape features with natural, cultural, spiritual, aesthetic and scientific value;

And whereas caves are sensitive ecosystems that can underlie developed landscapes and as such are vulnerable to pollution, destruction by quarrying, vandalism, mismanagement, species extinction and general degradation caused by human activities:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government should pass a Cave Protection Act in order to conserve caves, in perpetuity.

On motion, was Endorsed

Councillor Gerry Taft assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 2-b.

B163 Cost Subsidies for the Termination of Land Use Contracts Port Moody

Whereas the requirements set out by Province of British Columbia in its Bill 17 (2014) regarding Land Use Contract Terminations create significant workload burden for municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be requested to provide funding to municipalities to cover additional planning department workload associated with executing the requirements of Bill 17 (2014).

On motion, was Endorsed

B164 Foreclosed Crown Properties Restrictions Central Kootenay RD

Whereas in the Kootenays at the present time, provincial policy is to prohibit sale of crown lands, including properties under foreclosure for non-payment of taxes;

And whereas such foreclosed properties are being left derelict, often becoming unsightly and posing a fire hazard, even though there is a housing shortage:

Therefore be it resolved that this policy of non-sales or non-use on foreclosed properties be revoked and such foreclosed crown properties be offered for rent or sale.

On motion, was Endorsed

B165 Outstanding Statutory Rights-of-way Delta

Whereas there are many situations throughout BC where municipal utilities are located within private property and no associated statutory right of way or easement was registered against title to the property in the Land Title Office at the time of installation many years ago;

And whereas municipalities are often responsible for or are willing to assume responsibility for these utilities within private property because they are of benefit to the public and essential to the operation and maintenance of municipal services:

Therefore be it resolved that that the provincial government work with local governments to develop legislation that would permit the registration of statutory rights-of-way to resolve historic issues with unregistered statutory rights-of-way or easements for municipal utility works located within private properties in an expeditious and cost-effective manner.

On motion, was Endorsed

B166 Coast Forest Revitalization Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the Province of BC is undertaking a Coast Forest Sector Revitalization Initiative to rebuild solid wood and associated industries, improve harvest performance, maintain a credible auction system, foster stronger relationships between BC Timber Sales, licensees and First Nations and restore public confidence though amendments to the *Forest and Range Practices Act*;

And whereas forests offer provisioning services such as timber, food and fuels; regulating services such as carbon sequestration that keep our planet habitable; cultural services such as recreation; core local government services including drinking water storage and filtration, stormwater management and flood control; and many other ecological processes that are vital to life yet primarily taken for granted and not accounted for;

And whereas many jurisdictions are assigning economic value to ecosystems services in forests and many other natural areas to support sustainable development, cost effective and reliable service delivery and the long-term preservation of a healthy, biodiverse ecosystem:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC undertake natural capital valuations in all aspects of its forests and land resources management, starting with the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization Initiative, and demonstrably use these valuations in all related decision-making and asset management.

On motion, was Endorsed

B167 Cannabis Plants on the Agricultural Land Reserve

Nanaimo City

Whereas the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* states "farm use" means an occupation or use of land for farm purposes, including farming of land, plants and animals and any other similar activity designated as farm use by regulation, and includes a farm operation as defined in the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*;

And whereas the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (the ALR Regulation) has differentiated the lawful production of cannabis from other "farm use" by limiting the structures for production, and narrowing the definition of 'necessary' activities under section 2(3), unlike any other crop in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the ALR Regulation in order to clarify the interpretation of section 2(2.5) of the ALR Regulation regarding the lawful production of cannabis "inside a structure (a) that has a base consisting entirely of soil", and clarify that when producing cannabis in a greenhouse, it has the same meaning as "Greenhouse" under section 2(o)(i) of the Regulation, as circumscribing cannabis production in structures that are lawful by regulation for all other crops, may not withstand judicial review;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the ALR Regulation section 2(2.5) to resemble something like the following:

(2.5) The lawful production of cannabis is designated as farm use for the purposes of the Act if produced outdoors in a field or inside a structure

- a) which has a base consisting entirely of soil, and
 - i) that is moveable in nature; or
 - ii) on a helical pile foundation; or
 - iii) whose base does not create irreversible damage to the soil.

On motion, was Endorsed

B168 Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation

East Kootenay RD

Whereas effective February 22, 2019 the Province of British Columbia amended the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and created the Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation which implemented changes in relation to residences in the Agricultural Land Reserve;

And whereas the changes limiting the total floor area of a principal residence and restricting the construction of additional residences are detrimental to farming operations and make it difficult for farm operators to operate a sustainable business by impeding succession planning, housing for family, and farm workers thereby putting the food security of our region and province at risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to reinstate the previous provisions of the legislation which facilitated the construction of additional dwellings for farm help, manufactured homes for immediate family members, accommodation above an existing farm building, or a second single family dwelling.

On motion, was Endorsed

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to introduce as a block the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the remaining Section B – Part 2-b resolutions, was endorsed. This included resolutions B169-B193.1.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to introduce as a block the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for Section B – Part 3-b resolutions was endorsed. This included resolutions B194-B208.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to adopt the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee on the remaining Section B – Part 2-b and the entire Section B – Part 3-b resolutions, was endorsed.

Any resolution for which the Resolutions Committee had provided no recommendation would be referred automatically to the UBCM Executive, to be considered at their meeting in November 2019.

The disposition of the remaining Section B – Part 2-b and the entire Section B – Part 3-b resolutions was as follows:

B169 Low Impact Foundation Systems for Farm Use Structures

Nanaimo City

Whereas the structural use of concrete as a foundation system and associated fill is known to cause irreparable damage to soil biology and render a site unfit for soil-based crops in the future, and low-impact, low carbon, removable foundation technologies are available as a new standard for agricultural structure foundations;

And whereas the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, and the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (the ALR Regulation) regulate “farm use” structures on the agricultural land reserve (ALR) and the deposit of fill is considered a farm use for all activities under sections 2(1) to (2.2), and does not require notification to the ALR except under limited circumstances, and the National Farm Building Code applies to all agricultural “farm use” structures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to encourage the use of low carbon, low impact, cement-free foundation technologies for farm use structures and buildings within the ALR, thereby reducing the deposition of fill material and elimination of arable soil capability in the long term.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B170 Electoral Area Director Designation

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, regional district elected officials are designated as electoral area directors and assigned roles and responsibilities that mirror those of municipal elected officials designated as councillors under the *Community Charter*;

And whereas in the corporate community the designation of director is conceptually disassociated with an elected position and the roles and responsibilities assigned to that official by statute:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the provincial government in advance of the 2022 General Local Elections to establish an alternate designation for regional district elected officials that is commonly recognizable and relatable to the roles and responsibilities of a local government elected official.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B171 Safer Drug Supply to Save Lives

Victoria

Whereas It has been two years since BC declared a public-health emergency due to increased overdoses, yet the death toll for those consuming substances continues to rise due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply;

And whereas people with opioid use disorder, a chronic relapsing medical condition, are at high risk of overdose-related harms including death and an estimated 42,200 people inject toxic substances in British Columbia, it is not possible for the treatment system to rapidly increase services fast enough to manage this number of people as “patients” within a medical treatment model given the many challenges in achieving and retaining the people on opioid use disorder treatment, people at risk of overdose in British Columbia do not have access to a safer alternative to the unpredictable, highly-toxic drug supply:

Therefore be it resolved that in an effort to save lives and reduce harm due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply, and as part of a holistic response to the public-health emergency, including prevention, treatment, and recovery, that the Province of British Columbia work with local communities, health authorities across the province, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and the Ministry of Health to ensure that people at risk of overdose harm have access to safer alternatives.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B172 Observed Inhalation Sites for Overdose Prevention

Victoria

Whereas British Columbia is currently experiencing an unprecedented public health emergency due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply, and smoking or inhalation is the second most common mode of consumption among all people who have died from a suspected illicit drug overdose and the most common mode of consumption among men and those between the ages of 15 and 29;

And whereas observed consumption services (i.e. supervised consumption services and overdose prevention services) are evidence-based harm reduction approaches shown to reduce overdose-related harm, and there is not adequate access to observed consumption services that provide space for inhalation where communities are facing crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that to ensure that people at risk of overdose across BC have access to observed consumption services that provide space for inhalation, that the Province of British Columbia fund and work through local communities, health authorities across the province, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Health to provide these services as part of a holistic response to the public-health emergency, including prevention, treatment, and recovery.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B173 Limiting the Access & Appeal of Vape Products to Youth

Coquitlam

Whereas Health Canada has stated that they share the concerns of parents, educators, youth and public stakeholders regarding the increase of youth vaping in Canada;

And whereas Health Canada is currently undergoing a public consultation process to gather comments on additional regulatory measures that would aim to reduce youth use of vaping products;

And whereas the local governments have limited powers and jurisdiction to protect youth from access, sale and appeal of vape products, including no resources for enforcement:

Therefore be it resolved that FCM and UBCM be asked to call upon Health Canada and the provincial and territorial governments to move quickly to coordinate additional public policy and regulations to address access, sale and appeal of vape products to youth, and offer additional enforcement resources, to halt the growing usage of vape products among our youth as a matter of concern to local government and their communities.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B174 Investments in Local Government & Not-for-profit Seniors' Services & Supports

New Westminster

Whereas municipalities and not-for-profit organizations are playing a greater role in supporting seniors' needs related to food security, health promotion, housing support, recreation programming, social engagement, and transportation provision;

And whereas the necessary collaborative and funding mechanisms are not present to assist local governments and not-for-profit organizations in supporting seniors to age in place in their own homes and communities and to maintain a high quality of life:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake a research-based policy development project to address the growing pressures on local governments to provide additional services to support their aging populations, including identifying promising practices/initiatives by local governments and successful collaborations among municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, provincial agencies and/or the federal government, with the goal of developing policy proposals for creating the collaborative structure and processes needed to facilitate greater investments in municipal and not-for-profit seniors' services and supports.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B175 Voting Rights for Alternate Electoral Area Directors at UBCM

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the *Local Government Act* provides that an electoral area director must appoint an alternate electoral area director who may take the place of, vote and generally act in all matters for the absent electoral area director;

And whereas the bylaws of UBCM disqualify alternate electoral area director from participating in debate and voting at the Annual and Special Conventions;

And whereas this provision of the UBCM bylaws:

- prevents an electoral area from having a voice at UBCM Conventions when the electoral area director is absent; and
- could be improved by permitting an alternate electoral area director to participate in debate and vote at the Annual and Special Conventions of the UBCM:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM change its bylaws to enable an alternate electoral area director, in the absence of the electoral area director, to participate in debate and vote at Annual and Special Conventions of the UBCM.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B176 Review of Resolutions Procedures

Campbell River

Whereas the volume of resolutions admitted for debate from each area association, various local governments and the UBCM Executive, is excessive and does not provide time for wholesome debate on the UBCM convention floor;

And whereas the vetting of resolutions is inadequate and leads to a lack of rational, structured arguments to present a compelling case for government to act:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM conduct a thorough audit and review of its resolutions procedures to ensure that the resolutions on the floor of the UBCM convention are reduced in number, repetition and are focused on priority use.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B177 FCM Travel Fund

Dawson Creek

Whereas FCM elected and appointed officials representing their provinces or territories attend meetings of the board and standing committee meetings each year, with their local governments covering travel expenses incurred;

And whereas some local governments do not have the funding available to cover the travel expenses for an elected official to participate as a board or standing committee member and therefore may not nominate a capable individual as their local representative:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request FCM to include a fee for reimbursement of travel expenses in their annual dues paid by all member municipalities to support local government elected and appointed directors who attend FCM board and standing committee meetings to ensure an equal representation on meetings of the board and standing committees from communities big and small.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B178 Travel Cost Equalization for UBCM Conventions

Telkwa

Whereas direct interaction and discussions between local government elected representatives and the Premier, provincial government staff from ministries, agencies, commissions and corporations (MACC) at UBCM conventions are key to understanding important unique and collective local government issues, goals and priorities;

And whereas low revenue and rural communities find it cost prohibitive to incur the costs of flights, accommodation, registration and per diems required in order for local government elected officials to attend:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM implement a travel cost equalization policy to ensure local government elected officials from low revenue and rural communities have an equal opportunity to attend and participate in annual UBCM conventions as local governments in relatively close proximity to Vancouver, Victoria and Whistler.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B179 Community Childcare

Terrace

Whereas affordable, quality childcare provides the foundation for life-long success, and benefits to society overall, and childcare is important for the economy and quality of life for British Columbians;

And whereas childcare is a responsibility of the provincial and federal levels of government, not local government;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to establish a universal plan for childcare facilities without depending on local governments to create and run childcare facilities.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B180 Modernizing Property Tax Home Owner Grant Exemption Levels

Oak Bay

Whereas the provincial Home Owner Grant reduces the property tax paid on a principal residence and not secondary residences;

And whereas the grant cutoff has increased by only \$50,000 (3.12 per cent) between 2017 and 2019;

And whereas the "average" home in many urban centers has now surpassed the \$1.65M cutoff resulting in an "up to and immediate" \$570 tax increase as homes cross the \$1.65M threshold;

And whereas many average homeowners are now facing significant tax increases when assessments rise beyond the exemption limit;

And whereas high average prices indicate that there are not significantly less expensive housing options available;

And whereas the tax burden is making it ever more difficult for regular workers to afford the annual costs of homes with the unintended impact of making average homes affordable for only the very-rich;

And whereas the Province already provides differentiated grant levels based on rural or urban, geographic locations, age and other factors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the BC Government review the Home Owner Grant exemption level to incorporate consideration of the average value of homes in a municipality or region rather than the current flat value cutoff.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B181 Proposed Vacancy Tax

White Rock

Whereas the City of Vancouver has authority through the *Vancouver Charter* to implement an Annual Vacancy Tax;

And whereas the City of White Rock is governed through the *Community Charter* where there is no current authority to implement a vacancy tax and it is believed that there are a number of vacant residential and commercial properties in the City of White Rock:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of British Columbia to amend the authority given to local governments through the *Community Charter* permitting municipalities the authority to impose, by bylaw, an annual vacancy tax on taxable residential and commercial properties, and that the criteria and administrative requirements be similar to those of the *Vancouver Charter*.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B182 Expanded Authority to Notify Renters Impacted by Renovations

Vancouver

Whereas renters are facing the risk of displacement and housing insecurity as a result of renovations to existing rental buildings;

And whereas the *Residential Tenancy Act* does not currently require landlords to provide proof of permits or a description of the scope of work for renovations where tenancies are likely to be terminated, and municipalities have limited authority to require notification related to tenancy issues as a condition of issuance of certain permits;

And whereas existing renters facing evictions due to renovations could benefit from information on the type and extent of renovations being undertaken to their buildings in order to support potential cases with the Residential Tenancy Branch:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to amend the *Local Government Act*, in alignment with changes that Vancouver wants to the *Vancouver Charter*, to clarify and broaden the conditions that can be imposed on building or development permit applications submitted for renovations or redevelopment of an existing building that contains rental housing units including, but not limited to, requiring applicants to provide information on existing tenancies and communicating the proposed work related to the requested permit.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B183 Rural Homelessness – Crown Land Encampments

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas homelessness is a challenge facing both urban and rural communities;

And whereas electoral areas have the least ability to address homelessness, in that they are by their very nature remote from health, social, police and other services and the minimal tax bases cannot support the hard and soft infrastructure required to address homelessness;

And whereas the province's response to homeless encampments on Crown land has been inconsistent or ad-hoc in nature, sometimes relocating encampments without taking into account impacts on rural communities and regional district resources:

Therefore be it resolved that the province of British Columbia through its newly established Office of Homelessness Coordination within the Ministry of Poverty Reduction and Social Development develop a rural homelessness strategy to address what is clearly a gap in the province's response to homelessness.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B184 Creation of Office of the Renters Advocate

New Westminster

Whereas the retention of residential tenancy is having a critical impact on the security and stability of residents, seniors and families throughout the province of British Columbia;

And whereas the retention of workers in all sectors of our local economy is visibly linked to shelter affordability;

And whereas previous provincial government policies or lack thereof are clearly a contributing factor to the current situation of rental sustainability and home ownership affordability;

And whereas many local governments struggling to address this crisis have limited resources or powers to be able to adequately develop sustainable solutions to this problem:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM seek support of the provincial government to create an Office of the Renters Advocate, to monitor and analyze renters' services and issues in BC, and make recommendations to government and service providers to address systemic issues caused by rental shortages, renovations, demovictions and housing affordability.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B185 BC Housing Accountability

Grand Forks

Whereas the City of Grand Forks has been devastated by a recent flood and is challenged to protect and to rebuild its downtown core as a vibrant commercial area;

And whereas the basic principle of *Community Charter* is that municipalities and the provincial government should foster cooperative approaches to matters of mutual interest;

And whereas BC Housing failed to consult Council about the location or size of supportive housing facilities before land was purchased and designs chosen:

Therefore be it resolved that BC Housing seek local government's approval before land is purchased for supportive housing initiatives.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B186 Building Act – Innovation Commitment

Penticton

Whereas the *Building Act* includes a provincial commitment to innovation that supports local governments and other local authorities through the implementation of a provincial review process to evaluate innovative building proposals;

And whereas the continued complexity of building design, new products and expansion of the codes have made it difficult for some communities to provide a level of consistency, interpretation and alternate solution reviews:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province outline and explain the review process to accept and evaluate innovative building proposals.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B187 Proactive Development of Building Officials Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia passed the new *Building Act* in 2015 and mandatory certification requirements for building officials come into effect in March 2021;

And whereas the Act requires that a Level 3 certification will be required for building officials for the review and permitting of all complex projects;

And whereas the Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) certification exams have an average 41 per cent failure rate due to the complexity of all certification exams and Level 3 takes a minimum of 4 years to obtain;

And whereas there is already a shortage of qualified building officials:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to work with Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) to ensure that enough building officials are certified and more candidates are attracted to the profession to meet the requirements of the *Building Act*, effective March 2021.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

**B188 BC Building Code Alignment with National Building Code of Canada Burnaby
– Secondary Suites**

Whereas the National Building Code of Canada is a model document developed by the National Research Council of Canada, via a collaborative expert-driven process;

And whereas the BC Building Code, though in many instances exceeding the standards of the National Building Code, is currently limiting the creation of affordable rental housing options, specifically secondary suites, through its standards:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to revise the BC Building Code in respect to secondary suites in order to bring it into alignment with the National Building Code of Canada.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

**B189 Inspection of Rooming Houses by Ministry of Health & Ministry Penticton
of Social Development & Poverty Reduction**

Whereas landlords may open rooming houses and accommodate low income individuals;

And whereas landlords may take advantage of the vulnerable individuals they house:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health (e.g. Interior Health) and Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction create policy and an inspection process to ensure the integrity of the rooming houses.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

**B190 Increase the Maximum Size of Secondary Suites by Removing
the Fixed Maximum Floor Area Limit**

Burnaby

Whereas Part 1, Article 1.4.1.2 of the BC Building Code (2018) provides that the maximum size of a secondary suite is limited to the lesser of 90 m² (970 sf) or 40 per cent of the total floor area of the single family residence in which it is located;

And whereas for many homeowners, restricting the floor area to a fixed maximum of 90 m² (970 sf) presents design challenges and adds cost to the construction of a secondary suite, particularly where the cellar floor area exceeds the fixed maximum;

And whereas this restriction also excludes secondary suites as a housing option for larger households and the maximum of 40 per cent of total floor area is sufficient to ensure that the secondary suite remains an accessory use:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to amend the BC Building Code to increase the maximum size of secondary suites by eliminating the fixed maximum standard of 90 m² (970 sf), retaining only the maximum of 40 per cent of total floor area.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B191 Effects of New Ammonia Regulations

Cariboo RD

Whereas new regulations introduced for ammonia safety have resulted in significant operating cost increases, and increased staff certifications required for operating arenas;

And whereas communities in the Central and Northern regions of the province have limited financial and human resources, and difficulty accessing the costly training required to meet these new staffing regulations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC work with post-secondary institutions and other providers to increase the availability of technical certificates and programs to address this critical trade shortage, and that additional funding for, or creation of new programs, such as apprenticeship programs in affected communities, be funded to allow arena staff to access training that is currently cost prohibitive and mostly only available in the Lower Mainland.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B192 Canada Post's Neighbourhood Mail

Highlands

Whereas Canada Post's neighbourhood mail (unaddressed bulk mail) was a cost effective program that allowed local governments and regional districts to mail notices to residents within their boundary;

And whereas changes to the program now see unaddressed bulk mail going to "precision targeted areas" that are no longer aligned with local government and regional district boundaries;

And whereas the changes result in properties outside of the local government receiving unaddressed bulk mail that are not relevant to them, and to higher costs for local governments and regional districts conducting these mail outs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge Canada Post to continue to allow neighbourhood mail (unaddressed bulk mail) to be delivered only to properties within the local government and regional district boundary.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B193 Province of British Columbia-UBCM Memorandum of Understanding

Fort St. John

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and UBCM entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) titled 'Local Government's Participation in the New Relationship with First Nations';

And whereas this MOU establishes local government's role as primarily being a 'respected advisor' to the Province on First Nation issues, however local governments' responsibilities to their constituents place them as a stakeholder which goes beyond simply advising the Province on these issues:

Therefore be it resolved that the parties to this MOU recognize this MOU is considered non-binding on local governments unless local governments become signatories to this MOU.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

B193.1 Request for First Nations Participation on Commissions

Pemberton

Whereas the Village of Pemberton, in partnership with the regional district, other local governments, and First Nations in the Sea to Sky area are working collaboratively to develop a regional transit commission to establish a regional transit system to connect Mt. Currie to Metro Vancouver;

And whereas the current provincial transit commission model does not allow for representation from First Nations which does not allow for an equal representation or an equitable decision making platform process:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia amend the legislation respecting the representation on commissions to include First Nations.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

Section B – Part 3-b

Councillor Gerry Taft assumed the Chair and commenced consideration of resolutions in Section B – Part 3-b.

B194 School Bus Safety

New Westminster

Whereas motor vehicle seat belt laws have been fundamental to improved road safety in Canada over the past 40 years;

And whereas safety organizations such as the National Safety Council are calling attention to vital flaws in the previous testing that argued against the safety benefits of seat belts in passenger buses;

And whereas more recent research by Transport Canada reveals the clear and significant safety benefits of combined lap and shoulder seat belts for passengers in school buses;

And whereas the US National Transportation Safety Board is now recommending three-point seat belts in all new school buses and 37 states are now either requiring three-point seat belts for school buses or have started down the legislative pathway towards this requirement;

And whereas Transport Canada regulates passenger vehicle safety requirements, the Ministry of Education has the authority to set standards to protect the safety of public school students in British Columbia, and the Ministry of Public Safety and the Office of the Solicitor General are responsible for regulating road safety in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the BC Ministry of Education and the BC Ministry of Public Safety to mandate that all buses transporting students in British Columbia be equipped with three-point seat belts, and institute programs to assure those belts are used;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon Transport Canada to require all road vehicles designed for the purpose of transporting students within Canada be equipped with three-point seat belts.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B195 Implementation Funding for Federal Task Force on School Bus Safety Requirements

Lake Country

Whereas Transport Canada has amended the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations by:

- telling manufacturers how to properly install lap-shoulder seat belts on school buses, if an operator request that they do so;
- not allowing manufacturers to install lap-only seat belts; and
- improving compartmentalization for larger students by raising the minimum seat back height:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to fully fund the implementation of these and any changes proposed by the Federal Minister of Transportation's Task Force on School Bus Safety so that school districts can fully comply with the requirements.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B196 ICBC Rates

Sicamous

Whereas the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), a provincial crown corporation in British Columbia, is charging drivers the highest average auto insurance rates in Canada;

And whereas ICBC has been approved to raise insurance rates by 6.3 per cent as of April 1, 2019;

And whereas 2017 research has shown average insurance rates across Canada vary, with BC's rates as the highest [Alberta (\$1,251), Ontario (\$1,445), New Brunswick (\$819), Nova Scotia (\$842), Prince Edward Island (\$796), and Newfoundland & Labrador (\$1,132) rely entirely on private insurers to provide auto insurance];

And whereas Saskatchewan (\$936) and Manitoba (\$1,080), who like British Columbia (\$1,680), have government owned insurers with a monopoly over basic auto insurance, but compete with the private sector in the market for optional insurance coverage, still have lower average rates:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the provincial government to open the basic auto insurance market to the private sector to create a more competitive market and help lower the average insurance premiums paid by British Columbian drivers.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B197 ICBC Regional Premiums & Settlements

Houston

Whereas publicly available data indicates that rural BC residents are paying substantially more in ICBC insurance premiums than they are receiving in claims settlements and payouts;

And whereas ICBC has not released specific data showing, by postal code, the amount of money rural BC residents have collectively paid for ICBC insurance premiums and received in claims settlements and payouts over the past 5 years;

And whereas ICBC holds a vehicle insurance monopoly in BC and has made a strong public commitment to fairness in pricing:

Therefore be it resolved that ICBC release the data for the total value of premiums paid for insurance, and the total value of claims settlements and payouts, by postal code, for the years 2014 to 2018, and each year going forward.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B198 More Small Aircraft Pilot Training Needed

Cariboo RD

Whereas small aircraft flights serve rural and northern airports in areas that depend on the economic and socio-economic benefits that air travel provides;

And whereas a significant percentage of trained pilots are retiring, and many small aircraft pilots are now being hired to fly bigger aircraft serving large urban areas;

And whereas flights into small rural and northern airports are at risk of being discontinued due to a lack of trained small aircraft pilots:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to lobby for more small aircraft training opportunities in rural and northern post secondary institutions, as well as urge the federal government to take the small aircraft pilot shortage into consideration when establishing mandatory pilot hours.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B199 Environmental Education Curriculum

Powell River

Whereas the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5 °C states that heating of the planet must be contained to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels to avoid catastrophic weather events, mass species extinction and irreparable damage to global economies;

And whereas many local governments in BC, across Canada and around the world have declared a climate emergency in part due to students striking from classes to raise awareness about the seriousness of the issue and the threat to their future;

And whereas students in kindergarten through Grade 12 (K-12) have the right to be taught about the current science, changing impacts of the global climate heating up and the ecological breakdown of the planet to better prepare themselves for their future:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the BC provincial Ministry of Education to implement environmental education with the most current scientific data and projections on global climate heating and carbon emissions in the atmosphere as well as the ecological breakdown of the planet into the curriculum of K-12 in all BC schools.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B200 Increase Investment in BC Parks Boat Launches

Peace River RD

Whereas outdoor recreation on rivers and lakes is important to the lifestyles of residents in the North;

And whereas boat launches operated by BC Parks are vitally important outdoor recreation amenities;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia spends roughly \$2.80 per hectare on BC Parks, while the Province of Alberta spends approximately \$36 per hectare, making it difficult to adequately repair and maintain BC Parks boat launches:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia increase their investment into the repair and maintenance of BC Parks' boat launches in the province.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B201 Health Authority Asset Management Plans

Spallumcheen

Whereas accurate planning for our future healthcare needs is critical and the Ministry of Health is fiscally responsible to all British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health undertake asset management plans for all of the health authorities in the province.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B202 Hospital Helipad Construction

North Coast RD

Whereas none of the new or existing level 3 trauma hospital construction plan in rural British Columbia include plans or designs for onsite helipads;

And whereas due to an absence of onsite hospital helipads, rural BC trauma patients experience delayed access to level 3 trauma hospitals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to legislate that all current and future level 3 and above trauma hospitals being constructed in rural BC receive capital funding to construct and operate an onsite helipad.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B203 Coroners

Chetwynd

Whereas the residents of the Province of British Columbia deserve timely and professional coroner services when deaths occur;

And whereas there are only 32 full-time coroners and approximately 75 community coroners working from five regional offices and the Offices of the Chief Coroner in Burnaby and Victoria;

And whereas the community coroners are expected to cover a wide range of communities which results in substantial wait time when deaths occur:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to hire more coroners and to establish a staffing model that ensures adequate staffing levels are in place.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B204 Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health & Addictions

Powell River

Whereas acquired brain injury is a condition that affects the cognition, personality, mental and physical health, and future of British Columbians; there are currently over 1.5 million Canadians living with an acquired brain injury; 180,000 of these in British Columbia, with brain injury often being the underlying cause of mental health, addictions and overdoses, incarceration, violence and suicide and sixty people in British Columbia will acquire a brain injury today;

And whereas the current system of post-acute acquired brain injury supports is non-existent or has barriers to access the much-needed wrap around supports, and an early intervention system will provide a greater chance to maintain support networks, reduce overdose deaths, reduce mental health issues, and allow government to redirect funds:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the British Columbia provincial government to change the name of the newly created Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to the Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Addictions with proper financial support;

And be it further resolved that the Province work with grassroots organizations and the federal government to create a National Strategy for Acquired Brain Injury that is adequately funded for this national crisis.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B205 Gas Prices

Sicamous

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the highest retail fuel prices in Canada;

And whereas the entire Okanagan and Shuswap region depends on the tourism industry to support our businesses and local economies;

And whereas the District of Sicamous has researched the cost of fuel across Canada, finding when combined, the excise taxes (\$0.10 per litre), the provincial taxes (\$0.13-\$0.15 per litre), and the carbon taxes (\$0.0778 per litre and \$0.0673 per litre respectively), the difference between BC and Alberta is only approximately \$0.025/litre;

And whereas at the pump the average retail fuel cost in BC is \$1.24/litre, the average retail fuel cost in Alberta is \$0.94/litre, that is a difference of \$0.30/litre:

Therefore be it resolved that in the interests of full transparency UBCM petition the Province to require public disclosure of all taxes included in fuel costs on a regular basis, including Vancouver and Victoria.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B206 Provincial Court Costs

Barriere

Whereas the current formulas used to calculate provincial court costs awarded to the successful party appear not to reflect actual legal costs;

And whereas the party being taken to court does not have a choice in the matter other than to participate in litigation or settle on a matter;

And whereas some matters before the courts, such as a judicial review, are not covered by normal municipal insurance policies;

And whereas small municipalities do not have the capacity to pay for an extensive court case which can often include an appeal to a higher court:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to review and amend the formulas used by the courts to determine the final bill of costs to be awarded to successful litigants.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B207 Support of Indigenous Court System

New Westminster

Whereas the rate of Indigenous men and women in the Canadian federal and provincial criminal incarceration systems is disproportionately high;

And whereas 3 per cent of the population identify as Indigenous and the Indigenous population in our prison system is 27 per cent men and an alarming 38 per cent women;

And whereas cultural and spiritual reconnection is facilitated through the guidance of Indigenous Elders and families and the Indigenous Court:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM lobby the Canadian federal and provincial governments to fund and expand the Indigenous Court System.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

B208 Free Post-secondary Education in British Columbia

Powell River

Whereas many youth and adults struggle financially to obtain an education;

And whereas post-secondary education is the best way to become established in society with the ability to obtain employment in higher paying jobs, maintain long term rewarding careers and contribute to the economy;

And whereas the burden of student loan debt can be debilitating and can take years to pay off:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the British Columbia Provincial Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training to make all post-secondary education free tuition for all BC residents at BC institutions.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

Installation of President-elect

At 10:45 am the President, Councillor Arjun Singh introduced the President-elect, Mayor Maja Tait from the District of Sooke.

Port of Vancouver Prize Draw

The President, Councillor Arjun Singh invited Evangeline Englezos, Director, Community and Government Relations of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority representing Port of Vancouver to present the prize draw. Mayor Lyn Hall, City of Prince George was announced as the winner of the prize draw.

Address by the Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia

At 11:00 am the President, Councillor Arjun Singh, introduced the Premier of British Columbia, the Honourable John Horgan.

Following the remarks from the Premier, President-elect Maja Tait thanked the Honourable John Horgan. The Premier's Address is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix E.

Convention Closing

Mayor Maja Tait closed the Convention. The Convention adjourned at 11:45 am.

Certified Correct

Gary MacIsaac

Executive Director

Appendix A

Address by Councillor Bill Karsten, FCM President

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for that warm welcome.

I'd like to begin by acknowledging that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples.

It's a real treat to be here with all of you.

You know, as FCM President, it's my privilege to travel across Canada ... meeting local leaders in their home communities.

We live in beautiful country ... and there's something really special about visiting our coasts.

Of course, I'm from Halifax—on our East Coast—so I'm probably a little biased.

Day in and day out, BC's local leaders are building better lives for their residents.

As the order of government closest to daily life, you're on the front lines of people's everyday hopes and challenges.

That's why FCM is pleased to work so closely with the Union of BC Municipalities.

FCM members represent an amazing 95 percent of this province's population.

And we've got a strong BC contingent on FCM's Board of Directors, too.

That includes UBCM President Arjun Singh and FCM First Vice-President, Councillor Garth Frizzell.

Now, I understand Arjun's term winds down this week.

Let me tell you: he's done a fantastic job bringing your local priorities to the federal table ... so thank you, Arjun.

As we head into a really pivotal time for local leaders ... I look forward to working with UBCM's incoming president to continue delivering results for BC's communities.

My friends, we're two weeks into the federal election.

As you know, elections have the potential to spark huge change.

In 2015, FCM's advocacy drove every party to make unprecedented commitments to local priorities.

Those commitments led directly to the historic gains we've seen since then.

From the \$180-billion federal infrastructure plan ... to Canada's first national housing strategy.

Budget 2019 took another big step forward.

It put more tools in local hands by doubling this year's federal Gas Tax Fund transfer.

It responded directly to local expertise by investing in universal broadband.

And it doubled down on delivering directly for Canadians through FCM's Green Municipal Fund.

This election, we need to build on those gains ... to make empowered local governments the new normal.

That's what Election 2019 is all about.

This is a vital opportunity to build better lives for Canadians by empowering the governments closest to their daily challenges.

I don't need to tell any of you that local leaders are on the ground with Canadians.

People trust us to understand what they need and they see us driving local solutions that work.

We build the roads, bridges and transit systems that get people where they need to go.

We build the water systems and rec centres that make our communities more livable and sustainable.

And we do it by making the most of limited tools—with just a small fraction of Canada's tax dollar.

This election, the federal parties are telling Canadians they have the best plan to make people's lives better.

Well ... our message to them is this: local leaders already do that—every single day.

So if they really want to build better lives ... they need a bold plan to empower local leaders.

For months, FCM has been bringing that message straight to the federal parties.

We've done it through unprecedented dialogue with party leaders ... with key decision-makers ... and with party platform architects.

And just a day into the federal campaign, we released our own full election platform.

FCM's platform is a plan to build better lives by empowering the governments closest to people's daily challenges.

It's a roadmap to results Canadians care about.

Our plan modernizes how governments work together—with modern funding tools for local leaders, and a seat at the nation-building table.

Its cornerstone is our call to all federal parties to permanently double the Federal Gas Tax transfer.

Every year, the Gas Tax Fund transfer empowers local governments to plan and deliver thousands of infrastructure renewal projects.

Projects that raise people's quality of life.

It helped the Regional District of Nanaimo build a compressed natural gas fuelling station for its bus fleet—reducing costs and lowering GHG emissions.

It helped the Cariboo Regional District upgrade its pool and fitness centre—giving residents a fun place to exercise for years to come.

This tool works because it's direct and it's reliable.

FCM worked with successive federal governments to create the Gas Tax Fund, to make it permanent and to index it.

Its challenge is its scale—every year the Gas Tax Fund leaves countless local projects unfunded.

Core projects like renewing roads, bridges and water systems.

Budget 2019 recognized this ... when it doubled this year's transfer.

But of course, what makes sense this year also makes sense next year ... and the year after that ... and the year after that.

Simply put: permanently doubling the GTF transfer is the most effective and efficient step the next federal government can take to build better lives—in communities of all sizes.

Of course, it's not the only step we're calling on federal parties to take.

FCM's platform reflects the central role local governments play in so many facets of everyday life.

We're calling on every party to commit to permanent, direct federal funding to build tomorrow's public transit.

Earlier today, I had the pleasure of joining UBCM's First Vice-President Maja Tait—and others— to talk to the media about why permanent transit funding is so important ... here in BC, and across Canada.

We're also urging the parties to invest in local climate adaptation projects that protect Canadians from new weather extremes—like wildfires here in BC that only seem to get worse.

We're calling on them to champion rural and northern communities by recognizing local realities and expertise.

And we're urging them to work with local governments to tackle housing affordability—and the growing gap between rents, home prices and income levels.

I know this last one is key here in Vancouver ... and in many parts of the province.

Local governments are on the front lines of Canada's housing affordability crisis.

Every day we see students, seniors, families and workers struggle to find housing they can afford.

So FCM is calling on every party to take action—and we've proposed concrete steps forward.

That includes growing the supply of social and affordable housing for low-income Canadians ...

And it includes making housing more affordable at a range of income levels.

We're also proposing a new forum where governments can join forces to tackle the complex roots of this crisis—everything from speculation to short-term rentals.

Because local expertise—your expertise—is essential to ensuring every Canadian has an affordable place to call home.

Friends, as the campaign continues, FCM will be there, front-and-centre ... tracking party commitments and driving major public profile for local priorities.

We'll be asking Canadians to really think about who is best placed to make their lives better ... and how parties will empower us to get the job done.

This is our biggest election push ever—and we're already having an impact.

We've got the attention of the federal parties ...

The national media is telling our story ...

And we're making a real splash on social media.

Our momentum is building, folks.

We need to keep it up ... and to do that, we need all of you.

Every single one of us needs to be out there with a strong and united municipal message.

Together, we need to shape the election narrative once again.

This time, FCM has made that even easier.

Check out our Election 2019 website ... BuildingBetterLives.ca.

Here you can quickly and easily share FCM's recommendations—on social media, and directly with your local candidates.

You can also see what the federal leaders are saying through our party commitment tracker.

And watch your email in the coming weeks for more ways to get involved.

In this election, we can move forward ... or we can fall back.

There is no standing still.

So let's make sure every party and every candidate knows: if you want to build better lives ... you need to empower Canada's local leaders.

You know ... whether you're from a town here in BC or a city in Nova Scotia ...

Canadians trust their local governments to make their lives better.

At a time when big politics can seem distant from people's hopes and challenges ...

What better way to empower Canadians than to empower the governments closest to their daily lives?

Make no mistake: this country's future lies in the cities and communities where Canadians live, work and raise their families.

So let's continue working together to ensure local leaders have the right tools to get more done.

Because with modern funding tools—and a seat at the table—we can build the country Canadians deserve.

Thank you again for having me. Enjoy the rest of your convention.

Appendix B

Address by UBCM President, Councillor Arjun Singh

Welcome.

I'd like to start today by remembering where we have come from.

For some of us, where we have come from is Kitimat Stikine Regional District.

Just over a week ago, the doors opened on a new recreation centre in Hazelton. The \$20 million facility took four years of planning and fundraising by all local governments, Gitksan government, community leaders and local businesses. Federal and provincial infrastructure programs made big contributions, but it was local communities pulling together that made the project a reality: something that will last; something for the whole region; something to be proud of.

Some of us today come from the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

Two years ago, raging flood waters wiped out two bridges in Hardy Falls Regional Park. The park is at the bottom of a steep canyon, and access is very limited.

The park was officially reopened earlier this year thanks to some creative engineering. To rebuild the bridges, the main structures were lowered into place by helicopter—something the regional district has never done before. Funding for the project came from the provincial Disaster Assistance Program, but the gumption and the vision came from the regional district.

Some of us today come from the City of Burnaby.

Over the past year, the City has taken steps to stop the demolition of rental units. Burnaby was the first local government in the province to take advantage of new rental-only zoning powers—something possible after the Province changed the *Local Government Act* in response to UBCM advocacy.

The city has since developed a comprehensive plan to preserve and expand the city's rental stock. The new approach requires developers to replace demolished rentals on a one to one basis and ensure that they rent at 20% below the market average. The city also requires rental housing in all new developments and permits rental housing in commercial zones.

I could go on with another 194 stories for each of our local government and First Nation members, but these three examples get to the heart of local government leadership. The need to adapt to changing circumstances; the need to find partners; the need to innovate.

And none of the work is done in isolation, but happens as part of system for local government that has been built by our predecessors over the last 150 years.

Convention is the place where we take a look at the system, and ask what changes are needed so that we might govern our communities even more effectively. As we open the Convention today, I want to remember where each of us are from, the people we serve, and the good that is happening in BC communities.

Community Charter

The first resolution that will come before you today concerns the *Community Charter*.

The charter is a landmark piece of legislation for local government in BC. It recognizes local governments “as an order of government” within their jurisdiction. The legislation also includes a section on intergovernmental relations and the provincial requirement to consult with local government.

Over the course of the past year there have been several instances where the provincial government appears to have forgotten the *Community Charter* in matters of land use that required local government consultation.

The province has been very clear about the place of First Nations in these consultations. Within the context of reconciliation, we can all applaud sincere and robust engagement with First Nations.

But any consultation on matters of land use that relegates local governments to stakeholder status will lead to flawed results. So, our resolution today is saying: let’s not lose sight of the principles established in *Community Charter*—they are there not just for our benefit, they are there for the benefit of everyone.

Cannabis Tax Sharing

Late last week 1st VP Maja Tait and I met with Finance Minister Carole James to discuss the issue of cannabis tax revenue sharing. During the meeting we presented the Finance Minister with data that we have collected on the cost of cannabis legalization to communities. This responds to a specific request of the Ministry of finance and was released to the membership yesterday.

The Finance Minister reiterated that current revenue flows are below what is expected. The view we put forward is that while that may be the case for the present, the picture is changing. A year ago, there was one legalized store in BC; now there are close to 70. What will that number be in ten years? And how will the revenue picture change as edibles come on stream?

The Finance Minister has not said “no”, but she is saying “not yet”. UBCM will continue make the case for a local government share of cannabis tax revenue appropriate to our role in supporting the development and implementation of the framework for legalization in our province.

Fire Safety Act

In the summer of 2018, UBCM was advised by the Office of Fire Commissioner (OFC) that the Province had changed its position on the new *Fire Safety Act*, and was planning to download responsibilities for fire inspections, compliance and enforcement onto regional districts.

Regional districts quickly pointed out that never having delivered these services before, the cost to fulfill these requirements would be significant.

The UBCM Executive responded by establishing a working group to consult with the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Province on this new direction and have continued to express opposition to this approach.

In late 2018, UBCM hired a consultant to look at the cost and governance impact for regional districts if directed to take on this new service. The OFC also conducted their own analysis.

UBCM and the OFC last met in late May to share report findings. Although both parties acknowledged that the complexity and structure of regional districts make delivery of these new responsibilities problematic, the government has not yet changed its direction on this file.

UBCM continues to oppose the Province's approach, and to reinforce our opposition, resolution A1 from Cariboo RD has been submitted for consideration at this convention. Endorsement of this resolution will reaffirm our policy on this matter.

Special Committee on Climate Action

I want to highlight an initiative that will be drawing upon the experience of local government in the area climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Recently UBCM formed a Special Committee on Climate Action. The Committee has been asked to explore opportunities for voluntary local government climate action and to identify avenues for further work with other levels of government in mitigating, and adapting to, the effects of climate change.

The Special Committee will highlight actions taken in land-use planning, transportation, buildings, clean energy, waste, and carbon sequestration. Best practices will be selected that demonstrate a range of locally developed solutions reflective of community size and regional conditions.

The Committee will also consider innovative approaches that would offer local governments additional options for mitigating, and adapting to, climate change.

With the unveiling of the Provincial climate change plan, *CleanBC*, last year, we feel the time is right to undertake a comprehensive study.

Action on Short Term Rentals

Provincial action on short-term rentals has been an advocacy priority for UBCM since the release of our housing strategy.

In addition to raising the issue regularly at a staff level, it was one of the three priorities for our Advocacy Days at the Legislature this spring.

The issue of short-term rentals is acute in many BC communities. We all recognize the importance of supply in creating greater affordability, and that short-term rentals have disrupted local markets by pulling too many units out of the existing supply.

The Province has heard this request and has responded by proposing the establishment of an advisory group on short term rentals.

The purpose of the advisory group would be to inform potential provincial actions on short term rentals. It would be co-chaired by UBCM and the Province, and would be comprised of provincial representatives and local government elected officials and staff.

We are very appreciative of the continued engagement shown by Minister Selena Robinson on the housing file and the leadership that is being shown by the government to address the issues of housing affordability and homelessness in a comprehensive way.

Appreciative Infrastructure Comments (federal and provincial)

When we consider the current state of infrastructure funding in BC, there is much to praise in the initiatives of the provincial and federal governments over the past year.

I want to recognize the work done by the province and specifically the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the delivery of the federal/provincial Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

Our understanding is that BC is well ahead of the other provinces. We have already benefited from announcements of approved projects under the Green Infrastructure and the Culture & Recreation Infrastructure programs. I also want to acknowledge that UBCM has been provided a broader role in the development and administration of ICIP, which is appreciated.

The federal government also has taken steps that we can all applaud.

Since I spoke to your last at the Area Association meetings, the federal government has fulfilled on its commitment to double the Gas Tax Transfer for this year. That's money that I know all of us can use. It is also a sign that Finance Minister Morneau values the Gas Tax Fund delivery model that puts funding directly into the hands of local governments across Canada.

Federal Election Advocacy

And since we are speaking of the federal government, I want to conclude in reference to local government advocacy during the federal election.

In the lead up to the election, FCM has been very busy engaging with local government associations and individual members across the country. UBCM was pleased to contribute to that process and share the priorities of local governments in BC concerning infrastructure, disaster mitigation, GHG reduction and continuing crisis of housing affordability.

When the Metro Mayors' Council made their appeal yesterday to back FCM's call for a permanent transit allocation of \$34 billion over a 10-year period, we made sure that 1st VP Maja Tait was there to add UBCM's voice.

We have also seen this year what a doubled Gas Tax Fund can do. Making it a permanent measure only makes sense. We don't need more infrastructure programs—we need sufficient stable funding delivered through the programs we already have.

I am also glad to see measures calling for universal broadband and streamlined funding tools for rural, remote communities.

FCM's platform this election is impressive, and I am very pleased that Councillor Bill Karsten was available to address delegates yesterday. It is my hope that local governments in BC will put their full support behind FCM's campaign to make sure that every candidate in the ridings back home are aware of these priorities.

Concluding Comments

I want to conclude by saying what an honour it has been to be your president this year. There is an incredible diversity amongst our membership, but we are unified by the core issues facing communities. My hope is that our deliberation over the coming days will shed greater light on the issues that unite us.

I would like to express my huge and heartfelt thanks to all of you for allowing the incredible opportunity to serve as the Union of BC Municipalities this year.

Special thanks to my incredible council colleagues in Kamloops and to my incredible board colleagues at the Thompson Nicola Regional District. I am a first and foremost elected as a Kamloops City Councillor and it has been the honour of my life to serve my community and region.

And to each of you I wish you all the best through the remainder of Convention.

Appendix C

Address by Andrew Weaver, MLA, Leader of the Green Party

It's a great honour for me to be able to once more address you, the delegates to the UBCM.

You know, two weeks ago, and just 15 minutes before I was supposed to give a keynote at the Canadian Propane Association BC Seminar in Langley, I was hit with acute vestibular neuritis which put me in hospital for 5 days.

The irony is not lost on me ... but you can imagine how grateful I am to be up and on stage here today.

While I am expected to make a complete recovery in a few weeks, I had to limit my activities which meant that my scheduled meetings with local government representatives this week were all cancelled. For that I sincerely apologize.

In the audience today there are many politicians.

Some of you lean left.

Some of you lean right.

In my case, the vestibular neuritis has left me tilting right and left on a second by second basis but I look forward to stabilizing somewhere in the middle shortly.

The one silver lining in all of this is my incapacitation couldn't have come at a better time ... right at the start of the 2019 Rugby World Cup!

There's a lot of new faces in the crowd this year so for those of you who don't already know my background I'd like to add that prior to joining the legislature in 2013 as the lone BC Green MLA, I was the Lansdowne Professor and Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis at the University of Victoria.

I served as a Lead Author in the last four United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment reports.

I ran for election in 2013 as I could no longer watch what was happening to our province from the sidelines.

I ran as a point of principle, never actually expecting to get elected (after all no Green Party politician anywhere in Canada had ever before been elected at the provincial level).

I ran on a platform of evidence-based decision-making to counter the decision-based evidence-making rhetoric espoused by so many of our political leaders.

I ran on a platform of ensuring that we focus on the long-term consequences of our decisions instead of solely being fixated on what it would take to get re-elected.

I ran to offer British Columbians a vision of social, economic and environmental prosperity grounded in the incredible opportunity afforded us by the challenge of global warming.

And here we are today, two years after the 2017 election delivered a minority government with my two BC Green Caucus colleagues and I holding the balance of responsibility. It's been a remarkable journey.

Keeping with this year's theme of 'resilience and change', I want to speak to you both as a climate scientist and as a political leader.

In doing so I hope to convince you that each and every challenge our province faces needs to be embraced and thought of as an incredible opportunity for innovation.

And innovation is the foundation of any modern economy.

First, the science.

Since we met last year, a number of sobering reports have been released:

The first was the 2018 IPCC special report in which the world's leading climate scientists warned there are only a dozen years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5°C, beyond which even half a degree will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

A few months later, Canada's Changing Climate was published by the federal government.

The report noted that Northern Canada is warming at twice the global rate and highlighted BC as being particularly vulnerable to drought, glacial loss, severe wildfires, and to sea level rise, which will salinate farm land.

Shortly after that we had the report from the UN Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services that stated, in stark terms, that we are in the midst of an extinction crisis with a million species likely disappearing within decades.

The consequences of which would be devastating for ecosystem stability and food production.

Then we got the report from the UN's special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights.

Professor Alston said the world is on course for "climate apartheid," where the rich will buy their way out of the worst effects of global warming and the poor will suffer. Even under the best-case scenario, he wrote, hundreds of millions will face food insecurity, forced migration, disease, and death.

Staying the course will be disastrous for the global economy and pull vast numbers into poverty.

Most recently, the Province quietly released their Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for British Columbia.

In it, severe wildfires, seasonal water shortages, and heat waves are the three highest-ranked risks facing the province in terms of severity, magnitude, and likelihood. Ocean acidification, glacier mass loss, and long-term water shortages also top the list.

In the span of just a few centuries, Earth has made a transition from a past, when climate affected the evolution of human societies, to the present, in which humans are affecting the evolution of the climate.

Starting in the late Paleozoic, more than 300 million years ago, and extending through Mesozoic (known as the Age of the Reptiles), the world's great coal, oil and natural gas reserves were formed. In doing so, carbon dioxide was drawn down from the atmosphere over a period of tens of millions of years.

Today, we are turning back the clock by returning that carbon to the atmosphere in a matter of a few decades.

As I stated in last year's address: elected leaders are at a pivotal moment in human history. We are responsible for deciding what path the future climate will take.

That is not something I say lightly. I feel the pressure of that responsibility in everything I do. It weighs heavily on me. But I know I am not alone in that and, while unpleasant, it's also a good sign.

I can sense, for the first time in my career, that a change in the tide is coming.

In every challenge, there is opportunity. The greater the stakes, the higher the potential. British Columbians are eager for innovation and excited about building a sustainable economy.

Young people, in particular, have made this abundantly clear over the last year.

Millions of students, including many hundreds on the lawn of the legislature last Friday, are demanding elected officials protect their future.

You will die of old age, one sign read, I will die of climate change.

People are ready to support leaders who take climate action seriously.

Change is coming whether we like it or not, so let's choose to be courageous.

To the opportunities I promised you earlier:

We are immensely fortunate to live in British Columbia. It is quite literally one of the best locations on the planet from which to navigate the climate related challenges ahead.

To start, BC has three strategic advantages over virtually every other region in the world.

The quality of life and natural environment allows us to attract and retain some of the best and brightest minds from around the globe—we are a destination of choice.

We have a highly skilled and educated workforce. Our high school students are consistently top ranked internationally. They are smart, well trained and they are ready to go to work. And we have exceptional post secondary institutions throughout our province.

We have access to boundless renewable energy, fibre and water like no other jurisdiction in the world. We have incredible potential to create clean, renewable energy and forestry sectors to sustain our economy.

Transitioning to a carbon neutral world doesn't mean going back to the dark ages. It means transitioning to a cleaner, sustainable society where economic, social and environmental concerns are central in all our decision making.

In fact, if we start right now, we stand a decent chance of transforming society without huge disruption.

What I am describing is not an impossible utopia. Every example listed is grounded in current economic trends, scientific evidence, and already established best practice.

We have so much to gain. It's not just possible that the transition to a clean economy could create jobs. It is inevitable – Jobs that are inspired, important, and valuable. This shift can be the vehicle to deliver a more just, equitable, and healthy society.

To capitalize on these possibilities, we need to start planning beyond the next election cycle. We need to focus on building a new economy that works for all of us—not just the privileged few.

Policies must be based on principles and evidence, not political calculation and opportunism.

And as government leaders we must collectively do everything we can to develop policies that promote, rather than hinder innovation in our economy.

Over the last two years, my team and I have been working with Minister Heyman to design CleanBC, our ambitious economic plan to build a thriving, climate-responsible and climate-resilient economy.

With no silver-bullet solution to solving climate change, it is a collection of policies, incentives, targets, and regulations that will revive our economy and, if fully implemented, collectively achieve a 40% reduction in GHG emissions (from 2007 levels) by 2030.

It includes transitioning to 100% zero-emission vehicles by 2040, demanding far greater energy efficiency in both new and existing buildings, and investing significantly in training workers for a low-carbon economy.

Governments talk a lot about competitiveness, saying if we ask too much of companies they will leave.

But I have never understood why we want to be competing with other jurisdictions who are willing to sacrifice their clean air, land and water or willing to commit human rights abuses, all in order to see who can extract their resources cheaper and faster.

I believe government should be playing a more active role in supporting the type of economy we want to build. Not simply managing the one we have, ignoring the challenges on the horizon.

I don't want to drag BC into a race to the bottom by subsidizing the tired, and dwindling industries from the last century.

I want to compete in an entirely different arena—for who can be the best, leanest, most efficient, with the healthiest, happiest citizens.

Thoughtfully designed policies can send signals to the market and spur innovation.

Many companies in BC are already leading the way within their sector.

At the tech summit earlier this year, I had the opportunity to moderate a panel with a number of inspiring companies who are pushing the envelope—creating high quality jobs and harnessing the power of innovation to help us respond to the climate crisis.

MineSense, for example, is one I talk about often because they epitomizes the type of approach I am talking about. Their real-time, sensor-based ore sorting technologies allow them to analyze a rock face and determine whether it is economical to ship it to the crusher, or if it should be put aside for fill.

Investing in innovation has made their process smarter, more efficient, and saved them money along with saving water.

They can export their product, but they have also been able to export the technology.

Another inspiring BC company is General Fusion. General Fusion is a truly groundbreaking company, at the forefront of clean tech.

Based in Burnaby, they are working towards commercializing affordable, abundant, safe and emission-free electricity from fusion energy. This company has the potential to transform the world through transforming our energy supply.

Carbon Engineering is a Canadian company that has developed innovative technology to create liquid fuels from atmospheric carbon dioxide, who set up shop in Squamish a few years ago.

Their potentially revolutionary technology also has the ability to capture and sequester human produced carbon dioxide directly from the atmosphere. A BC company that has become famous around the world.

Then there are Portable Electric and Corvus Energy, two Vancouver-based success stories delivering mobile and marine electricity storage systems, respectively.

Portable electric's battery power stations are a clean alternative to diesel generators are already being used to power everything from festivals to film sites.

And let's not forget Unbuilders, a growing team of highly skilled tradespeople who have recognized opportunity in deconstruction.

Instead of demolishing old homes, they deconstruct them piece by piece and salvage vast quantities of historical old growth and other used building materials.

The sale of the residuals means it ends up costing less to deconstruct an old building than demolish it.

What an incredible example of innovation in the building sector. And it is all BC-based.

I could talk about my favorite BC-based, 21st Century companies all day, but noting the time, I'll just mention one other.

Structurlam: What an amazing example of a thriving BC based business in the value-added forest sector.

Their two main products Glulam and Crosslam are 100% engineered-wood laminations that are used as replacements in building construction for steel and cement, respectively.

And they are committed to source lumber from BC-based companies like Kalesnikoff Lumber Co. Ltd., a family owned business located in Tarrys, BC that was started in the late 1930's by the children of Doukhobour immigrants who came to Canada in 1911.

These companies form the foundation of a strong, resilient, economy. Prosperity and jobs remain local as they they build on our strategic strengths ensuring that value added, technology and innovation are what we export.

Local governments, too, are already proving what is possible.

Last year, 50 local governments reported achieving carbon neutrality.

Last summer, the City of Surrey broke ground on the first community centre in North America to achieve Passive House certification.

In the District of Lillooet, community leaders implemented a plan to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists by expanding infrastructure and enhancing bike lanes.

Cities including Victoria, Vancouver, and Tofino are leading the way on taking action on single use plastics—a policy, the courts have made clear, that requires provincial leadership.

Paving the way for you to succeed is something I take very seriously.

I have been working with Minister Heyman on the Climate Change Accountability Act, to be tabled this fall, in the hopes that it, too, will bolster and support your ability to tackle this head on.

I look to you, as local leaders, to pick up the work I have started and make it better. Take in further, adapt it to the opportunities and needs in your community.

You know better than anyone how to be a champion for your constituents. I am asking you today, to be courageous, ambitious, and innovative.

Think further into the future and govern not just for your term, but for your children and grandchildren.

This is the moonshot of our generation.

I'd like to end by reading the concluding paragraph of my book *Generation Us: The Challenge of Global Warming* that I wrote nearly a decade ago:

"Global warming has been branded an environmental problem. But it is really an economic and social problem. We've spent too much time living within a culture of global warming fear and denial. It's time to recognize global warming for what it is: the most self-empowering issue we will ever face. Every consumer of energy is part of the problem. Every person is therefore part of the solution. We are entering an age of creativity and innovation unlike any that modern society has experienced before. Rather than fearing this change we need to embrace it. And the change starts in each and every one of our households. The time for Us is now."

Thank you.

Appendix D

Address by the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing

Good afternoon.

It is my honour to be with you today on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, the Squamish and the Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

I love being here. This is my 10th convention—I came first as a new councillor in 2009, then as an MLA opposition spokesperson for local government, and now as the Minister.

There is always a lot of great energy at this convention—a credit to everyone here, and in particular, to the UBCM executive and staff who put a lot of hard work into bringing us together every year.

So, can we have a round of applause for Arjun, Gary, and the dozens and dozens of people who make all of this run so smoothly?

And, at this time I want to recognize Arjun for all his hard work and dedication as the president of UBCM this past year and for all his work on your annual convention. A round of applause please for Arjun!

And to all the delegates here—congratulations to everyone, whether you were re-elected or elected for the first time last October.

If we haven't had the opportunity to meet yet, come introduce yourself as we make our way through convention week together—whether that's in a meeting, at a forum, or out on the dance floor tomorrow night! Those of you who know me, know full well that's where I will be!

There are so many new faces in the room.

When it comes to mayors, there has been a 45% change in leadership across our province ... and nearly 400 new councillors and dozens of new electoral area directors.

I want to share another encouraging stat:

Almost 37% of regional district and municipal positions in B.C. are now held by women.

In keeping with this year's convention theme—change is upon us.

While it's great to see the new faces in this room, there are also some notably resilient elected officials in the room ...

That mix speaks well of how you will bring the diverse perspectives needed to build resilient communities that are ready to adapt to the changes the future has in store.

And our government is there with you—to listen to you ... to engage with you ... and to work with you ... as together we prepare for the challenges and opportunities the future offers.

Resiliency & Change

In an ever-changing world, the resilient thrive. But that begs the question, what does it mean to be resilient?

Many of you may know the story of the Oak and the Willow. The strong, but rigid, oak breaks in a storm but the willow bends and survives.

As communities, and as leaders, we are best when we're resilient like the willow.

That doesn't mean just being flexible—after all, the flexible grass can get flattened in a windstorm.

To be resilient like the willow means to marry that flexibility with strength, in a way that can stand up to the storm—bending, but never breaking.

And so, what does that look like for people ... or for communities?

Those of you who know me may recall that I was a family therapist before getting involved in politics. And it turns out family therapists are providing interesting insights into what resilience looks like—not just in families, but in communities.

This past May, the Globe and Mail ran an article by Michael Ungar, a researcher in resilience ... and also a family therapist.

His research is particularly interesting because what he's found is that resilience isn't about the internal strength of us as individuals—it's about the environment we live in, and the strength of the community we build around us.

This means that the work each one of you does every day to build and strengthen your communities is critical to the resilience ... and the success ... of every person who lives there.

And because every community is connected to each other more than ever, it also means that the resilience of our province as a whole depends on the work of every one of you in this room.

That's why gatherings like the UBCM annual convention that bring us together are so important.

So how do we build resilience together? How can we strengthen our communities to succeed in good times ... and in hard times?

A key part is intimate knowledge of what communities need.

Simply put, we make better decisions as a province when we listen to local leaders—when we talk with you, when we engage with you, and when we respond to the concerns of your communities.

There are many great examples of how we've worked together this past year to support the people we all serve.

And, of course there have been cases where we've needed to do better.

Thank you to those of you who have spoken up when you haven't felt heard and told us we needed to do better.

I say that drawing on my prior work as a family therapist, because really, that's what it means to be in relationship.

We won't always agree, but we have to always keep talking, and keep doing the hard work of finding the path forward together.

So, whether we're getting it right, or getting it wrong, keep telling us ... keep telling me.

Because when we work in partnership, we can build a stronger, more resilient province together.

Connectivity

Let's take, for example, internet connectivity.

People depend on high-speed internet to learn, do business, access services and stay in touch with loved ones.

Over the past two years at UBCM, a number of delegates, including from the East Kootenay Regional District and the Fraser Valley Regional District met with Minister Jinny Sims, myself, and other ministers, to highlight the longstanding difficulty in connecting their communities to high-speed internet.

To address the concerns raised in those meetings we amended legislation to make it simpler for regional districts to support providers in bringing services to their regions AND made the Province's largest ever investment in rural and Indigenous community broadband.

Building on the insights of those local leaders, that \$50 million investment will now benefit 200 rural and Indigenous communities as we move towards the goal of connecting all British Columbians to high-speed internet.

Northern Capital and Planning Grant/RNC

We know that people in rural B.C. need more than high-speed internet.

Rural B.C. provides expertise, labour and supplies to the resource industries that help drive our province's economic well-being.

And over the years when I was Opposition, I heard over and over and over again at UBCM meetings, many small and rural communities paying for the infrastructure that people and businesses need can be tough, or even impossible on their own.

What I heard was that many local governments weren't even applying for funding because they weren't sure how they would ever cover their portion of a jointly-funded project that was required by the previous government.

Based on what you told me, our government made changes to how we support infrastructure investments.

Last year, we launched the Rural and Northern Communities infrastructure fund. We changed the funding formula so that communities under 25,000 would only have to cover 10% of their project cost, rather than a third.

We also decided that communities under 5,000 would no longer have to come up with a share at all... the provincial and federal governments would cover the entire cost.

Similarly, the \$100 million Northern Capital and Planning Grant we launched this past spring in Terrace came from the sustained efforts of local governments in the northwest, who told us they needed capital funds to take advantage of the opportunity offered by significant business investments in the region.

Mayor Leclerc spoke at the announcement, as we were joined by a number of regional leaders who shared how this new grant will help Terrace and 25 other local governments step towards the future they envision.

There are many more examples of where your leadership, and your partnership have helped us to deliver for people in your communities—and strengthen their resilience.

Take the work of my colleague Melanie Mark, the minister for Advanced Education, Skills & Training.

For years, local leaders in Fort St. John and the surrounding area were grappling with a nursing shortage and lack of educational opportunities.

These leaders knew students were more likely to work close to where they study, but the region had no program and a big need for more nurses.

Local leaders from the region took their case to Minister Mark—and she listened.

The result? In June, she announced the Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing program in Fort St. John, the first nursing degree program in the northeast.

The graduates of that program will be one part of building a healthier, more resilient, region.

We can't talk about resilience without recognizing the incredible resilience that many communities had to show in 2017 and 2018 in the face of wildfires and floods.

In the wake of those summers, local leaders strongly advocated for the Province to find new ways to support recovery and community resilience.

While we are all thankful this summer was not as challenging as the past two, my colleagues Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, and Jennifer Rice, Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness have been hard at work responding to what they heard from you.

They are working to ensure our province can better prepare for, respond to, and recover from these types of emergencies ... supporting the work of first responders, emergency managers, and especially of local governments who are on the front lines of building a more resilient B.C.

That includes new and increased funding for ground search and rescue groups, for fire departments, for wildfire risk reduction, and a stronger investment in the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for local governments and First Nations.

DAPR

And I too, in my role as Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing have been listening to you about what your communities need regarding housing.

I've heard from many local governments, home builders and others in the housing sector that we need to do a better job delivering the right kind of housing in communities across the province.

Last year at UBCM I announced a provincial review of the local government development approvals process.

You told us this was important, as did people in your communities.

In fact, UBCM's housing committee report in 2017—A Home for Everyone—identified it as one of its key recommendations.

We can all agree the current decades-old process can be complex and slow.

Take a look at the front page of the paper from 1979.

Bill Vander Zalm, then Municipal Affairs minister, was committing to tackling the challenge of the development approval process, which he was sure would be fixed by later that spring.

You and I both know the issue is more complex than that ... but we can also agree that when we are trying to address a housing crisis, we need to find ways to quickly build more homes.

The challenge was 'how'. So, we sat down over the course of 11 meetings in Nanaimo, Prince George, Kelowna and Vancouver with local governments, developers, builders, non-profits and community members to improve the development approval process.

We heard great ideas, from small tweaks to improve efficiency to big and bold re-thinks of the system.

There are those who would have you believe that local governments and the development industry want different things, and that the solution is to pick a side. In fact, the Liberal opposition critic was on the radio just last week saying the only solution to housing was, quote, "you've got to get local governments out of the way."

That kind of thinking is wrong ... it's disrespectful ... and it's unfair to everyone concerned.

Because what I saw when I was in a room with housing sector leaders was a lot of agreement—about the challenges and the solutions that lie before us.

The discussions were energetic, engaging, respectful and full of a collaborative spirit and a recognition that there is a shared responsibility for addressing the challenges.

I am excited to let you know that the final report on the consultation process is now public and available on the ministry website.

And this report won't sit on a shelf.

We need to act now, to look at these ideas and work together now to move forward on them now, for the benefit of our communities.

To build resilient communities, we need to ensure you have the right land use planning tools to help you meet your housing and economic growth needs, and also provide the infrastructure, transportation, childcare and other services your residents want and need.

One key priority identified is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the process itself—from the moment a developer starts to prepare a development application to the moment it is ready for decision.

We are committed to supporting local governments to make these processes more effective and efficient, and we can all learn from the experiences of many local governments who are already taking the lead.

The next step is working with you and the UBCM to see how we can support interested local governments to turn a number of these ideas into pilot projects.

Another area we heard about is development finance tools.

And that's not a new concern. In fact, almost every year since 1990—including this year—the UBCM has looked at resolutions to address some element of development finance.

We heard you loud and clear on your desire for a review of different Development Finance Tools including those to help fund the community infrastructure and services needed to support increased growth.

These are only two of the areas identified for more work.

I encourage you to read the report, look at the opportunities, and continue to engage with us as we move forward.

We will be taking a phased approach on where we go from here over the next number of years.

Some ideas are complex and will take time. But, in other cases, we will be able to act more quickly.

So, please take a look at the report and join me as we roll up our sleeves and get to it.

Housing

We have been doing so much more on the housing front.

As communities, you've been sounding the alarm for years. I was doing so back in 2009 in Coquitlam.

And housing was, of course, one of the key issues we heard during the 2017 election campaign.

It's not surprising—for a long time it's been difficult for many British Columbians to feel optimistic about the housing market—whether they can keep the homes they have, find an affordable place to live or whether they, or their children, would ever have the chance of home ownership.

In your housing report, you identified four key areas to focus on: rental housing, demand management, a comprehensive homelessness strategy, and the need for all orders of government to collaborate to tackle this challenge.

A year and a half ago, we drew on some of those ideas when we launched the 10-year plan that today is making the largest investment in housing affordability in B.C.'s history.

Here's how we are doing that.

Taking measures to moderate the housing market by taxing speculators and foreign buyers.

Tackling fraud and money-laundering in a big way.

And investing a record \$7 billion to build the kind of homes and supports people need, in every corner of the province.

That is a huge investment in people ... and not surprisingly, it turns out that research tells us investments in housing are also key to building community resilience.

Research tells us that good governance, progressive taxation, and strong housing and social-welfare policies are what it takes to build and sustain healthy communities.

I've got good news for you.

We're succeeding in building that resilience together.

Through partnerships with many of you in this room, we're well on our way towards our goal of 114,000 new affordable homes over 10 years.

In fact, in less than two years, our government together with you, has more than 22,000 homes either built or in progress.

To put that in perspective, that's pretty much the same number of government-funded homes that were built in the entire previous 16 years. And you've helped us get that many underway in 24 months.

This includes housing for a wide range of people—supportive housing for those who are homeless, transitional housing for women and children leaving violence ... housing for Indigenous people both on and off reserve, and mixed-income housing for low and middle-income seniors and families.

Our Community Housing Fund is focused on these mixed-income homes. Through it, we are already at work in 40 of your communities on more than 5,000 new homes for low and middle-income families and seniors.

And we know there is a need for even more of these homes.

That's why—get your pens out—next spring we will be launching a second intake to begin work on delivering thousands more homes for people in your communities.

Many of you have had an opportunity to meet with me or with the team at BC Housing who are at the trade show.

For those who haven't, please find us and start the work of putting those projects together now, so you and your partners are ready for the opportunity in the spring.

These housing investments are changing lives in communities right across the province.

It might be modular supportive homes like the ones here in Vancouver, which many of you had the chance to tour on Monday.

They are giving people the stability and dignity of a roof, and a washroom, with the supports they need to succeed.

Communities across the province—29 of them, so far—have been stepping up to help people get off the streets and into a home they can call their own, with the supports they need to succeed.

Our housing-first model works, giving people dignity and hope by helping them find and maintain stable homes, improving their quality of life and reducing their use of health and social services in the long term.

These homes are not only changing the residents' lives, they are improving the overall health of their communities.

While it's early days, we're seeing the benefits of getting people out of encampments and into housing in a number of communities around the province.

In Surrey, the RCMP reported that property crime dropped by more than 12 per cent after three modular supportive housing buildings opened, bringing people in from where they had been living on the Whalley strip.

In Marpole, where we opened our first supportive housing building last spring, Vancouver Police reported that crime had dropped by 24% in the year following the opening of the building.

When we get people out of tents and into homes, the whole community benefits.

It's not just large cities. In Smithers, the new supportive housing meant they were able to close their homeless shelter—they were able to house everyone they knew was homeless in the community.

And it is not just supportive housing that is changing lives and building the resilience of communities.

It might be the new middle-income Housing Hub project in Squamish that will provide homes for 40 families.

Or it might be the safety provided by transitional housing for women and children leaving violence, like the new building that opened this spring in Penticton.

In all of these cases, partnerships—and the support of local government leaders—are delivering the homes that are changing thousands of lives.

On behalf of Josh, that mother and child, and others benefiting from our partnerships, thank you. You should all be proud of the difference you are making.

It's about looking after the people in our communities.

We have accomplished a great deal but there is still much work to do and we need to keep going ... keep finding solutions together. As my current favourite hashtag goes #MuchAccomplishedMoreToDo and I look forward to doing more with you.

Poverty Reduction Strategy

As I mentioned, research on resilience says that we are stronger, and more resilient, when we work together. And that's at the core of the new \$5 million Poverty Reduction Planning and Action program, announced on Monday by my colleague, Social Development and Poverty Reduction Minister, Shane Simpson.

The program, a partnership between government and UBCM, will support local government programs and projects designed to reduce poverty at a local level in support of TogetherBC, British Columbia's Poverty Reduction Strategy.

Acknowledging and supporting local governments in their own poverty reduction work is one of the ways we can continue to deepen collaboration, encourage action and ensure that people have the tools they need to make a difference.

Mental Health and Addictions Announcement

We also know that the most effective responses to the overdose crisis are the ones based on collaboration and the advice of people on the frontlines, whether that's people with lived experience, their families or the local governments that understand the unique local face of the crisis.

That's why we're providing local governments with funding to support local responses to the overdose crisis that helps save lives from overdose and improve community wellness.

In addition, the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Judy Darcy, announced funding on Monday for 35 Community Action Teams, including 16 new teams, to further support the development of local, integrated planning and strategies to address the overdose crisis.

The same principle, of working together with communities to build local responses to challenging issues, is what shapes our work on improving access to childcare.

If it's true that our individual resilience is dependent on the strength of the communities we build around us, ensuring access to the child care that families need is certainly one key part of building that resilience up.

Child Care

You know your communities best and you know what your residents need, so when it came to addressing a child care crisis in our province, we came to you for help.

Last year, we launched two new partnership programs with the UBCM.

While many local governments took advantage of these programs, others told us they needed more help creating spaces for school aged children.

When you talk, we listen, so I'm pleased to report that earlier this week my colleague Katrine Conroy, the Minister of Children and Family Development, and Minister of State Katrina Chen announced that you can now pair this program with our Childcare BC New Spaces fund to create multiple spaces within the same project.

The town of Osoyoos is receiving \$900,000 through this program to add 18 new licenced child care spaces to the Osoyoos Child Care Centre.

It is the first expansion since the centre opened more than 20 years ago and means parents will no longer have to drive to neighbouring communities just to find child care.

By working together, we can create more spaces and support more families.

Investing in Canada Infrastructure program

Community resources like child care help families and, indeed communities, thrive.

This is as true of broader community infrastructure like the stuff that most of B.C. residents don't see or know much about until it starts to fail.

Our government is aware of how important infrastructure funding is for communities.

A few weeks ago, we announced more than \$180 million to give 15 communities the help they need to deliver the water and wastewater services people count on.

While the projects differed in size and scope, I know they will have a big impact on quality of life for people like those living in the Spallumcheen and Okanagan Indian Band communities.

In communities like Osoyoos and Hagensborg, near Bella Coola, this new funding will resolve current boil water advisories and for Prince Rupert, it will reduce the likelihood of future ones.

But we know that the interest in this program exceeded the amount of funding available in this first intake.

That's why I'm excited to let you know—and get your pens or phones out again—we will be opening up a second intake of this program worth \$150 million before the end of this year, so that we can help you deliver the clean water people in your communities need.

Community, Culture and Recreation

For the first time in a long time, B.C. also has a dedicated program for community, culture, and recreation projects.

Last year at convention, I had the pleasure of launching that funding program.

And you responded. Boy, did you respond!

After years of pent-up demand, because historically these projects weren't prioritized for funding, we received more than a billion dollars worth of requests from across the province.

While announcements about successful recipients are now on hold during the federal election, we were able to get the first six projects underway a couple of weeks ago.

These will help strengthen their communities by bringing people together, celebrating our province's diversity, and promoting economic growth.

Whether it's a recreation, youth and cultural centre for members of the Tsawwassen First Nation and surrounding communities, or a new field house at the Cowichan Sportsplex in Duncan, these centres will soon be building community connections and building resilience.

I look forward to being able to share the next set of projects funded through this stream, as well as those under the Rural and Northern Communities fund, later this year.

It's also worth noting that in the past, First Nations were locked out of applying for infrastructure funding.

Not anymore.

These funding programs now welcome First Nations applications and partnership applications.

And that is delivering value for both First Nations and nearby communities.

There are a number of great examples, such as the Comox Valley water treatment plant that is underway.

This partnership between the municipality and the local First Nation will support people's health, the local economy and the environment by providing clean water to residents and businesses of all communities in the region.

It's impossible to talk about resilience and change in today's world without talking about the climate and the critical need for climate action.

The challenges of climate change are global, but the impact is all too clear here in B.C.

Unprecedented wildfires and floods have hurt people, communities and businesses throughout our province.

We know that as local governments, you continue to demonstrate leadership and resilience as you work to reduce emissions in municipal operations.

And last year was no exception.

In 2018, 50 communities reached carbon neutrality. Congratulations to each and every one of you!

Our government gave \$8 million in grants through the Climate Action Revenue Incentive program last year to further support climate action projects across B.C.

The success of the program can be seen in communities both big and small.

In Elkford, the new district office will get 30 percent of its electrical power from solar panels.

In Surrey, their new community centre is slated to become the first community centre in North America to reach Passive House Certification.

And, on Vancouver Island, the Building Owners and Managers Association of BC is partnering with the City of Victoria and the District of Saanich to create the Greater Victoria 2030 Resiliency District.

Progressive building owners like them are committing to reduce their energy and emissions consumption by 50 percent by the year 2030.

There are many of you doing great work, I haven't mentioned you all but let's give a shout out to these communities and organizations.

At this time, I would also like to acknowledge UBCM and in particular, Arjun Singh, for recently forming their own climate action committee.

CleanBC

I look forward to hearing your recommendations, because we know that tackling the challenge of climate change and building resilience is a shared responsibility.

That's why our government launched the CleanBC strategy to cut air pollution, boost the economy and make life better for people.

This year, we announced \$900 million in new funding for CleanBC initiatives to make sure we can meet our climate commitments and protect our clean air, our land and our water.

These investments will make us more resilient, both as a Province and in each of our communities.

It will also support efforts by individuals and communities to tackle their own emissions, by making cleaner options more convenient, available and affordable.

At the same time, it will support industries and investments in low-carbon products, services and technologies, ensuring our province is well-placed to seize opportunities that arise.

While we invest in seizing new economic opportunities, we are also committed to supporting communities dealing with the challenges of a changing economy.

Forestry announcement

I want to acknowledge at this time the challenges that many of your communities are facing due to mill closures.

As I've mentioned, we support people by building community resilience.

To make sure B.C.'s forest communities have that resilience we are providing \$69 million for worker and community support programs to ensure workers have access to the services they need, from training and work placement to early retirement.

This is about recognizing a need and acting on it to support these hard-working forestry workers.

Premier John Horgan spoke recently about the challenges we face together.

He said, "We have had two of the worst fire seasons in our history in 2017 and 2018—two million hectares of timber up in a puff of smoke. We have a dwindling fibre basket. We have less wood today than we did 20

years ago. So, if we're going to continue to be a province that depends on forestry—which we will be—we need to make sure that we're adding more value, not more volume to our production.”

What he's saying is, we need to be that willow. Strong, and resilient, but able to bend—and change.

Mass Timber

We are changing how we live and work.

This means new opportunities for communities, and industries, as we aim to be leaders in new ways of building.

Last spring, we announced changes to the BC Building Code to invite communities to become early adopters of tall wood buildings. Yesterday I was pleased to join the Premier and Forests Minister Doug Donaldson to celebrate the first 13 communities that have stepped up to become leaders in the province—and across the country.

Already, home builders are seeing new opportunities, like one proposal in Victoria, which will have a 12-storey mass timber tower with 179 homes, plus a six-storey affordable housing building next door.

Tall wood buildings are good for the environment and will also create new jobs and opportunities for forest communities in the province.

Communities like Abbotsford, Okanagan Falls, and South Slokan will see economic boosts from increased production at mass timber plants in their communities.

And increased production will also mean more demand for wood, supporting forest communities earlier in the supply chain.

One of these companies, StructureCraft in Abbotsford, provides a great example of just how quickly buildings can go up.

Listen to this. It blew me away when I heard it.

Their new facility was built in 2017 using engineered wood products, and the superstructure (4 walls and a 40,000 sq ft roof) were completed in a single work week—work started Monday and ended Friday.

Imagine what that could mean in your communities

Because these 13 early adopting communities will now be able to deliver quicker approvals for mass timber projects, they will be able to get buildings underway sooner—and get people housed quicker.

Can the people from these communities please stand up?

This is how community resilience works.

Because of your leadership,

- We will see more homes for people who need them,
- More jobs in a growing industry, and
- More markets for B.C. wood—all because of your willingness to work with us to seize this opportunity.

Conclusion

I want to go back to the words of Michael Ungar, who graciously agreed to let me use them today.

“The science of resilience is clear.

When it comes to maintaining well-being and finding success, environments matter.

In fact, they may matter just as much, and likely much more, than individual thoughts, feelings or behaviours.

A positive attitude may be required to take advantage of opportunities as you find them, but no amount of positive thinking on its own is going to help you survive a natural disaster, a bad workplace or childhood abuse.

Change your world first by finding the relationships that nurture you, the opportunities to use your talents and the places where you experience community and governmental support and social justice.

Once you have these, your world will help you succeed more than you could ever help yourself.”

I want to thank you all for the leadership you show every day ... the work you do to build resilience in your communities ... and for working with us to deliver for the people we all serve.

Appendix E

Address by the Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia

Before I begin, I want to acknowledge the territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Great to be here.

Congratulations to your incoming President, Maja Tait.

We have a good working relationship, built over years of service to the people of Sooke.

UBCM will be well-served with you at the helm.

Thank you to outgoing President Arjun Singh for your service.

Finally, a big shout out to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson.

Great work this week, and every week.

Hands up if you're a first-term Mayor or Councillor.

There are a lot of new faces this year:

- 73 new mayors
- 395 new councillors
- 57 new electoral area directors

Many of you stood for office because you saw need in your communities that was going unmet.

You stepped up.

You put your name forward because you wanted to make things better.

Now, you're at UBCM to advocate for the services your communities need.

UBCM is an important time for our government, too.

It's our chance to hear directly from you.

My Cabinet and I have had more than 500 meetings with you in the past five days.

We might not always agree.

But you can always count on us to listen, deal fairly, and come to the table to offer solutions.

That's our great strength as a province.

Earlier this summer, I was at Big Bar, where a slide on the Fraser River was preventing salmon migration.

Indigenous communities on Stuart Lake have depended on the Fraser salmon runs for millennia.

With those runs at risk, everyone pulled together.

We assembled a team in Lillooet:

Federal and provincial governments, local residents, and First Nations came together.

We used rock scalers hanging from 400-foot cliffs to drop boulders into place to form a natural passage.

We called on the generational experience of First Nations to trap fish carefully and help them survive a helicopter flight further up the river.

We listened to Elders who told us to move the early Stuart sockeye quickly.

And when the waters receded, the salmon moved up-river to the streams they've returned to for thousands of years.

There is still work ahead to make sure the river is clear for the next season, and the seasons to follow.

And like any emergency situation, there are challenges and lessons to be learned.

But by working together, using the best of the old and the new, we achieved what many thought was impossible.

I can tell you from experience that holding public office isn't always easy.

At times, the challenges can feel as insurmountable as the blockage at Big Bar.

But we overcome them by working together and staying focused the task at hand.

For me, that's people.

Last year, British Columbians watched on TV as flood waters overtook riverbanks, hurting people and communities.

It wasn't a hurricane south of the border.

It was an emergency in the Boundary country.

Grand Forks was in crisis.

B.C. sent teams to join the Red Cross and others from around the region.

It was all hands on deck.

We worked together, all levels of government – across ministries – to meet the needs of communities.

We supported people through their loss, sorrow, and grief.

When the water receded, the damage was evident.

Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness Jen Rice was our liaison for Grand Forks at that critical time.

Though she lives on the North Coast, Jen became an honorary member of the community.

Every day since, she's been doing her level best to help people affected by the floods.

Working with the community to recover and rebuild.

Since July 2017, the province has spent more than \$1.6 billion on flood and wildfire response and recovery.

For the people who lost their homes and livelihoods, it's never about the dollars spent.

We can't replace what was lost.

What we can do is support communities and prepare for what lies ahead.

Just like when the people of Prince George and Kamloops came together to help people during back-to-back catastrophic fire seasons.

In times of crisis, our better angels always shine through.

Communities – and local governments – are at the heart of the solutions people need.

We have to stand shoulder-to-shoulder and work together to build a strong, resilient and sustainable province.

That's what citizens expect.

That's what our government has done.

We had minimal fires in our forests this summer.

The challenges facing forest-dependent communities are different but still daunting.

Forests Minister Doug Donaldson and Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon have spoken with many of you about the forest sector, and the challenges facing the Interior.

They've met mayors and councils, and workers in:

- Fort St. James
- Mackenzie
- 100 Mile
- Clearwater
- Quesnel
- Clinton
- Merritt

To the people in this room who sat down and engaged with us:

We value and respect your leadership and advocacy.

As a province, we could have planned better for this transition over the past decade or more.

I'm frustrated that didn't happen.

But we can only deal with the problems as they exist today.

Our #1 priority is to support forest workers.

All of us saw – and heard – the convoy of forestry contractors who travelled from the Interior to the Lower Mainland.

They have been profoundly impacted by mill closures and curtailments.

Whole communities are feeling the pain.

Wednesday's convoy brought that message home.

Our government is going to do everything it can to ease the pain for those contractors, workers and communities.

We suspended the rural dividend to get resources into the hands of those workers and communities as quickly as possible.

What we are experiencing today is more than a transition, it's a transformation.

We need to make sure the industry is up to the challenges ahead.

We need to:

- get the most value out of every log
- ship fewer raw logs offshore
- and move the industry from high volume to high value.

That's why I asked forest companies to join together with labour, First Nations and local leaders,

To start developing plans for how we manage forestry at the regional level.

This is not a Victoria-led process.

It is a local process, to be led by industry CEOs with participation by everyone with an interest in the future of forestry.

Conifex is the first company to step up.

They're ready to chart the long-term future of the Mackenzie timber supply area with:

- Mayor Atkinson
- First Nations
- And Labour leaders

They all want to build a plan for the future of the industry in that corner of the province.

This is the same group that came together to restart the Mackenzie sawmill when lumber prices fell earlier this year.

In the face of a challenge, British Columbians pulled together.

Not only were we successful in reopening the sawmill,

Paper Excellence's pulp mill and manufacturing facilities could stay open as well.

These conversations won't be easy.

But they are critical to the future of the industry.

Then, as now, our government is here to support you.

Made in B.C. wood products are a big part of the future of forestry.

Last spring, we announced that B.C. is proactively adopting the 2020 Building Code, to allow mass timber buildings up to 12 storeys.

We asked local governments to join us.

13 communities have stepped up.

Some of the fastest growing places in B.C. are getting in on the ground floor,
to build mass timber structures.

Places like:

- Abbotsford
- Richmond
- Surrey
- Langford
- Kelowna
- Victoria

I look forward to more local governments embracing these building code changes.

Manufacturers like StructureCraft in Abbotsford and Structurlam in Okanagan Falls are leading the way.

More solutions are coming out of the industry every day.

In the Kootenays, Kalesnikoff Lumber is building a new, \$35 million state-of-the-art mass timber facility.

Mass timber is a cost-effective, sustainable building material that will help us grow the market for B.C. wood products here and abroad.

These are the kinds of innovations that will help us tackle the greatest challenge of our time: climate change.

It demands immediate attention and urgent action.

From wildfires to floods, communities are face-to-face with the effects of climate change.

This week, hundreds of thousands of Canadians are joining people around the world, demanding action.

We are listening.

B.C. is stepping up to do our part with our CleanBC plan.

We developed CleanBC with the expertise of Andrew Weaver and the B.C. Green Caucus.

We are showing the world that it is possible to build a better, stronger economy and take action on climate.

B.C.'s expertise in clean tech, renewable energy and sustainable buildings is a huge advantage.

As the world becomes more climate sensitive

And governments and industry look for ways to meet emissions targets

We can use the B.C. advantage to create good jobs and drive opportunity

While protecting what makes B.C. special.

Business and industry are already on board.

Last year, we signed an MOU with the B.C. Business Council.

The MOU commits us to work together with energy-intensive industries on low-carbon solutions.

As local governments you are doing your part, with innovative projects to reduce carbon pollution and make life better.

From active transportation to single-use plastics, the resolutions you've adopted at UBCM this year reflect your commitment to bold climate action.

Challenging times will always test us.

But we have a superpower, and that's our people.

Our economy is powered by their skills and talent.

Time after time, B.C. comes out ahead because we create.

We innovate.

We find new solutions, new markets, new opportunities.

But we can't do that if communities don't have the services they need.

And we can't do that if families can't afford to live here.

My job is to do right by the hard-working people of this province.

They deserve:

- An affordable home
- A good school for their kids
- Health care they can count on
- And a good job close to home

That's why we're making record investments in affordability:

We're building 22,000 units of housing in 88 communities across the province.

We will create 22,000 new, licenced child care spaces over three years.

We've eliminated bridge tolls.

We froze ferry fares for the second year in a row.

We reduced MSP fees, and on New Year's Day 2020 we will eliminate them completely.

On day 1 we started investing in education and opportunity for people.

We've put \$1.6 billion toward school capital projects, which includes more than 10,000 new spaces for fast-growing communities like:

- Surrey
- Chilliwack
- Langford
- Fort St. John

There are 4,000 new teachers and 1,000 new education assistants in B.C. classrooms.

We've created thousands of new post-secondary seats, including 2,900 tech spaces throughout B.C.

There are more trades and apprenticeship opportunities.

And we've eliminated tuition for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning.

It's also why we're investing in health care.

We are building and upgrading hospitals in 12 communities:

- Surrey
- Burnaby
- Williams Lake
- Quesnel
- Vancouver
- Trail
- Richmond
- Nanaimo
- Fort St. James
- Dawson Creek
- Terrace
- Cowichan Valley

We are performing more diagnostics like MRIs, which means shorter waits for patients.

Median wait times for MRIs are down 66% in Northern Health, and 46% in Fraser Health.

11 urgent and primary care centres are open or on the way.

These centres have already served more than 60,000 patients.

We're providing better care for our seniors, with over \$1 billion invested in:

- primary care
- home care
- long-term care
- assisted living
- and respite services

These investments are fundamental to our communities.

But we won't reach our full potential until everyone – rural and urban – shares in the benefits of a strong economy.

I have always respected the differences between regions.

But I have never considered them barriers.

And I will never see them as divides.

In British Columbia, we succeed together.

Reducing congestion gets people in the Lower Mainland out of gridlock, and gets Interior goods to market more quickly.

And businesses on the Mainland depend on the products, services and resources of our regions.

We are all connected.

That's why our government is building infrastructure in every part of the province, like

- Better road and transit connections
- High-speed internet that connects communities to opportunity and each other

Our plan for economic progress is rooted in:

- Good jobs for people
- Economic benefits for every region
- A competitive business sector
- Action on climate and reconciliation

The LNG Canada project is a great example of where all four of these things come together.

Last October, I was proud to stand with Kitimat Mayor Phil Germuth, Haisla Chief Councillor Crystal Smith, and other partners

When we announced LNG Canada's record-setting investment in B.C.

The project will deliver \$23 billion in government revenues,

So we can build more schools, hospitals, roads and homes for people.

It will mean prosperity for First Nations and Indigenous communities that have been shut out for far too long.

It will mean thousands of jobs for the Haisla Nation and the people of Kitimat.

And it all fits within our CleanBC plan.

LNG Canada's investment means big things for people in Kitimat.

It will also mean big changes for the region.

We're doing our part by helping communities get ready for the opportunities – and realities – ahead.

Our \$100-million Northern Capital Grant will help communities plan for the transformation ahead.

And this week my government recommitted to the Resource Benefit Alliance,

Which will see many of the economic benefits created in the region stay in the region.

As our population and economy grows, we need to keep people and goods moving.

We need to reduce congestion if we want to strengthen our economy and improve our quality of life.

We're ready to work with you every step of the way.

Just as we're working with the Mayors Council to solve problems in the Lower Mainland with more buses, SkyTrain, roads and bridges.

Whether it's transportation solutions for the Fraser Valley, the highway east of Kamloops, or addressing congestion issues at the Massey Crossing.

We're going to get B.C. moving again.

The key to unlocking economic progress for B.C. is achieving meaningful reconciliation with First Nations. B.C. cannot truly prosper until Indigenous peoples are full partners in our communities and our province.

In just a few weeks' time, B.C. will be the first province in Canada to introduce legislation to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Minister Fraser has met with many of you, to share information and make sure communities are included.

We're reaching out to Indigenous, municipal, business and labour leaders across B.C. to make sure we get this right.

I'm proud to say that the legislation was co-developed in partnership with the First Nations Leadership Council.

Bringing the principles of the UN Declaration into action is a shared priority between our government and the BC Green Caucus.

In particular, I want to acknowledge MLA Adam Olsen and the work he's done to make this legislation a reality.

UBCM, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, ARE ALSO WALKING THE PATH OF RECONCILIATION.

A GREAT EXAMPLE OF THAT IS THE PROTOCOL WE SIGNED LAST YEAR, RECOGNIZING THE ROLE OF COMMUNITIES IN TREATY AGREEMENTS AND RECONCILIATION.


We know there is more to do.

Progress won't happen overnight.

Every community has a role to play in reconciliation.

It is a journey we are on together.

****STORY Tribal Journeys****



Like tribal journeys, if we're going to rise to the challenges ahead, we all need to be pulling in the same direction.

As you leave UBCM, I want you to remember we are all in this together.

We have to stay focused on the people we are here to serve.

By putting people first, we open the doors of opportunity to all regions, create good jobs and build stronger, more resilient communities.

We have much more to do. But we are making progress. I look forward to building that better BC with you.

Thank you.

Appendix F

Report on Attendance at the 2019 Convention

The registration for the One Hundred Sixteenth Annual Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities held in Vancouver, BC, September 24 – 27, 2019, was as follows:

UBCM Members

	Represented at Convention	Voting Delegates	Non-voting Delegates	Partners	Total
51 Cities	50	288	66	63	417
54 Districts	54	259	54	61	374
14 Towns	14	63	15	18	96
42 Villages	38	122	30	34	186
28 Regional Districts	28	143	45	34	222
8 First Nations	6	32	4	4	40
197 Members	190	907	214	214	1,335
Member Representation 96%					

Non-Members

	Non-voting Delegates	Partners	Total
Federal MPs or Senators	1	0	1
Provincial Ministers and MLAs	83	10	93
Provincial or Federal Staff	307	0	307
Observers	336	13	349
Sponsors	88	4	92
UBCM Staff or Contracts	63	11	74
Students	23	1	24
	901	39	940

Appendix G Resolutions Not Admitted For Debate

Section C2

C1	Statutory Advertising Regulations	Sooke
C2	Public Notice Provisions	North Okanagan RD
C3	Local Authority in Provincial Planning	Northern Rockies RM
C4	Local Government Authority	Salmo
C5	Search & Rescue Funding	Peace River RD
C6	BC Search & Rescue Funding Model	Squamish
C7	Resourcing a Collaborative System of Data Sharing in BC	Cariboo RD
C8	Supporting Vancouver's Initiative to Empower Cities to Set Lower, Safer Speed Zones on Some Local Streets	Port Moody
C9	Safer Speed Zones in Residential Areas	Victoria
C10	Allow Permanent Residents to Vote in Municipal Elections	Victoria
C11	Support for Fresh Voices Campaign	Port Moody
C12	ORV Management Framework Improvements to Facilitate Tourism	Tumbler Ridge
C13	Off-road Vehicle Management Framework	Salmo
C14	#AllOnBoard Campaign	New Westminster
C15	#AllOnBoard Campaign	Vancouver
C16	Support for the #AllonBoard Campaign	Port Moody
C17	Funding Fire Halls & Public Safety Buildings	Cumberland
C18	Extension of Vacancy Taxation Authority to Local Government	Port Moody
C19	Development Cost Charges	Nanaimo City
C20	Development Cost Charges Legislation	Coquitlam
C21	Broaden the Allowable Uses of Parkland Development Cost Charges	Langley City
C22	Reform of Development Finance Tools	North Vancouver City
C23	Development Cost Charges for Fire Protection Capital Costs	Harrison Hot Springs
C24	Cannabis Revenue Sharing	Central Kootenay RD

C25	Liquor Tax	Terrace
C26	Expanding Asset Class Investments Under Prudent Investor Rules	Salmo
C27	Library Funding	Oak Bay
C28	Library Support & Funding	Salmo
C29	Public Library Funding	Strathcona RD
C30	Library Funding	Invermere
C31	Restoring Provincial Library Funding	Vancouver
C32	Increased Provincial Funding for Public Libraries	West Vancouver
C33	Provincial Funding for BC Libraries	North Coast RD
C34	Restoring Funding for British Columbia Libraries	Victoria
C35	Climate Emergency Declaration	Sunshine Coast RD
C36	Climate Emergency Declaration	Port Moody
C37	Comprehensive Provincial Single-use Item Reduction Strategy	Vancouver
C38	Compostable Single-use Items	Vancouver
C39	Recovery Cost for Local Climate Change	Richmond
C40	Industrial Commercial & Institutional Recycling Solution	qathet RD
C41	Proposed Amendment to the <i>Environmental Management Act</i> , Recycling Regulation 449/2004	Kamloops
C42	Intergovernmental Collaboration on Land Use Planning	Sunshine Coast RD
C43	BC Emergency Response Model & First Responders	Central Kootenay RD
C44	EHS Services – Adequate Staffing in Community	Fraser Lake
C45	EHS Services – Utilizing First Responders	Fraser Lake
C46	First Responders Response to Medical Calls	Fraser Lake
C47	BCEHS Dispatching Protocols	Port Moody
C48	Support for Proposed Vulnerable Adolescents Protection from E-Cigarettes (VAPE) Act, 2019	Lake Country
C49	Facilitating Greater Investment in Municipal & Not-for-profit Seniors' Services & Supports	Delta
C50	Facilitating Greater Investments in Municipal & Not-for-profit Seniors' Services & Supports	West Vancouver

C51	Consultation with Local Governments	Vernon
C52	Province to Consult with Local Governments	Fort St. John
C53	National Healthy School Meal Program	Vancouver

Section C3

C54	Vancouver Island Transportation Master Plan	Nanaimo RD
C55	Revitalizing Island Rail	Victoria
C56	Widening of the Trans Canada Highway #1	Abbotsford
C57	Highest & Best Use Property Assessments	Delta
C58	Moratorium on Hornby & Denman Fishery	Comox Valley RD
C59	AVICC Special Committee on Solid Waste Management	AVICC Executive
C60	Local Air Quality Monitoring	Chetwynd
C61	Health Canada Transfers	Qualicum Beach
C62	Moving Historic Records	Central Kootenay RD

Resolutions Received After the Deadline

LR3	Foreign Government Financial Sponsorship	Port Coquitlam
LR4	Implementation of Recommendations from the National Inquiry into Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls	Vancouver
LR5	Access to Emergency Health Services	Port Coquitlam

Appendix H

Pre-Conference Study Sessions & Tours

Monday, September 23, 2019

Study Tours

8:00 am – 4:30 pm	Agriculture Study Tour
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tour of Supportive Modular Housing

Study Sessions

9:00 am – 4:30 pm	Financing Reconciliation: Supporting Inclusive Governance in BC – “That We May Be Good People Together”
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Prioritizing Emergency Management Disrupting Money Laundering
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Tools, Funding & Resources for Local Governments Towards Parity: Breaking Down Barriers, Building Momentum

2019 – 2020 UBCM Executive

President	Mayor Maja Tait	Sooke
First Vice President	Councillor Brian Frenkel	Vanderhoof
Second Vice President	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg	Quesnel
Third Vice President	Councillor Jen Ford	Whistler
Past President	Councillor Arjun Singh	Kamloops
Vancouver Rep.	Councillor Pete Fry	Vancouver
Metro/GVRD Rep.	Councillor Craig Hodge	Coquitlam
Small Community Rep.	Mayor Mitch Campsall	100 Mile House
Electoral Area Rep.	Director Grace McGregor	RD Kootenay Boundary
Vancouver Metro Area Representatives	Councillor Paul Albrecht Councillor Trish Mandewo	Langley City Coquitlam
AKBLG	Director Roly Russell	RD Kootenay Boundary
AVICC	Councillor Carl Jensen	Central Saanich
LMLGA	Mayor Jack Crompton	Whistler
NCLGA	Councillor Gord Klassen	Fort St. John
SILGA	Councillor Lori Mindnich	Lumby
Directors at Large	Councillor Chad Eliason Councillor Ben Geselbracht Director Travis Hall Councillor Claire Moglove Councillor Helen Poon	Salmon Arm Nanaimo City Central Coast RD Campbell River Port Alberni