



MEDIA ADVISORY
UNION of BC MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION – VANCOUVER, B.C.
Opening Day - Monday, September 23

VANCOUVER, B.C. – The 116th Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention begins Monday at Vancouver Convention Centre East and runs from **September 23–27**. Approximately 2000 delegates are expected to attend the week-long convention which includes nearly 50 workshops, clinics, forums and plenary sessions.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

1. **Please register [ONLINE HERE in advance](#).** All media representatives must possess approved credentials issued by UBCM to access any session during the convention.
2. Credentials will be available for **pick up at the MEDIA DESK** (rear of the **MAIN LEVEL near Ballroom A, Vancouver Convention Centre East**).

LATE ADD

NEWS CONFERENCE

12:15 pm – Announcement by Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

Meeting level M (Atrium, near top of escalators)

MONDAY MORNING STUDY SESSIONS

Financing Reconciliation: Supporting Inclusive Governance in BC - “That We May Be Good People Together”

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM Ballroom A/B, Fairmont Waterfront Hotel

Representatives from First Nations, local government and academia will consider new approaches for provincial and federal governments to better finance local government and First Nation service delivery in ways that support the implementation of Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Disrupting Money Laundering

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM MacKenzie Ballroom, Fairmont Waterfront Hotel

This session will explore investigative, prosecutorial and regulatory changes needed at all levels of government to build a more effective anti-money laundering regime, with a focus on disrupting the illegal activity of money laundering in BC real estate. Finance Minister Carole James, Attorney General David Eby, Maureen Maloney, professor, SFU’s School of Public Policy and RCMP Superintendent Paul Dadwal from the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit-British Columbia will provide comments during this session.

Prioritizing Emergency Management

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Ballroom B, VCC East

With an unprecedented rise in the magnitude of provincial disasters, especially floods and wildfires, this session will examine how local governments are working with other orders of government to seek improvements in disaster management. Initiatives currently underway include an ongoing review of BC’s 911 framework, and collaborative efforts between local governments and the province. Featured presenter: George Abbott, co-chair of the independent Flood and Wildfire Review.

(more)

MONDAY AFTERNOON STUDY SESSIONS

Towards Parity: Breaking Down Barriers, Building Momentum

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM Room 1, VCC East

In most provinces, women represent less than 30% of local elected officials. With 36.7% women elected in 2018, BC's local governments are leaders, but there is still work to do to reach parity. This session will highlight the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) national action to remove barriers and support more women to run, win and stay in local elected office. Delegates will also hear from locally elected women across BC and the provincial government will highlight its Gender Based Analysis+ initiative.

BC Mayors' Caucus – PANEL on BC's Opioid Addiction Crisis

3:00 PM – 4:25 PM MacKenzie Room, Fairmont Waterfront Hotel

Following an opening address by Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Mayor Lyn Hall (City of Prince George) will chair a special panel reviewing the impacts of the opioid crisis on large and small BC communities, and initiatives to help address the crisis. Panellists: Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer; Mayor Kennedy Stewart, City of Vancouver; Mayor Carol Leclerc, City of Terrace; and the Honourable Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. This session is open to the media.

LATER IN THE WEEK

Official Opening Address by Arjun Singh, President, Union of BC Municipalities (Wednesday, Sept 25)

Keynote Speaker: Peter Mansbridge, former anchor, CBC's *The National* (Wednesday, Sept 25)

Dr. Andrew Weaver, Leader, BC Green Party (Wednesday, Sept 25)

Andrew Wilkinson, Leader of the Official Opposition (Thursday, Sept 26)

Honourable John Horgan, Premier, Province of British Columbia (Friday, Sept 27)

MEDIA MATERIALS AVAILABLE ONLINE - Visit our online [Media Room](#) for **same-day vote results, media releases, the full convention program and the convention resolutions book**. Photos for use by media may be downloaded from the [UBCM photos link](#) (photo credit: UBCM).

UBCM CONVENTION INFORMATION APP - Download the mobile "UBCM" app (for both IOS and Android); laptop access also available at eventmobi.com/ubcm.

SOCIAL

Twitter - **@UBCM**

Hashtag - **#UBCM2019**

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