



ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS

TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE UBCM ANNUAL CONVENTION
VANCOUVER, B.C.

SEPTEMBER 27 - 30, 2011

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU

2010- 2011 UBCM EXECUTIVE



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PRESIDENT



DIRECTOR HEATH SLEE
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT



MAYOR MARY SJOSTROM
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT



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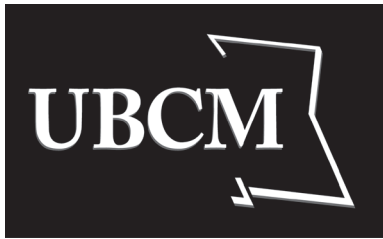
MAYOR BARRY JANYK
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



COUNCILLOR MURRY KRAUSE
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



COUNCILLOR JERRILYN SCHEMBRI
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 2011 ANNUAL CONVENTION

- DATES:** TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011
to
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2011
- LOCATION:** VANCOUVER CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE
VANCOUVER, B.C.
- REGISTRATION:** COMMENCES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CONTINUES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 7:00 a.m.
- FORUMS FOR:** TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2011
COMMENCES at 9:00 a.m.
- ELECTORAL AREAS
 - SMALL TALK
 - MID-SIZED COMMUNITIES
 - LARGE URBAN COMMUNITIES
- OPENING RECEPTION:** COMMENCES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 5:00 p.m.
AT VANCOUVER CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE,
WEST BUILDING
- BUSINESS SESSIONS:** COMMENCES WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 8:30 a.m.
VANCOUVER CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

UBCM ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS BOOK

for the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Table of Contents

Letter of Transmittal.....	ii
Mission Statement	iv
Accomplishments in Brief.....	v

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Nations Relations: A Year in Review.....	1
Economic Development and Energy Policy Remain as Priority	2
Green Communities	3
Focus Remains on Cost Containment and Building a New Relationship in RCMP Contract Negotiations	4
Committees Report Out on Key Areas of Activity	5
Building Healthy Communities	8
Local Government Program Services	9
Gas Tax/Public Transit Management Services Secretariat	11

APPENDIX

A Financial Statements of the Union of BC Municipalities: Auditor's Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2011	13
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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO UBCM MEMBERS

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As the President and Executive Director of the Union of BC Municipalities, it is our pleasure to convey the 2011 Annual Report.

This past year, UBCM has once again demonstrated its ability to deliver tangible results for local governments in British Columbia. Through our advocacy, program delivery and member support, UBCM provides a comprehensive set of services for BC communities. It is an honour for both your Executive and Secretariat to advance the interests of local government and the policy directions established by our membership.

The foundation for UBCM's success is our strong membership. Year after year, every local government in BC chooses to be a member. We are particularly pleased to extend a welcome to our newest UBCM members: Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality and the two Nisga'a Villages of Laxgalts'ap and Gitlaxt'aamiks (formerly New Aiyansh).

One of the reasons UBCM has maintained 100% membership for nearly four decades is that we have been able to adapt to changing circumstances. The 2011 Convention in Vancouver will see the continued implementation of a renewed resolutions process as well as elections for two additional Metro Vancouver Area Executive members. Both initiatives provide important measures to strengthen our representation of local governments.

Several policy areas have commanded a high level of attention from your Executive over the past year. Following a special policy session at the 2010 Convention, the renewal of the RCMP contract has been at the forefront of our agenda. Through the developments at the negotiating table this year, including the decision of Alberta and Saskatchewan to withdraw, UBCM has maintained close relations with the Minister of Public Safety and the provincial negotiators. We will continue to work with the Province to advance the interests of local government in areas such as cost containment while negotiations continue. Work has also been undertaken to develop a terms of reference for an ongoing RCMP Contract Management Committee. The feedback provided by local governments affirmed the need for such a committee and enhanced the draft terms of reference. The RCMP contract will remain a high priority for UBCM over the coming months, and we will provide updates to our membership as new developments arise.

Another priority area this past year has been local government finance. In May, UBCM released the study paper Comment on Fiscal Management in British Columbia's Municipalities. The objective of this paper was to provide context for issues related to local government spending and taxation policy. The response to the Comment from both local government elected officials and staff has been very positive. UBCM appreciates the excellent support provided by the Local Government Management Association and Government Finance Officers Association on the Comment Steering Committee, as well as the work of Mr. Allan Neilson – Welch in drafting the report. Our hope is that the Comment will provide a resource for local governments as you communicate with local citizens and media about the fiscal realities facing communities.

Work has also continued on the topic of industrial taxation. UBCM, in partnership with the Province of BC, is undertaking a study to determine the conditions under which municipal property taxes have a material effect on business decisions for major industry. We anticipate that this report will be completed later in 2011.

The most significant emerging issue in provincial relations this past year has been an initiative by the Province of BC to introduce a Municipal Auditor General (MAG). As we go to press for this Annual Report, we are in the early days of this initiative. Premier Clark first stated her intention to implement a MAG office in a speech to the BC Chamber of Commerce during the Liberal leadership campaign. Following the distribution of a Provincial survey to UBCM members, UBCM has released its Municipal Auditor General Context Paper to provide information to local governments as you consider your responses. UBCM will be seeking policy direction on this topic from the membership at our 2011 Convention and will keep you informed of further developments over the summer.

In addition to these highlights, the full story of our advocacy and program delivery can be found in the Annual Report. We encourage you to review these accomplishments. They are a testament to UBCM's vitality, commitment, and ability to serve you, the local governments of British Columbia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Steele".

Barbara Steele, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary MacIsaac".

Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director



RICHMOND STAFF

BACK ROW (left to right): Susie Koivu, Financial Services Officer; Angela Turner, Convention & Association Services Coordinator; Raelene Adamson, Administrative Assistant, Office Services; Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst; Joslyn Young, Executive Coordinator; Ted Willmer, Mgr, Finance & Operations; Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor;

FRONT ROW (seated left to right): Reiko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator; Anna-Maria Wijesinghe, Mgr., Member & Association Services; Marylyn Chiang, Policy Analyst; Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director; Marie Crawford, Associate Executive Director; Marlene Wells, Policy Analyst (no longer w/UBCM); Rose Hayes, Administrative Assistant, Office & Member Services



VICTORIA STAFF

(left to right) Brant Felker, Gas Tax Manager; Patrick Howell, Co-Op Student; Sarah Amyot, Youth Engagement Coordinator, BC Healthy Communities; Danyta Welch, Policy and Programs Officer; Iris Hesketh Boles, Executive Coordinator/Office Manager; Shelley Webber, Program Assistant; Paul Taylor, Relationships and Communications Advisor; Brenda Gibson, General Manager, Victoria Operations; Claudia DeHaan, Special Projects Coordinator, BC Healthy Communities; Ronnie Tadesse, Summer Student, BC Healthy Communities; Jodi Mucha, Director, BC Healthy Communities.



UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF INCORPORATION

Union of BC Municipalities was incorporated by an Act of the provincial legislature in 1959. The “objects” of the UBCM set out in the legislation include: securing united action by members on issues of common interest; representing members on issues affecting them or their citizens; cooperating with other groups on matters under federal jurisdiction; cooperating with government ministries on the development of legislation; discussing and dealing with municipal issues; representing and assisting members in maintaining municipal autonomy; distributing information; holding meetings and fostering a “fraternal spirit among those engaged in municipal work”; and encouraging and promoting local associations.

MISSION STATEMENT

The **values** we want associated with UBCM as an organization are:

- Credibility and accuracy in what we do.
- Timely and effective in how we respond.
- Valuing teamwork and respecting diversity in everything we do.
- Being non-partisan and objective in how we present ourselves.

Our **vision** is to most effectively represent and serve all local governments in BC.

Guided by our values and to achieve our vision the purpose of UBCM is:

To **represent and serve** all local governments in BC by:

- Being the recognized advocate for their common interests.
- Meeting the members’ common needs.

We will be the recognized **advocate** for local government in BC in:

- Policy development and implementation
- Government relations
- Communications externally
- Liaison with other groups

Our priorities for meeting the **members’ common needs** are through:

- Communication to members
- Advice and training for local government officials
- Convention
- Information sharing

We strive for **continuous improvement** in all that we do.

ADOPTED BY UBCM EXECUTIVE 2003

2010-2011 UBCM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN BRIEF¹

TOP ACTIVITIES OR INVOLVEMENTS

- 100% membership maintained for the 32nd consecutive year
- UBCM membership approves bylaw amendments at the 2010 Convention aimed at improving the UBCM resolutions process and adding two new UBCM Executive members from the Vancouver Metro area
- UBCM welcomed the two Nisga'a Villages of Laxgalts'ap and Gitlaxt'aamiks (formerly New Aiyansh) as our newest members, along with the new Resort Municipality of Sun Peaks
- total funding received by UBCM under Gas Tax and Public Transit Program reaches \$991.3 million
- UBCM publishes *Comment on Fiscal Management in British Columbia's Municipalities*. This report counters claims advanced by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business regarding municipal taxation and spending
- UBCM, LGMA, Civicinfo, BC School Trustees, Public Works Association of BC and the Province join together to host the second year of the renewed Local Government Awareness Week program – May 15-21, 2011 under the Be Heard banner in recognition of the 2011 Local Government Elections
- Steering Committee on industrial taxation continues to work towards a final report
- Elections Task Force report including its 31 recommendations endorsed by government but limited spring legislative session prevents introduction of legislation in time for 2011 Local Government elections
- UBCM establishes a Ferry Fares Advisory Committee to advocate on behalf of coastal communities in response to projected fare increases of 40% on minor routes
- UBCM and MIA jointly respond to White Paper on *Limitation Act* Reform
- UBCM initiates process discussion with the Province regarding Municipal Auditor General file
- Strategic Community Investment Funds agreements successful in protecting small community, regional district and traffic fine revenue sharing, with over \$ 60 million flowing to local government to date, including \$ 30 million in traffic fine revenue sharing
- Carbon Action Revenue Incentive Program provided \$3.8 million in payments to those local governments that have signed the BC Climate Action Charter
- fifth year of Local Government Leadership Academy training – successful leadership forum held in February with over 140 participants. For the first time, certificates were presented to 18 elected officials representing five municipalities and six regional districts in response to the introduction of a certificate program launched in 2010
- surveyed local government on provincial dyking policy and raised identified concerns with the Province
- Rural Resource Roads working group reported out at 2010 Convention, and the report was forwarded to the provincial government for implementation
- UBCM launches new member service – Bulk Fuel Purchasing Program
- RCMP Contract Renewal – UBCM organized meetings between provincial representatives and the local government working group and the local government representative to the provincial negotiating team to discuss RCMP contract issues of concern to local government and reviewed proposed contract language; sent out information to members about the status of the discussions and local government issues that had been identified to date
- held discussions with the Province into the creation of a RCMP Contract Advisory Committee and sent out a draft Terms of Reference for local government input
- RCMP Contract Advisory Committee met with the BC Federal Conservative Caucus to highlight the concerns of local governments in British Columbia to the RCMP contract negotiations
- surveyed local government on Keep of Prisoner costs and discussed concerns with the Province

ADVOCACY

Policy Development and Implementation

A top priority is to advocate on behalf of BC local governments for the development of policies that support their needs and to see them implemented in legislation, regulations, programs or policies. UBCM participates in policy development in a number of ways: independent initiatives and making representations directly; and participating in Ministry-UBCM or multi-party policy development processes. The issues are many and varied and some have required sustained involvement, while others may only have required limited intervention.

Policy Development

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

Some of the issues UBCM was consulted on or involved with in the past year related to provincial policies included:

Statutory framework for local government

- elections legislation
- Water Sustainability Act
- Agricultural Land Commission review
- Limitation Act reform
- Police (Independent Investigations Office) Amendment Act

Community Safety

- reviewed legislative changes to establish an independent agency to investigate serious incidents involving police officers
- coordinated conference calls between the RCMP Contract Advisory Committee and the local government representative to the provincial negotiating team that was involved in the discussions to renew the current RCMP contract to ensure ongoing feedback into the negotiations
- met with the local government representative to the provincial negotiating team and provincial representatives to discuss the creation of an RCMP Contract Management Committee, developed a draft Terms of Reference for local government input
- met with the local government working group created to assist UBCM in discussions on the RCMP Contract and the Province to discuss ongoing policy issues and proposed contract language
- reviewed provincial policy on new dikes and undertook a survey of local government on provincial dyking policy
- arranged a meeting between the local government working group on liquor policy and the Province to discuss proposed changes in provincial liquor legislation and the role of local government in the process
- surveyed local government on Keep of Prisoner costs and arranged a meeting with the provincial government to discuss changes to the policy

Finance

- worked with the LGMA and GFOA to complete our *Comment* to promote public awareness of local government fiscal management

Assessment

- consulted on policy and legislative/regulatory changes to farm assessment

Health

- continued to house the BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- continued to work with the Ministry of Health Services on implementing the recommendations from the *2008 Regional Hospital District Cost-Sharing Review*
- conducted a member survey on the implementation of the *Public Health Act*, and the relationship between local governments and health authorities
- participated on the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport's Seniors Healthy Living Advisory Network and Age Friendly Leadership Network
- participated in the Access to Produce project in 2011
- continued participation on the Provincial Health Services Authority's Healthy Built Environment Alliance
- continued to chair of the Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund Committee which provides grants to students in the Primary Care Paramedic and Advanced Care Paramedic programs in BC
- negotiated new Memorandum of Agreement with the JIBC to administer the grants for the Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund
- negotiated a Memorandum of Agreement with the College of the Rockies to submit student enrollment status information on students who received the Emergency Medical Assistants grants
- created a food action framework for health authorities, educational institutions, child care facilities and local governments (in collaboration with the PHSA)
- continued to advocate for the creation of a child poverty strategy in BC
- continued to serve as a member of the BC Healthy Living Alliance
- continued participation and support for BC Healthy Living Alliance programs

Environment

- creation of a UBCM Small Water Systems Working Group to address local government concerns on the implementation of the *Drinking Water Protection Act* and Drinking Water Protection Regulation
- continued participation in the Collaborative Watershed Governance Initiative Steering Committee that is developing a multi-stakeholder framework and accord for more collaborative governance in BC watersheds
- provided advisory support to the *Water Act* Modernization process and a submission on the

proposed *Water Sustainability Act*, which seeks to update and streamline one hundred year old legislation

- continued participation in the creation of a provincial approach to protecting species at risk on private lands
- continued to monitor and respond as necessary to the implementation of the *Net Zero Deforestation Act* as it impacts local governments
- advisory support and response to the provincial discussion paper on bylaw standards for residential uses in the Agricultural Land Reserve
- continued participation on the development of a BC specific framework for the redevelopment of former service stations
- consultation with the Ministry of Environment on options for addressing local government concerns around cosmetic pesticide use
- review and comment on the draft Riparian Areas Regulation Variance Protocol
- participation on the provincial Subdivision Best Practices Committee that is developing best practices for subdivisions that utilize on-site septic systems
- consultation with the Ministry of Environment on the need for senior order government funding of the CCME Wastewater Strategy
- advisory support on the creation of new product stewardship programs, including the recent addition of packaging to the Recycling Regulation
- participation in the development of a carbon neutral framework through the Green Communities Committee carbon neutral working group and offset working group
- conducted numerous workshops throughout BC on the draft carbon neutral framework, which is designed to help local governments meet their Climate Action Charter commitments

Trade

- received a delegation from provincial trade policy staff on status of Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations between Canada and the European Union
- continued discussions on development of a Consultation Agreement on TILMA Dispute Resolution Process with the Province
- monitoring the New West Partnership Trade Agreement – extension of TILMA to now include Saskatchewan

Economic Development

- participated in RuralBC Secretariat webinar on local government practices in delivering economic development where UBCM's report

Evaluating the Economic Development Role of BC Local Governments, A Snapshot of Community Effort and Opportunity was profiled

- written to both federal and provincial ministers in response to the establishment of a new Agreement on Aquaculture Management in the absence of consultation with local governments
- continue to monitor and respond as necessary to the implementation of the *Net Zero Deforestation Act* as it impacts local governments
- continue to monitor implementation of *Wood First* legislation
- continue to participate in the Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Joint Advisory Group and the local government ORV working group to ensure interests of local government are represented as the new ORV management framework is developed

Infrastructure

- full commitment of Infrastructure Stimulus Funding and Building Canada Communities Component, including both the initial funding and top-up funding
- Successfully advocated for an extension of stimulus deadline for completion to accommodate an additional construction season
- accelerated delivery of first installment of funding under the second phase of the Gas Tax Agreement

Energy Policy

- participated on various energy conservation and efficiency working groups
- prepared a submission to BC Hydro's Integrated Resource Plan consultation process
- appointed a representative to participate in FortisBC's Resource Planning Advisory Group
- monitor implementation of new Clean Energy Act, raised questions about the self-sufficiency provisions and changes to the role of the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC)
- continuing to monitor BCUC hearings related to establishing electricity rates
- monitoring discussions related to gas franchise fees for Vancouver Island members
- received delegation from the Canadian Wind Energy Association

Aboriginal

- organized and held the fifth province-wide Community to Community Forum (C2C) on March 1, 2011 jointly with the First Nations Summit and held joint TAC meeting in advance of C2C
- prepared and conveyed to the federal government UBCM's Response to Canada's New

- Approach to Supporting the BC Treaty Process
- continued to advocate for TAC funding to support local governments
- discussed undertaking joint policy work with the First Nations Tax Commission with respect to service agreements
- undertaking research on local government experiences in non-treaty agreements, as concerns have been raised about a lack of consultation specifically on agreements related to land and resources. As part of this research, work to ensure that local government interests are heard by provincial and federal governments as they proceed with implementation of *First Nations Commercial and Industrial Act* (FNCIDA) and other non-treaty agreements
- working with Province to review 2008 MOU on Local Government Participation in the New Relationship with aim for renewal in late fall 2011, once research work has been completed

Transportation

- established Ferry Fares Advisory Committee in response to projections for significant fare increases in the coming performance term - meetings held with Minister of Transportation, ministry staff and prepared submission to the Ferry Commissioner identifying UBCM policy with respect to ferries funding and administration

OTHER POLICY MATTERS REVIEWED

- delivery of fire services – participated in provincial Fires Services Leadership Group looking at changes to the delivery of fire services in the province
- cell phone levy for 911 services
- WorkSafe BC new policy on asbestos removal from buildings
- access issues
- changes to provincial pool regulations
- manufactured home parks
- delivery of first responder services and the provision of necessary supplies by the Ministry of Health
- worked with BC Land Title Survey Authority to consult with members on a move to mandatory electronic filing of land title documents
- consulted on proposed amendments to the *Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act*

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- presented to the BC Caucus of the federal government on BC local government interests in RCMP contract negotiations
- new aquaculture management agreement

- infrastructure funds (stimulus funds) to be targeted for local government priorities
- multiculturalism and community capacity to support immigration
- advocated for increased federal funding for policing services delivered by the RCMP
- advocated for Industry Canada to release 700 MHz bandwidth for the use of emergency services
- advocated for an amendment to the federal *Excise Tax Act* with respect to the deemed supply provisions for pension plans

MEMBER INITIATIVES: RESOLUTIONS

UBCM's policy initiatives are primarily derived from resolutions submitted by members. During 2011, UBCM reviewed many high quality, clearly written and well-researched resolutions in the course of preparing the Annual Report and Resolutions Book. All Area Associations submitted their resolutions for UBCM comment prior to their annual meetings and subsequently conveyed endorsed resolutions to UBCM for consideration at the 2011 Convention.

Policy Implementation

Policy work over the last year which involves UBCM included:

LEGISLATION (IN ORDER OF DEGREE OF UBCM INVOLVEMENT)

Among the legislation reviewed by UBCM:

- Local Government Act*
- Water Sustainability Act*
- Zero Net Deforestation Act*
- Limitation Act* reform
- Forest & Range Statutes Amendment Act*
- Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources Statutes Amendment Act*
- Consumption Tax Rebate & Transition Act*
- Gunshot & Stab Wound Disclosure Act*
- Forests and Range (First Nations Woodland Licence) Statutes Amendment Act*
- Motor Vehicle Amendment Act*
- Armoured Vehicle & After-compartment Control Act*
- Clean Energy Act*
- South Coast British Columbia Transit Authority Act*
- Municipalities Enabling & Validating Act*
- Vancouver Charter*
- Liquor Control & Licensing Act*
- Police Act*
- Transportation Act*
- Income Tax Act*
- Forestry Service Providers Protection Act*
- New West Partnership Trade Agreement Implementation Act*
- Civil Forfeiture Amendment Act*
- Ministry of Environment Act*

- *International Interests in Mobile Equipment (Aircraft Equipment) Act*
- *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment Act*
- *Yale First Nation Final Agreement Act*
- *Police (Independent Investigations) Amendment Act*

REGULATIONS (IN ORDER OF DEGREE OF UBCM INVOLVEMENT)

UBCM contributed to the development of many regulations including:

- new provincial dike policy
- Land Title Survey Authority – mandatory e-filing
- Worksafe BC – Asbestos Policy
- Off Road Vehicle Management Framework

UBCM RESOLUTIONS RESPONSES

A total of 138 resolutions were forwarded to the provincial government for consideration following the 2010 UBCM Convention. In addition, 30 resolutions were conveyed to the federal government; eight were conveyed to the FCM; and 19 were conveyed to other organizations. Responses have been conveyed to the resolution sponsors and posted to the UBCM website.

The Province has indicated that 65 issues raised in the 2010 resolutions have already been addressed in whole or in part by provincial initiatives and noted that it was not willing to consider changes proposed in 44 of the resolutions. Provincial support was noted in the case of six resolutions and the Province indicated it is willing to consider the changes/suggestions/concerns expressed in thirteen other resolutions. Further review and/or action will be undertaken on the changes suggested in eighteen resolutions. As well, UBCM is already working with the Province on two resolutions and will monitor provincial action in several other policy areas.

UBCM PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Gas Tax

- see report in the Annual Report

Local Government Program Services

- see report in the Annual Report

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON WITH OTHER GROUPS

Government relations is much more than dealing with policy issues reviewed in earlier sections – it is UBCM acting as a contact point on any number of issues. It extends to UBCM’s role in communicating local government’s messages and liaising with other groups.

Our contacts in the past year include:

- provincial Premier, Ministers, Ministry and agency staff at federal & provincial levels
- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- BC Conservation Lands Forum
- BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- BC Hydro
- BC Recreation and Parks Association
- BC Safety Authority
- BC School Trustees Association
- BC Treaty Commission
- Building Canada Communities Component – Oversight Committee and Joint Secretariat
- CivicInfo BC
- Coastal Communities Network
- Communities In Bloom
- Community Energy Association
- Community Food Action Initiative (CFAI) / (PHSA)
- Development Finance Review Committee
- Electronic Products Stewardship Canada
- First Nations Leadership Council
- First Nations Summit
- First Nations Tax Commission
- Fraser Basin Council
- Government Finance Officers Associations
- Health authorities and other provincial health-related associations
- Land Title and Survey Authority Board and Stakeholders Committee
- Local Government Leadership Academy
- Local Government Management Association
- Municipal Insurance Association of BC
- National Crime Prevention Centre
- other local government associations – all five Area Associations visited; represented on the FCM board; and maintain relations with neighbouring provincial associations
- presentation of local government issues to groups and foreign delegations: FCM Municipal Economic Development Program (MPED) work with Vietnam, Cambodia and Tanzania
- other provincial associations like the BC Chamber of Commerce, BC Business Council, Smart Growth BC
- RCMP
- RuralBC Secretariat
- SPARC BC
- Woodworks BC

Some relationships are set out in agreements:

- reviewed all MOUs and Agreements as part of annual procedures

MEMBER SERVICES

UBCM makes a distinction between the member services that all members receive and those optional services that are available on a “user-pay” basis.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Publications

- thousands of copies of publications printed and distributed – for example: 1,600 Annual Report & Resolutions books, 550 Convention minute books, and over 210 Net•work•books distributed and sold
- numerous membership circulars and fax broadcasts distributed throughout the year with updated new format
- four issues of UBCM News
- began review process in advance of a redesign of UBCM News
- 2010 local government planners and wall calendars produced with 176 members purchasing 649 planners and 773 wall calendars
- improvements made to the still new on-line system for member updates to the Net•work•book which was distributed; 82 Professional Directory listings
- developed partnership with CivicInfo BC on our Professionals Directory; listings are now searchable on the web
- TAC Update
- C2C Connect newsletter
- member notices on the status of the RCMP contract negotiations

External Communications

- UBCM news releases / media relations to highlight:
 - Appointments of Ministers Cadieux and Chong
 - Launch of Comment on Fiscal Management in British Columbia’s Municipalities
- Joint news releases / media events with the Province of BC to highlight:
 - Extension of Stimulus Funding Programs
 - Delay of Elections Task Force Implementation
 - Sled Dog Task Force
 - New Funding for Wildfire Prevention
 - New Funding for West Nile Virus Prevention
- Joint news releases / media events to promote Gas Tax –Public Transit projects in:
 - Kamloops
 - Kelowna (2)
 - Saanich
 - Mission
 - Logan Lake
 - North Okanagan Regional District

- Vernon
- Cowichan Valley Regional District (2)
- Regional District of Central Okanagan (2)
- Regional District of East Kootenay (2)
- Williams Lake
- Port Alice
- Media relations on a range of local government issues, including:
 - Alerts and holding lines on CFIB reports to UBCM members
 - 2010 tanker resolution
 - RCMP contract negotiations
 - Downloading
 - Elections Taskforce implementation
 - 2011 Federal Budget (infrastructure commitments)

ADVICE, TRAINING AND INFORMATION SHARING

UBCM hosted or participated in a number of training events:

- Municipal Administration Training Institute; Capilano College local government administration course
- Local Government Management Association MATI leadership program, August 2010
- held province-wide C2C Forum on March 1, 2011
- supported the annual regional district Chairs and CAOs meeting
- Local Government Leadership Academy Forum held in Richmond on February 16-18, 2011
- Electoral Area Director’s Meeting held February 15-16, 2011
- Government Finance Officers Association of BC AGM, June 2011
- Green Communities Committee Carbon Neutral Workshops, June 7-23, 2011

MEMBER LIAISON

- 41 special appointments to visit members including trips to Alberni-Clayoquot, Central Okanagan, Okanagan-Similkameen, Kootenay Boundary, Cowichan Valley, Comox, Nanaimo, East Kootenay and select Metro Vancouver members
- Participated at Local Government Management Association and Government Finance Officers Association of BC conference tradeshows

CONVENTION

The UBCM Convention is an opportunity for our members to gather in one location to focus on policy development, provincial government relationships, training and to network with colleagues from around the province. Some highlights of the 2010 Convention were:

- High attendance, with 1871 registered delegates
- Long Service Awards (25 years) given to:
 - Councillor Bob Bose, City of Surrey
 - Councillor Larry McNabb, City of Nanaimo
- A Special Long Service (35+ years) was given to:
 - Mayor Alice Maitland, Village of Hazelton
- Life Memberships awarded to:
 - Hon. Bill Bennett, Minister of Community and Rural Development (2009-2010)
 - Director Harry Nyce, 2009-2010 UBCM President

OPTIONAL MEMBER SERVICES

There are some services to members that are offered on an optional, pay-as-you-go basis but they are a significant portion of UBCM's activities:

- Group Benefit Association Plan in 28th year of operation with approximately \$10.2 million in annual premiums; provide coverage and administer approximately 250 different plan designs covering approximately 3,000 employees
- processed over 375 benefit contract amendments
- re-designed employee benefit booklets and benefits database
- members purchase dog (70,140), and now, cat tags (4,980) through UBCM
- \$916,616 distributed to 101 members participating in the 2010 Commercial Vehicle Licensing program
- Bulk Fuel purchasing program officially underway spring 2011 in cooperation with Prairie Fuel Advisors - four members have signed on and internal systems have been implemented to track and record transactions

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

UBCM Executive and staff continue to look for ways to be more effective and in the past year this has included:

- analytic upgrades to Picture BC and UBCM mass email database to measure the effectiveness of these resources
- electronic voting system to be introduced at 2011 Convention
- UBCM logo redesigned
- on-line registration for Convention and other adhoc seminars continues

KEY INDICATORS

- six Executive meetings, including 31 Committee meetings held

- UBCM membership expands to include the two Nisga'a Villages of Laxgalts'ap and Gitlaxt'aamiks (formerly New Aiyansh) and the Resort Municipality of Sun Peaks
- 100% of BC local governments have membership in UBCM
- over the year numerous meetings with Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development staff and delegations from Minister as part of our quarterly Executive meetings. Undertook provincial government outreach as part of our April 2011 Executive meeting, including five Minister meetings as part of the Committee schedule

EXECUTIVE AND SECRETARIAT

- UBCM bylaws amended at the 2010 UBCM Convention providing for an increase in the Executive board from 19 to 21 members with the addition of two new Vancouver Metro Area Representatives
- Staffing: In the Richmond office, Marlene Wells, First Nations Relations policy analyst departs UBCM after 5 years and Shelley Webber joins the Victoria office as the Gas Tax and LGPS Program Assistant and Sarah Amyot has been hired as Youth Engagement Special Projects Coordinator along with Claudia De Haan, Special Projects Coordinator, BC Healthy Communities
- Natalie Laframboise, Liz Andersen depart; Brant Felker becomes permanent employee

ASSOCIATION SERVICES

UBCM provides services to:

- Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- BC Healthy Communities initiative - UBCM provides the secretariat support including staffing and offices
- Local Government Leadership Academy

FINANCE

- The year-end audited financial statements indicated a small surplus
- 2.5% dues increase in 2011

¹The format for Accomplishments in Brief reflects the Executive's Mission Statement. It is intended to connect accountability for outcomes with the objectives of UBCM.



FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Councillor Murry Krause,
Chair

Mayor Barry Janyk, Vice Chair

Councillor Jerrilyn Schembri

Chair Harry Nyce

Mayor Ralph Drew, Chair,
Lower Mainland Treaty
Advisory Committee

PRIORITIES

- Undertake research on local government experiences in non-treaty agreements
- Renew MOU on Local Government Participation in the New Relationship with MARR once research work completed
- Seek opportunities to enhance consultation with First Nations
- Work with the Province on developing a joint approach for educating provincial and federal negotiators about local government generally and, more specifically, on local governments issues related to treaty implementation and non-treaty agreements.
- Strengthening local government-First Nation relations and promoting best practices

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Province-Wide Community to Community (C2C) Forum

UBCM and First Nations Summit organized the fifth Province-wide C2C Forum which was held on March 1, 2011 at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre on Squamish Nation Territory in North Vancouver. The theme for the conference was *Co-operative Planning for a Common Purpose*. There were approximately 170 people in attendance. Sponsored by the federal government and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Forum was well-received by both local governments and First Nations.

The day was a mix of formal presentations and breakout discussion groups. Keynote speakers included former Premier, Mike Harcourt and National Chief Shawn A-in-Chut Atleo (who participated by video conference). Communities who presented as part of the day long Forum included:

- Pemberton, Squamish-Lillooet RD and N'Quat'qua on Winds of Change: A Harm Reduction Strategy
- Smithers and Office of the Wet'suwet'en on various joint initiatives which culminated in the development of a joint Economic Development Society
- Princeton and the Upper Similkameen Band on protecting cultural heritage sights.

The Forum was preceded by a Joint meeting of Treaty Advisory Committee (TAC) Chairs and Administrators. TAC representatives received an update from the BC Treaty Commission, received a presentation from LMTAC Chair, Mayor Ralph Drew on the implications of the *First Nations Commercial and Industrial Development Act* (FNCIDA) for local governments and, finally TACs heard from FCM on their new First Nations-Municipal Community Infrastructure Partnership Program (CIPP) Toolkit on Servicing Agreements. One of the key comments and concerns raised by TAC members was the cost to local governments participating in the treaty process and in implementation (ie. cost of negotiating service agreements).

Local Government Participation in Non-Treaty Agreements

In 2008, UBCM signed an MOU with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, in which the Province

commits to consulting with local governments on non-treaty negotiations that may impact local government jurisdiction. Over the last several months, UBCM has been in discussions with the Province regarding the implementation of the MOU and the role of local governments in these non-treaty negotiations. The Committee expressed concerns about the potential impacts of the FNCIDA and additions to reserve policy on communities throughout BC and the need for proper consultation when non-treaty agreements involving land and resources are being discussed.

In order to enhance our knowledge of the First Nations issues facing local governments outside the treaty process and to better understand what is happening on the ground, the Committee will be overseeing the development of a report that will research and identify case studies of local government experiences with other non-treaty agreements. The knowledge gained from the research will be used to inform UBCM's discussions with the Ministry on MOU renewal. Research is expected to begin in the summer of 2011 with a goal for MOU renewal in late fall.

New Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

The Committee had the opportunity to meet with the Honourable Mary Polak, the new Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation during the April Executive meeting. During that meeting the Committee conveyed their interest in renewing the MOU but advised that UBCM needed to complete its report on local government experiences in non-treaty agreements in order to inform Ministry discussions on MOU renewal. The Committee also indicated a desire for the Province to reinstate funding for TACs to assist local governments.

UBCM continued to administer the following programs:

- Regional Community to Community Forum Program;
- For two years now, the STIPP program has provided operational funding for TACs/local governments involved in treaty negotiations; and
- Building Governance Capacity, a pilot project program for shared local government and First Nation initiatives

GREEN COMMUNITIES



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Director Rhona Martin, Chair
Mayor Sharon Gaetz
Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Mayor Mike Bernier
Chair Al Richmond

PRIORITIES

- Work with the Ministry of Health Services and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development on addressing local government concerns around small water systems through the UBCM Small Water Systems Working Group;
- Work with the Ministry of Environment in developing a new provincial approach to species at risk stewardship on private lands;
- Work with the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands on the development of a framework for the redevelopment of former service stations as part of the British Columbia Brownfields Renewal Strategy, and seek solutions to downtown revitalization impediments arising from contamination;
- Advise on the development of any new provincial product stewardship program, including packaging, to ensure that the Province adopts a fully industry funded framework which maximizes the recovery rate and provides the broadest choice of options for consumers;
- Enhance water governance and management in British Columbia through participation in the *Water Act* Modernization process and the Collaborative Watershed Governance Initiative; and
- Monitor and respond to ongoing and emerging environmental policy, legislative, and regulatory issues that affect local government;
- Work with the Ministry of Environment on securing funding for the implementation of the Canadian Council of the Ministers of Environment Wastewater Strategy;
- Survey and assess local government progress on becoming carbon neutral by 2012.

Over the past year, the Environment Committee has been actively monitoring and advising on a number of key environmental issues which impact the sustainability and environmental well being of local communities. From the *Water Act* Modernization process, to the BC Brownfields Renewal Strategy, to the Recycling Regulation, the Committee has voiced local government concerns and recommendations on a number of key regulations, strategies and policies designed to green BC's communities.

At the forefront of the Committee's has been a series of water issues, including small drinking water systems, collaborative watershed governance, and the modernization of existing water legislation. UBCM struck a Small Water Systems Working Group, and has been working with the Province to identify policy and regulatory options to address outstanding local government concerns with the *Drinking Water Protection Act* and related Drinking Water Protection Regulation. Through participation on the Collaborative Watershed Governance Initiative Steering Committee, UBCM has been shaping the development of a multi-stakeholder accord for more collaborative governance within BC watersheds. The Committee has also been providing advisory support and submissions to the *Water Act* Modernization process, which seeks to update and streamline one hundred year old legislation through the creation of the *Water Sustainability Act*.

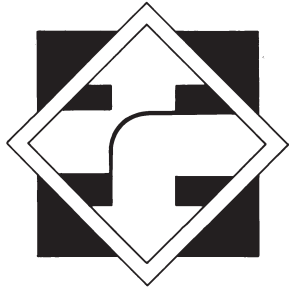
In response to ongoing concerns around sewerage and wastewater, the Committee held discussions with the Province on the need for senior order funding for the implementation of the new Canadian Council of the Ministers of Environment Wastewater Strategy. Through staff participation on the provincial Subdivision Best Practices Committee, efforts are underway to develop best practices for subdivisions that utilize on-site septic systems.

The Committee has also been proactively working with the Province on developing and implementing its "green agenda." Through participation in the BC Brownfield Renewal Strategy Steering

Committee, UBCM has been working on the development of a BC specific framework for the redevelopment of former service stations. The framework would identify opportunities, and build tools and resources to make the redevelopment process easier for all parties involved in redevelopment. The Committee has also been involved in the creation of a provincial approach to protecting species at risk on private lands, which will potentially raise awareness, align resources for shared priorities, outline options for local government engagement, and identify tools for species at risk protection. Discussions were also held with the Province over the scope and intent of the new *Net Zero Deforestation Act*, and its impact on local governments. In addition, UBCM has consulted with the Province on options for cosmetic pesticide use, advised on the provincial paper on bylaws standards for residential uses in the Agricultural Land Reserve, and reviewed and commented on the Riparian Areas Regulation draft Variance Protocol.

In accordance with the product stewardship framework adopted in the 2007 Environment Action Plan, the Committee monitored and advised on the creation of new, and the expansion of existing, product stewardship programs. After many years of local governments calling for a packaging product stewardship program, the Committee is pleased to note that the Recycling Regulation was amended in May 2011 to include packaging and printed materials. The Committee also provided advisory support for the implementation of the Climate Action Charter (CAC), of which one hundred and seventy-nine local governments have voluntarily signed. In June of this year, UBCM and provincial staff jointly conducted workshops throughout the province on a draft carbon neutral framework, outlining measurement tools and options for achieving carbon neutrality under the CAC.

Overall, the Environment Committee has been advocating local government interests on a wide range of regulations, policies, and strategies being devised and implemented by the Province to create and enhance sustainable "green" communities.



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mayor Mary Sjostrom, Chair

Mayor Barry Janyk

Mayor James Atebe

Councillor Galina Durant

PRIORITIES

- continue to monitor BC Utilities Commission hearings related to setting energy (electricity and gas) rates.
- review and comment on BC Hydro's draft Integrated Resource Plan when released.
- identify next steps or additional tools that might be developed to assist communities in follow up to the economic development report and survey that has been completed.
- continue to monitor implementation of the new aquaculture agreement and respond as necessary to both provincial and federal governments.
- continue to identify opportunities for energy conservation and efficiency for local governments.
- respond to provincial and federal initiatives that would impact local economic development.
- continue to monitor implementation of *Net Zero Deforestation Act* and their impacts on local government.
- represent interests of local governments as Province moves to implement new management framework for Off Road Vehicles.
- continue to work with others to support economic development opportunities for communities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENERGY POLICY REMAIN AS PRIORITY

Last year the Community Economic Development Committee launched its long awaited economic development report entitled: *Evaluating the Economic Development Role of BC Local Governments, A Snapshot of Community Effort and Opportunity*. The report provides an overview of the roles played by local governments in economic development and shares local government stories about how they have taken action aimed at bettering the economic and social well being of their communities. In follow up to that report, the Committee released a supplementary report last Fall that specifically profiled the survey results from BC communities, with an analysis of the variations between community size and region. The Committee is pleased that both reports have been well received by the membership and others outside of local government. As well, UBCM was asked to be part of the RuralBC Secretariat's webinar series on economic development this past January where we had an opportunity to share our work with a broader audience.

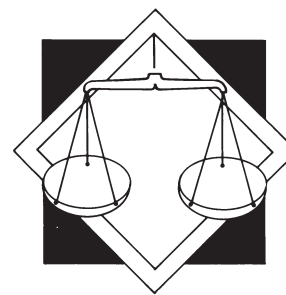
The Committee's policy work over the past year has been focused on energy, aquaculture and forestry. On the energy front, the Committee wrote to the Minister of Energy seeking clarification on specific aspects of the new *Clean Energy Act*; worked with the Commercial Energy Consumers group to represent local government interests at rate hearings; made a submission to BC Hydro's Integrated Resource Planning Process and wrote to the Minister of Energy with comments on the new self-sufficiency provisions included within the *Clean Energy Act*. The Committee is pleased to have Councillor Noreen Guenther, Lake Country represent local government interests on BC Hydro's Energy Conservation and Efficiency (EC&E) working group and FortisBC's Resource Planning Advisory Group. In November 2010, the Committee also received a delegation from the Canadian Wind Energy Association.

With respect to aquaculture, the Committee had previously expressed concerns to both provincial and federal officials about the lack of consultation with local governments on the transfer of regulatory authority from the Province to the federal government. Members will recall that the Supreme Court ruled that marine finfish aquaculture is a fishery and a matter of federal jurisdiction and directed the transfer of administration and regulatory control to the federal government. In December 2010 the federal government announced it had reached an agreement with the Province about the transfer of administration and control. The Committee has written to both Ministers responsible, once again, seeking clarification about the implications of the new agreement on local governments.

On the forestry file, the Committee is continuing to monitor the implementation of the *Net Zero Deforestation Act*. The Act is designed to assist the Province in securing its climate change goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The legislation is designed to facilitate the provincial commitment to pursue net zero deforestation, which is achieved when the area of newly created forest land in the province is equal to or greater than the area of deforestation. UBCM is working with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and the Ministry of Forests to ensure that there are no new obligations or requirements on local governments. As well the Committee reviewed the status of recommendations coming out of the Province's Forestry Roundtable and Third State of the Forests report.

Committee Chair Mayor Mary Sjostrom continues to serve as UBCM's appointment to the Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Joint Advisory Group and Chairs the new ORV local government working group. Both working groups are providing advice and input to the Province on the development of the new management framework for ORVs.

FOCUS REMAINS ON COST CONTAINMENT AND BUILDING A NEW RELATIONSHIP IN RCMP CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS



COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Councillor Kevin Flynn, Chair
Mayor James Atebe
Councillor Jerrilyn Schembri
Mayor Greg Moore
Mayor Mary Sjoström
Councillor Tim Stevenson
BC Assoc. of Police Boards

PRIORITIES

- RCMP Contract Renewal
- Keep of Prisoner Costs
- Cost of specialized police units outside of Lower Mainland

Over the past year, the major focus of the Community Safety Committee has been on the renewal of the RCMP Contract. A special resolution (SR1 - RCMP Police Costs & Accountability) was endorsed at the 2010 UBCM Convention and it highlighted the need for political action at this point in the discussions. The resolution outlined a strategy to ensure that the federal and provincial government understood the key local government concerns regarding the delivery of RCMP services. The Committee has helped to facilitate the implementation of this strategy in the past year.

The Committee met with Mayor Fassbender, the UBCM representative appointed to represent local government on the provincial negotiating team, to receive updates and to provide input into the negotiations. The focus of the negotiations over the past year has been on governance/accountability measures and cost containment/affordability issues. The Community Safety Committee has held discussions with the Province on the creation of an RCMP Contract Management Committee and has requested local government input on the Terms of Reference developed for this new Committee to assist in improving RCMP accountability.

The RCMP contract negotiations have moved up to the Deputy Minister level and Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Safety

and Solicitor General is now playing the lead role for the Province. The Deputy Minister chairs the Provincial Territorial Contract Advisory Committee (P/T CAC), for the six provinces and three territories, which are continuing to negotiate the renewal of the RCMP contract with the federal government. The Committee met with the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Minister Lori Wanamaker to discuss the RCMP contract negotiations and highlight local government interests.

The Committee also undertook a survey of Keep of Prisoner (KOP) costs to identify local governments concerns. The survey on KOP rates highlighted two major problems. The first problem is the increasing costs that local government faces in looking after provincial/federal prisoners and the fact that the current rates do not cover the costs. The second problem is the increasing costs that local government faces to meet new security standards demanded by the provincial/federal government in local jails.

And finally, the Committee has worked with the Province on a number of legislative initiatives. A key initiative was the passage of legislation to establish an independent police investigation office. The passage of this legislation is a major step in addressing community concerns about police investigating police.



COMMITTEES REPORT OUT ON KEY AREAS OF ACTIVITY

PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE

Councillor Barbara Steele,
President
Director Heath Slee, 1st Vice-
President
Mayor Mary Sjostrom, 2nd Vice-
President
Director Rhona Martin, 3rd
Vice-President
Mayor Greg Moore, GVRD
Representative
Chair Harry Nyce, Past
President

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Director Heath Slee, Chair
Mayor Christopher Causton
Councillor Wesly Graham
Councillor Kevin Flynn
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Chair Harry Nyce

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Mayor Sharon Gaetz, Chair
Mayor Greg Moore
Mayor Christopher Causton
Mayor Mike Bernier
Councillor Sav Dhaliwal

PRESIDENTS

This past year has been one of significant change both externally and internally. Externally, on the provincial front, Premier Campbell resigned; Christy Clark became the new Liberal party leader and Premier; and NDP leader Carole James resigned with Adrian Dix selected as their new party leader. Federally, there was an election returning the Conservatives to government with a majority and the NDP becoming the Official Opposition. All of this change has made intergovernmental relations a challenge over the past year.

Internally, our organization has also undergone significant change. The Presidents Committee expanded its membership this past year to include the GVRD representative on the Executive. This action was carried out in response to recommendations coming forward from the UBCM Structure Review Committee on Executive composition. This direction, in tandem with the endorsement of the extraordinary resolution to amend the UBCM bylaws to include two new 'elected' Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, ensures greater Metro Vancouver representation on the Executive.

In addition to providing overall management responsibility for UBCM affairs between Executive meetings, the Committee took on some specific tasks and provided oversight on key projects. The following provides an overview of some of those projects undertaken over the past year.

Prior to the 2010 UBCM Convention, the Presidents Committee in conjunction with the Convention

Committee established a new long service award category to recognize those elected officials serving in office for 35 years or more. This category will be a permanent addition to the recognition awards presented at the annual Convention.

In addition to its oversight of the Local Government Awareness Week program and the Excellence Awards program, the Committee oversaw the development of a new member service—a bulk fuel purchasing program. Early indicators reveal that the program will be popular with UBCM members.

One of the key policy projects undertaken this year was the production and release of the *Comment on Fiscal Management in British Columbia's Municipalities*. This report was the result of a direction by UBCM's Executive for a report that would challenge CFIB's claims regarding municipal spending and taxation. UBCM formed a steering group with staff from the Local Government Management Association and Government Finance Officer's Association of BC and contracted with Mr. Allan Neilson-Welch to write the report. One of the principle findings of the *Comment* was that recent increases in local government spending were driven by local demand (particularly for protective and recreational services) and downloading from other levels of government. Contrary to CFIB's claims, the report also shows that businesses are contributing a decreasing share of property tax over the past twenty years and have strong representation in the percentage of men and women elected to Councils with a private sector background.

On the international front, UBCM

will be entering into a partnership with Vietnam through FCM's Municipal Partners in Economic Development program. Following an initial mission to Vietnam by President Steele and UBCM staff, the Executive has moved forward in establishing a 5 year MOU with the Association of Cities of Vietnam (ACVN) under which UBCM will help support ACVN's capacity building and strategic development efforts. Work is now underway on ACVN's 2011-2016 strategic plan, which is expected to be presented to their congress in November. The strategic plan will identify key priorities for the association over the period, which in turn will inform an overall MOU implementation work plan.

In May, FCM sponsored an MPED participants study tour to Canada, which included UBCM, LGMA, GFOA and the Province hosting delegations from Vietnam, Cambodia and Tanzania to share our experiences and knowledge on local economic development policy and practices.

And finally, the Committee is the contact point for UBCM representatives to the Municipal Pension Board to Trustees. Board representatives report out regularly to the Presidents Committee on the status of Board discussions and provided a delegation to the full Executive at their January 2011 meeting.

CONVENTION

The 2010 Convention was held in Whistler from September 27th to October 1st, and adopted a "Forging Gold Medal Standards" theme. A total of 1,871 delegates attended the Convention, representing 190 UBCM member communities from all across the province. A variety of tours and sessions were held on current issues of relevance, including sustainability and Green Communities, affordable housing, and developing agreements with First Nations. Programming also included several clinics and workshops on topics ranging from "Archaeology and Local Governments" to "Financing Local Government Services Effectively". Delegates had the opportunity to set policy through Resolutions sessions, and participate in a number of Provincial Policy sessions and Cabinet Panels.

RESOLUTIONS

The annual resolutions process is the foundation of UBCM's ongoing advocacy work on behalf

of local governments in BC. Through resolutions, UBCM members speak with one voice to express the needs and concerns of BC communities. Issues raised and solutions proposed in resolutions often result in positive change for the membership.

Recent responses to a wide range of past UBCM resolutions provide examples of the kinds of success that can be achieved through this process:

- in February 2010 the BC Forest Practices Board released the report, "Managing Forest Fuels in the Wildland Urban Interface", commending local government work on wildfire protection plans and fuel management projects. The report acknowledged a number of local government concerns raised in resolutions 2008-B59, 2007-B74, 2006-B70 and 2005-B125.
- in consideration of the long-standing UBCM position expressed in resolutions including 2009-A5, 2006-B42, 2006-B44, 2003-B29, 2002-B19 and 2001-B85, and further to the provincial *Wood First Act* enacted in 2009, in spring 2010 the UBCM Executive committed to working with Wood First BC and the Province to develop a strategy prioritizing the use of wood in local construction projects that receive provincial funding.
- the Province launched the Remote Community Implementation Program (RCI) in spring 2010 to support remote communities with funding to implement clean energy and energy efficiency projects. This program addresses issues raised in resolutions 2009-B105, 2009-B166, 2008-B89, 2007-B33, 2007-B130 and 2006-B111.
- resolution 2010-B130 asked the provincial and federal governments for flexible deadlines on a case by case basis in order to maximize the effectiveness of projects funded under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and the Building Canada Fund – Communities Component Top-Up. In December 2010 the federal government announced an extension of the construction deadline for a number of infrastructure projects, to allow time challenged projects to be completed.
- the 2011 provincial budget included a commitment to reinstate the Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grant to 2008/09 levels, responding in part to resolution 2009-LR9, which asked for confirmation of a permanent traffic fine revenue sharing plan in order to provide certainty for local government police budget planning.
- resolution 2009-LR1 called on the federal government to cease all efforts to de-staff light

stations and instead commit to maintaining light station staffing levels indefinitely, in order to ensure public safety and the vibrancy of the coastal economy. In March 2011 the federal government announced the cancellation of plans to de-staff 50 lighthouses in BC, Newfoundland and Labrador.

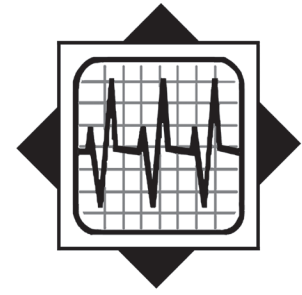
- the provincial government renewed the West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative for 2011, with funding available to local governments in high-risk areas of the province—responding to resolutions 2010-LR1 and 2006-B49.
- the Province has indicated that it plans to implement the bulk of the Local Government Elections Task Force recommendations for the 2014 local government elections, with two exceptions: for 2011 the Province intends to enact legislation to change the date of the 2014 local government election to the third Saturday in October; and the Province will clarify by regulation the eligibility of local government volunteers (i.e. volunteer firefighters) to run for office within their local government. These changes respond directly to requests made in resolutions 2010-A3 and 2009-B98.
- resolution 2009-A2 called on the provincial government to work with UBCM and other local government partner organizations to proclaim an annual local government week in BC. Following a successful event in 2010, the Province, UBCM and partners again held Local Government Awareness Week in May 2011, in conjunction with National Public Works Week.

- the Province committed \$25 million to continue the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative in 2011, assisting at-risk local governments to develop community wildfire protection plans; develop fuel management prescriptions; implement fuel management demonstration projects; or undertake operational fuel treatment activities. This responds to previous resolutions including 2010-B68, 2010-B91, 2008-B59, 2007-B74, 2006-B70 and 2005-B125.
- the Province announced in June 2011 a commitment of over \$2 million for the infrastructure to support high-speed Internet service in rural communities across BC, responding to requests made in resolutions 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35 and 2002-B23.

These are some recent success stories. Not all resolutions achieve immediate results, but they bring important local government issues to the attention of the provincial and federal governments. The direct responses to UBCM resolutions from provincial and federal ministries over the past several years indicate that UBCM's collective voice is heard loud and clear.

In 2011, members' concerns reflect a wide range of issues, including funding for policing and community safety; regulation of scrap metal and dealing with metal theft; taxation of utilities; MSP premiums and hospital funding; funding for heritage preservation and public libraries; assessment of contaminated land or brownfield sites; and water rights and regulation.

Building Healthy Communities



Over the past year, the Healthy Communities Committee has monitored and advised on a number of healthy community related issues with local governments, the Province and other organizations.

The issue of child poverty continues to be a priority for the Committee. This work began in 2009 when the membership endorsed resolution 2009-SR2, which requested that the Province develop and implement a comprehensive, cross-ministry strategy to address child poverty. The Committee continues to advocate for policies and initiatives to reduce the number of children living in poverty in BC and recently met with Honourable Mary McNeil, Minister of Children and Family Development to receive an update on provincial government plans to address the issue.

The Committee has also been monitoring the relationships between local governments and health authorities, particularly with the introduction of the *Public Health Act* in 2008, which has updated roles for local governments with respect to public health. A survey was launched in March 2011 to understand if local governments are taking action around implementing sections of the *Act*, how the *Act* has affected local government operations, and to gain a better understanding of the relationship between local governments and health authorities. The information provided in the survey will assist the Committee in determining future actions and projects on behalf of the membership with regards to these issues.

Committee member, Chair Al Richmond, continues to act as co-chair for the Emergency Medical Assistants Emergency Fund Advisory Committee. This \$5 million fund was established by the Emergency and Health Services Commission and provides education bursaries for emergency medical assistants enrolled in the Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP) and the Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) programs in BC, in an effort to increase the number of PCP-licensed paramedics living and working in rural or remote areas of BC, as well as the number of ACP-licensed paramedics in BC.

Since the last Convention, much work has been undertaken to implement the recommendations in the 2008 Regional Hospital District Cost Sharing Review. This work will be presented to the delegates at the 2011 Convention.

Finally, the Committee has participated in a number of other activities including:

- Advising on the development of the Provincial Health Services Authority's new food security framework, *Promoting Healthy Eating and Sustainable, Local Food in BC: Action Framework for Public Institutions - Health Authorities, Educational Institutions, Childcare Facilities, and Local Governments*
- Advising on the development of a local government toolkit for the Ministry of Health's Produce Availability in Remote Communities Initiative
- Participating on Seniors Healthy Living Advisory Network

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Chair Al Richmond, Chair
Councillor Murry Krause
Director Rhona Martin
Director Heath Slee
Councillor Wesly Graham
Councillor Galina Durant

PRIORITIES

- Continue to advocate for policies and initiatives to reduce the number of children living in poverty in BC
- Monitor the relations between Health Authorities and local governments/RHDs
- Continue work on the implementation of recommendations from the 2008 RHD Cost Sharing Review
- Proactively seek and participate in programs to enhance our capacity to assist local governments in health promotion activities



LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM SERVICES

...programs to address provincial-local government shared priorities

Administration provided
by UBCM

Funding provided by:
Province of B.C.



LGPS Secretariat

Local Government House
525 Government Street
Victoria, BC
V8V 0A8
Email: lgps@ubcm.ca

Phone: 250.356.5134
Fax: 250.356.5119

For more information,
visit the
Funding Programs section at:
www.ubcm.ca

UBCM has delivered numerous provincially funded programs since 2004. Although no new programs were offered in the past year, many funding opportunities were available to local governments, First Nations and other eligible applicants through a number of existing programs. For additional program information and program outcomes and accomplishments, please refer to any of the status reports developed for individual programs available on our website.

This year's financial statements include audited accounts for the funds received, amounts disbursed and fund balances. It is important to note that LGPS funds are completely separate from regular UBCM accounts.

The following is a summary of programs administered by LGPS on behalf of the province in the past year.

Building Governance Capacity

Administered for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation (\$300,000 in 2008)

This program was developed in 2007 to assist local governments and First Nations that have an established working relationship to address specific capacity gaps related to governance issues. Matching grants of up to \$25,000 have supported partners to work together on common governance-related issues, participate in capacity building activities or events and build governance management skills, knowledge, abilities and understanding. To date 12 projects have been funded and 2 additional applications are under review. All available funds are now committed for this program and a final program report will be developed when all projects are completed.

Community Structural Protection Units

Administered for the Office of the Fire

Commissioner / Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (\$1 million in 2004)

Structural protection units are available for deployment in the event of a fire in the wildland urban interface. These units are owned by UBCM and managed in cooperation with the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations. The units were used extensively during the 2010 fire season, at 14 fires, including Tatuk Lake, Dog Creek, Greer Creek and Bonaparte Lake, and substantially reduced structural loss in these areas. In 2010, two new trailers were purchased and are in the process of being refurbished.

Community Tourism

Administered for the Province of British Columbia (\$25 million in 2005)

The Community Tourism program was offered in two phases and provided the opportunity for every local government in BC to undertake tourism planning or projects that were relevant and meaningful in their communities. A broad range of activities, such as planning and marketing, festivals and events, and small capital investments, were funded. A comprehensive report for Phase 1 of the program is available on the UBCM website and an overall program report will be developed when all projects are completed.

Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal

Administered for the Minister of Agriculture and Lands and the Investment Agriculture Foundation (\$384,133 since 2007)

Working with the Investment Agriculture Foundation this program was developed to assist communities wishing to develop an emergency plan in order to handle mass carcass disposal in the event of an emergency event. Since 2008, 22 communities with a large population

of farmed animals that could be impacted in an emergency have completed plans. All available funds are now committed for this program.

Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum Program

Administered for the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development and Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (\$1,020,000 since 1999)

The Regional C2C program has provided opportunities for local governments and First Nations to come together in dialogue on topics of mutual interest or concern since 1999. To date, more than 350 C2C events have been held across the province and an additional 25 applications, for 40 events, have been approved or are under review for the 2011/12 fiscal year.

School Community Connections

Administered with the BC School Trustees Association for the Ministry of Education (\$10 million in 2005)

The School Community Connections (SCC) program was launched in 2005 to promote sustainable and innovative collaboration between boards of education and local governments. To date:

- 55 Boards of Education were funded in at least one phase of the original 2005 program;
- 184 projects were completed under the 2008 program;
- 21 projects have been completed under Round 1 of the 2010 program, and an additional 70 projects will be completing in 2011, and;
- 2 projects have been completed under Round 2 of the 2010 program, and an additional 80 projects will be completing in 2011

All available funds are now committed for this program and a final program report will be developed when all projects are completed.

Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development and Ministry of Health (\$2,679,123 since 2004)

The seniors' program was launched in 2004 to assist local governments to prepare for an aging population by supporting the ability of BC's older adults to age in place. Since then, 3 program streams have been supported and, to date:

- 48 local governments were funded to hold dialogue events;
- 52 pilot projects were completed;
- 49 age-friendly planning initiatives or community projects have been completed and an additional 5 projects will be completed this year.

We anticipate providing another round of funding for age-friendly planning and projects in the near future.

Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (\$62 million since 2004)

The Strategic Wildfire Prevention program has four separate funding streams:

- Community wildfire protection plans (CWPP)
- Pilots/Fuel management demonstration projects
- Fuel Management Prescriptions
- Operational fuel treatments.

Between 2004 and 2010, funding supported the completion of 166 CWPPs, and an additional 58 plans are scheduled to be completed this year. Similarly, 144 fuel management prescriptions were completed and nearly another 100 will be completed in 2011. Under the original program, funding was also committed for local governments and First Nations for 27 fuel management pilot projects and more than 115 operational fuel treatments.

In April 2011, the Province provided an additional \$25 million for the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative. The program was launched in June and applications for all four funding streams will be reviewed in July and October.

Supporting Treaty Implementation Pilot Project Program

Administered for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation (\$100,000 in 2007)

Initially, the Supporting Treaty Implementation program provided grants for pilot projects that supported treaty implementation through activities such as developing an agreement between a local government and First Nation, establishing a mentoring program, or undertaking a community education campaign. Three projects were completed and one additional project will be completed in 2011.

In 2009, UBCM worked with the Ministry to enhance the program in order to support Treaty Advisory Committees (TACs) to participate at treaty tables. This resulted in a program that provided the opportunity for TACs and/or local governments to apply for operating funds for 2009/10 and for 2010/11. In total, 17 TACs and/or local governments received funding in the last 2 years.

West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Health (\$19 million since 2005)

The West Nile Virus (WNV) Risk Reduction Initiative was developed in 2005 and was available to all local governments and First Nations in BC, with some opportunities for activities on Crown land, until 2009. In early 2010, the Ministry and provincial public health officials engaged in a re-evaluation of the actual risk of WNV in BC and agreed that, largely due to climate factors, large areas of BC are unlikely to be affected by WNV. Based on this, the funding under the 2010 and 2011 WNV program was available only to regional districts (including member municipalities and area First Nations) in the highest risk areas of the province.



GAS TAX/PUBLIC TRANSIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

...investing in local government capacity and infrastructure

Administration provided by UBCM
Funding provided by Government
of Canada



In partnership with:



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under
Programs & Services

2011 marks UBCM's sixth year delivering funding under the Gas Tax Agreement programs, and the completion of two transit programs, the federally funded Public Transit Agreement and the provincially funded Public Transit Infrastructure Program.

Gas Tax Agreement

This year also marks a funding milestone for us, with cumulative Gas Tax program funding topping **\$1 Billion**. Taking the latest payment into consideration – deposited just as our fiscal year was closing – UBCM has received \$1,011,644,500 in federal funding under the Gas Tax Agreement.

UBCM's Gas Tax priorities in the first part of this fiscal year focused on discussions with our federal and provincial program partners on amendments to the Gas Tax Agreement.

These amendments, signed in September 2010, provide some changes to eligible project categories to bring them into alignment with agreements in other provinces. The result is a slight broadening of eligibility with respect to local roads, bridges and tunnels.

Program development related to the pooled funding programs, including Innovations Fund, General Strategic Priorities Fund and the Regionally Significant Project Fund, also took place over the summer, with application intakes announced in September 2010.

The application deadline for the Innovations Fund and General Strategic Priorities Fund was April 29, 2011, and application evaluation is now underway.

The 2011-2014 Regionally Significant Projects Fund program for the eight Tier 2 regions was also unveiled in September 2010. The program supports these regions in planning for, and funding, priority regional infrastructure. Proposals from the regions are accepted on an ongoing basis through to September 2012.

Gas Tax funded projects have now topped the 1,000 mark – with our last annual Gas Tax report indicating 1,002 projects either completed or in process.

Public transit projects top the list in terms of spending, primarily since public transit has been identified as the priority for Gas Tax funding in the Metro Vancouver area.

There is a much more even distribution when considering the number of projects funded, with each of roads and active transportation, water, community energy, and capacity building categories representing roughly 20% of the total projects funded.

Public Transit Agreement and Public Transit Infrastructure Program

The \$105 million Public Transit Agreement and Public Transit Infrastructure Program, initiated in 2006 and 2007, respectively, have come to a close.

All projects were completed by the March 31, 2011 spending deadline, and communities are seeing the benefit of improved transit and active transportation infrastructure.

The transit programs supported the purchase of transit vehicles for the TransLink system in the Metro

Vancouver area, and for many of the 45 BC Transit/local government systems in the rest of the province.

In addition, the funding supported transit exchanges and bus stop improvements for most of these systems. One of the most innovative projects was a maintenance facility and hydrogen fueling station in Whistler to service the world's largest hydrogen fuel cell bus fleet.

These programs also supported several active transportation improvements, including bike lanes, and pedestrian bridges in many areas of the province.

Reporting and further information

UBCM annually produces an Annual Expenditure

Report in relation to the Gas Tax Agreement and Public Transit Agreement programs.

In addition to UBCM and recipient financial information, the report provides program details, highlights of projects funded and progress towards the reduced greenhouse gas, cleaner air and cleaner water outcomes expected under the Gas Tax Agreement.

The report is due by September 30 each year and reports on Gas Tax/Public Transit activities for the previous year, with some cumulative information from the inception of the programs. The most recent Annual Expenditure Report is available on our website.