



MEDIA ADVISORY
UNION of BC MUNICIPALITIES VIRTUAL CONVENTION
Day 1 - Tuesday, September 22

VICTORIA, B.C. – The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Virtual Convention begins Tuesday. Details on the following scheduled events are listed in the [convention program](#).

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

9:00 A.M. - CONVENTION OPENING SESSION including President's Address: interview with Mayor Maja Tait

9:30 A.M. – ANNUAL MEETING

10:15 A.M. – PROVINCIAL ELECTION PANEL: THE CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Jonina Campbell, executive director, BC Green Party

Maria Dobrinskaya, Broadbent Institute

Caroline Elliott, political commentator

The convention's first panel session looks at this week's provincial election announcement and the campaign to come from different political viewpoints. On Wednesday and Thursday, we also look forward to hearing campaign speeches by BC's party leaders during the convention.

11:00 A.M. – ADDRESS: Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Bill Karsten (outgoing president) and Councillor Garth Frizzell, City of Prince George (incoming president)

11:10 A.M. – WORKSHOP: *Public Transit: Recovery and Rebuild*

Kevin Desmond, CEO, Translink

Erinn Pinkerton, President and CEO, BC Transit

Mayor Jonathon Cote, Chair, Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, City of New Westminster

Mayor Jack Crompton, Resort Municipality of Whistler

As an essential service, public transit has continued throughout the pandemic but in the absence of fare recovery, transit communities have been hit with devastating financial losses. This workshop will focus on the next steps needed to help communities recover from financial losses and rebuild public transit in B.C.

1:00 P.M. – PLENARY SESSION: Reimagining Leadership: Lessons from the Pandemic

The Honourable Janet Austin, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of BC

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer

Kim Baird, former Chief of Tsawwassen First Nation

Moderator: Mayor Maja Tait, UBCM President

A panel of cross-sectoral leaders will engage in a discussion about the value of diverse leadership for resilience in the face of a society-shifting event. What lessons and best practices can be applied at the local level?

(more)

LATER IN THE WEEK

WEDNESDAY

Resolutions session, 9:00 A.M. to Noon

Andrew Wilkinson, leader, BC Liberal Party – 1:00 P.M

THURSDAY

Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change – 9:00 A.M.

Sonia Furstenuau, leader, BC Green Party – 10:45 A.M.

Honourable John Horgan, premier, Province of British Columbia – 1:15 P.M.

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

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