

2017 UBCM Annual Report & Resolutions





**Roots to
RESULTS**
UBCM 2017

**ANNUAL REPORT & RESOLUTIONS
TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE
2017 UBCM CONVENTION**

DATES:

Pre-Convention:

Mon., Sept. 25 - Tues., Sept. 26

Business Sessions:

Wed., Sept. 27 - Fri., Sept. 29

LOCATION:

Vancouver Convention Centre,
Vancouver, BC

FOR MORE DETAILS:

Prior to Convention: ubcm.ca

During Convention: eventmobi.com/ubcm



CONVENTION PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 25 - 29 | VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE, BC

Table of Contents

Letter of Transmittal	2
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Corporate Operations

Executive Priorities	4
Mission Statement	9
UBCM Executive	10
UBCM Staff	13

Policy and Advocacy

Presidents Committee	17
Convention Committee	19
Environment Committee	20
Indigenous Relations Committee	21
Community Safety Committee	22
Community Economic Development Committee	24
Healthy Communities Committee	26
Resolutions Committee	28
Emerging and Ongoing Policy Files	46

Programs and Services

Local Government Program Services	52
Gas Tax Agreement	54
Member Services	56

Financial Statements

Audited Financial Statements	59
------------------------------------	----

Letter of Transmittal

It is our pleasure to present this Annual Report to the membership of the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

UBCM was formed in 1905 to provide a common voice for local government in British Columbia. While our membership of 189 local governments and 7 First Nations is inherently diverse, there are many themes that unite us. Our aim is to identify and highlight the common issues that are impacting BC communities, and work with other orders of government to develop policies, programs and legislation to best address those issues.

The work of your Executive and the Secretariat in 2016-2017 has followed the same principles that have guided our work since our founding in 1905. In order to speak credibly and effectively on behalf of local government, our advocacy is non-partisan, policy based and member driven. With 2017 being a provincial General Election year, we are very appreciative of our meetings with the three main political parties in British Columbia both prior to and following the vote. Over the coming year, we will continue to work to ensure that all parties are aware of the interests and ideas that matter to local government.

Once again infrastructure advocacy and program delivery feature among our accomplishments. As the administrator for the Federal Gas Tax Fund in BC, we have overseen the transfer of \$395 million in federal funding to BC communities through this program. UBCM has also been active alongside the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in advocating for continued increased federal and provincial cost sharing for new infrastructure programs as well as greater local government input into program design.

Since the last Convention, we have also been active in preparing for provincial consultations on marijuana legalization; launched a working group to investigate housing affordability; and delivered a report from the Responsible Conduct Working Group. Each of these issues will feature in the policy sessions and clinics at our 2017 Convention.

The most important message we wish to communicate, though, is that it is both an honour and privilege to work on behalf of our membership. BC local governments excel in sustainable service delivery and accountable, transparent governance and we are proud to represent your common interests. We appreciate the support we receive from 100% of the local governments in British Columbia and will work throughout the coming year to retain your support.



Murry Krause, President



Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director

Corporate Operations



Corporate Operations

Executive Priorities

At the November 2016 Executive meeting, board members identified priorities for the coming year. Over the course of 2016-17, adjustments have been made to those priorities, in response to challenges and opportunities that have arisen, most notably the May 2017 provincial government election. As well with announced federal infrastructure commitments within the 2017 budget, our Executive has continued to advocate for a dedicated portion of those dollars to local governments. The chart below provides a summary of the past year's priorities and their status at year-end.

As well the following page provides greater detail on the work undertaken to advance these priorities, and others, and to update the membership on changes within UBCM's internal operations.

Priorities	Progress to Date
Infrastructure Investment	<p>Federal Phase 1 Infrastructure Funding Announcement and delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean Water & Wastewater Fund (\$450m) - fully committed• Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (\$900m) – fully committed• Federal share (50%), Provincial share (33%), Local Government share (17%) <p>Federal Phase 2 Infrastructure Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of UBCM's Canada's New Infrastructure Plan – Phase 2 Programming/Funding including four key guiding principles; provision of effective funding and programming, development of fair and equitable governance, commitment by federal and provincial government, and commitment by local government. <p>Engaged FCM in the development of FCM programs for asset management and climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• aligned UBCM Asset Management Planning Grant Program to improve access to FCM funding for BC local governments.

Priorities	Progress to Date
BC Provincial Election 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> designed and executed a provincial election strategy to raise awareness of key UBCM priorities in advance of the May 2017 BC election. assessed the election results in terms of local government interests. engaged in post election advocacy to identify opportunities to advance UBCM priorities and enhance existing, and develop new, relationships in light of uncertain election results.
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prepared background material and SR1 for consideration and endorsement at the 2016 Convention to support the role and activities of local governments with respect to development and their role in supporting affordable housing options within their communities. extensive outreach/survey work with Metro communities to address and counter provincial government statements about local governments holding up development of affordable housing. established Special Committee on Housing comprising both elected and staff representatives.
Engage with Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development staff to advance work on local government liability reforms identified by the UBCM Executive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> focus has been on the responsible conduct file – MCSCD resources have been deployed to this file not to liability reform. (see below).



Nakusp, BC

Corporate Operations

BC Provincial Election 2017

In July 2016, the UBCM Executive approved a provincial election strategy to raise awareness of, and support for, UBCM's election priorities amongst provincial parties in advance of the May 2017 election. UBCM focused on five key election priorities: strategic investments in infrastructure; local government finance and new revenue sources; protective services cost drivers; housing challenges; and climate action.

UBCM created a platform document called *Our Communities: Building BC's Foundation*, which contained a series of recommendations in these five areas. The platform balanced recommendations aimed at strengthening local government along with those that build communities.

Throughout 2016 and early 2017, UBCM conducted outreach to the three main political parties around the key priorities within the platform document. UBCM staff met with party staff and elected officials involved in developing the platforms for the respective party campaigns. The UBCM President met with Premier Christy Clark, NDP Leader John Horgan and Green Party Leader Andrew Weaver. In addition, during the February Executive meeting, the UBCM Executive met with over 30 Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) on the platform and shared the election priorities with the BC Mayors Caucus.

On the membership side, UBCM shared the platform via the *Compass* and the UBCM website, tracked media engagement on key local issues, and posted a platform analysis of the three parties commitments in regards to its five election priorities.

The Liberal, NDP, and Green party platforms addressed three of UBCM's priority areas including infrastructure investments, responding to housing challenges, and climate action. UBCM reached out to all parties following the May 9th election, and highlighted areas of alignment within their platforms. UBCM also acknowledged the pressing need to move forward with consultation on a 'made in BC' framework for marijuana legalization prior to July 2018.

As UBCM continues its outreach, it notes that over one-third of the members of the next Legislative Assembly will draw upon prior experience as local elected officials. Thirty-one (31) of the eighty-seven (87) current MLAs have served at least one term as a local elected official.

Legalization of Cannabis

Over the past year, the legalization of cannabis has become an emerging issue with significant potential implications on local government finances and resources. The April 13, 2017 tabling of federal legislation (Bill C-45 & Bill C-46) has provided insight as to some potential areas of concern, including the need for certainty around implementation of a provincial framework; meaningful consultation with federal, and in particular provincial, governments; a framework that avoids downloading of responsibilities without adequate funding; revenue sharing among all orders of government; and, a system that respects local choice, jurisdiction and authority.

UBCM is preparing an Executive Resolution for debate at the 2017 Convention that seeks to provide direction prior to what appears to be an intensive twelve months of consultation in development of the made in BC approach. This would complement established policy that seeks direct involvement in the process to establish a regulatory approach to cannabis and adequate implementation timelines (2016-A2); and requests a portion of taxation revenue be shared with local governments (2016-A3).

Working Group on Responsible Conduct

Following on the referral of Resolution B70-2016, which called for the creation of local independent integrity commissioners, the Working Group on Responsible Conduct (WGRC) was struck to undertake additional policy work as directed by UBCM Executive. The WGRC is a staff level committee with membership from UBCM, the Local Government Management Association and the Ministry of Community Sport and Cultural Development. Over the course of this year, the WGRC prepared a Consultation Paper and surveyed UBCM and LGMA members. A report by the WGRC is the basis for Policy Paper #1 to the 2017 UBCM Convention.

UBCM Internal Operations

Review and Policy Update on Group Benefits Governance

UBCM has taken measures to update historical Letters of Understanding (LOU) with participating members of our Group Benefits Plan to ensure that members have an understanding of roles and responsibilities. UBCM will be working on a similar LOU with the group carrier in the coming year and continue to work on improving governance and policy in this area. A review of the contract wording in the employee booklets and the first phase of group benefits database re-design was completed.

Audio Visual RFP Process and Contract

UBCM undertook a Request for Proposal for Audio Visual services to ensure that the convention was receiving excellent service, current AV equipment and value. Two proponents bid on the contract and made presentations. FMAV was successful in securing a four-year contract effective 2017.

Finalize a Renewed UBCM Commitment in FCM International Programs

UBCM has been involved in international programming through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for over twenty years. Over the past year UBCM participated in a mission with the National League of Communities in Cambodia. The UBCM Executive has committed to a project involving capacity building with the national local government association in Cambodia and has entered into a MOU with FCM to support this work for a period through to November, 2020.

Review the Commercial Vehicle License Program

This was identified as a priority at the November 2016 Executive meeting. Due to restricted staff capacity and resources at both UBCM and the provincial level this review will be brought forward for consideration in the coming year.

Corporate Operations

Information Technology/Information Management (IT/IM)

UBCM continues to implement the UBCM IT/IM Strategy. The strategy looks at cost effective ways to improve efficiency and effectiveness while maintaining best practices in managing information and technology internally and externally to UBCM membership.

Project Information Management System (PIMS)

UBCM has launched a new Program Information Management System (PIMS) to provide a single entry online portal for local governments for all Federal Gas Tax Fund related commitments with UBCM.

PIMS was developed to streamline local government Gas Tax project and financial reporting requirements, including: annual expenditure reporting; outcomes and asset management reporting; management of funding contracts; and submission of grant applications.

PIMS will also serve as a key administrative tool for UBCM Gas Tax Program Services staff to efficiently and effectively manage Gas Tax related responsibilities including financial administration, project and contract management, and federal reporting commitments. Moving forward, PIMS will be used for administration for Local Government Program Services.

UBCM Staffing Changes

There were a number of staffing changes within the UBCM's Richmond Office. After 32 years of service Susie Koivu, Financial Services Officer announced her retirement in December 2016. Hervinder Bains has since joined UBCM to fill this position. With the departure of Joslyn Young, Executive and Association Services Coordinator, Sarah Kim was hired in May 2017 to take on the role of Events and Sponsorship Coordinator. Marylyn Chiang, Senior Policy Analyst returned from maternity leave to resume support to the Environment and Healthy Communities Committees. With Marylyn's return Josh van Loon was moved to a full-time position as Senior Policy Analyst to provide policy support to the housing portfolio and to the Indigenous Relations Committee. UBCM's Richmond office is now back to full complement.

Within the Victoria office, Toby Simpson, who was originally hired as a co-op student to support the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative, has been extended and will support the Local Government Program Services. With the Spring 2017 announcement of the new Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, Rebecca Bishop has been hired on a 3-year contract to administer the new program, which will deliver 5 separate funding streams.

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.



Gold River, BC

Corporate Operations

UBCM Executive



Councillor Murry Krause
City of Prince George

President
Presidents Committee,
Chair
Indigenous Relations
Committee, Chair



Director Wendy Booth
East Kootenay RD

First Vice-President
Resolutions Committee, Chair
Presidents Committee



Councillor Arjun Singh
City of Kamloops

Second Vice-President
Environment Committee, Chair
Presidents Committee



Mayor Maja Tait
District of Sooke

Third Vice-President
Healthy Communities
Committee, Vice Chair
Presidents Committee



Chair Al Richmond
Cariboo Regional District

Past President
Healthy Communities
Committee, Chair
Presidents Committee



Councillor Kerry Jang
City of Vancouver

Vancouver Representative
Convention Committee, Chair
Healthy Communities
Committee



Mayor Wayne Baldwin
City of White Rock

Metro/GVRD Representative
Community Safety Committee,
Chair
Presidents Committee



Mayor Galina Durant
District of Stewart

**Small Community
Representative**
Convention Committee
Healthy Communities Committee



Chair Art Kaehn
Fraser-Fort George RD

Electoral Area Representative
Community Economic
Development Committee, Chair
Environment Committee,
Vice-Chair



Councillor Bruce Hayne
City of Surrey

**Vancouver Metro Area
Representative**
Community Safety
Committee, Vice Chair
Community Economic
Development Committee



Councillor David Murray
City of Pitt Meadows

**Vancouver Metro Area
Representative**
Environment Committee
Indigenous Relations
Committee



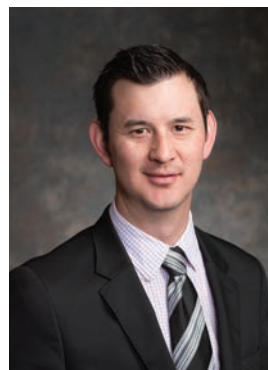
Mayor Debra Kozak
City of Nelson

AKBLG Representative
Community Safety Committee
Healthy Communities
Committee



Councillor Corisa Bell
City of Maple Ridge

**LMLGA Representative
(from Sept 2016 to Feb
2017)**
Community Safety
Committee
Community Economic
Development Committee



Councillor Jason Lum
City of Chilliwack

**LMLGA Representative
(from Feb 2017 to
present)**
Community Safety
Committee
Community Economic
Development Committee



**Councillor Laurey-Anne
Roodenburg**
City of Quesnel

NCLGA Representative
Community Economic
Development Committee
Convention Committee



Councillor Chad Eliason
City of Salmon Arm

SILGA Representative
Convention Committee, Vice
Chair
Environment Committee

Continued on page 10

Corporate Operations



Councillor Barbara Price
Town of Comox

AVICC Representative
Indigenous Relations
Committee, Vice-Chair
Community Economic
Development Committee



Director Jim Abram
Strathcona Regional District

Director at Large
Resolutions Committee
Indigenous Relations
Committee



Councillor Phil Brienese
Town of Smithers

Director at Large
Resolutions Committee
Indigenous Relations
Committee



Councillor Brian Frenkel
District of Vanderhoof

Director at Large
Community Economic
Development Committee,
Vice Chair
Environment Committee



Mayor Sharon Gaetz
City of Chilliwack

Director at Large
Resolutions Committee
Community Safety Committee



Chair Alison Sayers
Central Coast Regional District

Director at Large
Resolutions Committee, Vice
Chair
Convention Committee

UBCM Executive



Left to Right, back row: Councillor Jason Lum, Councillor Chad Eliason, Mayor Wayne Baldwin, Chair Art Kaehn, Mayor Sharon Gaetz, Director Jim Abram, Councillor Brian Frenkel

Left to Right, second row: Councillor Bruce Hayne, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, Mayor Debra Kozak, Councillor David Murray, Chair Alison Sayers, Councillor Phil Brienese

Left to Right, front row: Mayor Galina Durant, Chair Al Richmond, Councillor Arjun Singh, Councillor Murry Krause, Mayor Maja Tait, Director Wendy Booth, Councillor Kerry Jang

Not shown: Councillor Barbara Price

UBCM Staff

Left to Right, back row: Kathleen Spalek, Chief Financial Officer; Bhar Sihota, Policy Analyst; Raelene Adamson, Office Administrator; Anna-Maria Wijesinghe, Manager, Member & Association Services

Left to Right, front row: Hervinder Bains, Financial Services Officer; Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director; Marie Crawford, General Manager of Richmond Operations; Jamee Justason, Executive & Association Services Coordinator; Josh van Loon, Senior Policy Analyst

Not shown: Marylyn Chiang, Senior Policy Analyst (on mat. leave); Reiko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator; Sarah Kim, Events & Sponsorship Coordinator



Left to Right, back row: Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director; Brant Felker, Gas Tax Policy & Program Manager; Rebecca Williams, Program Assistant, Gas Tax Program Services; Glen Brown, General Manager of Victoria Operations

Left to Right, front row: Toby Simpson, LGPS Co-op Student; Paul Taylor, Director of Communications; Danyta Welch, Manager, LGPS; Liz Cookson, Executive & Association Services Coordinator; Peter Ronald, LGPS Programs Officer

Not shown: Sasha Prynn, Victoria Office Coordinator; Christina Ross, Gas Tax Program Analyst; Jared Wright, Director of Advocacy & Government Relations



Surrey, BC



Granisle, BC

Policy and Advocacy



Policy and Advocacy

UBCM's mandate is to advocate on behalf of BC local governments and member First Nations for the development and implementation of legislation, regulation, policies and programs that support the membership's needs. Our goal is to effect change that will benefit our members. To facilitate reaching that goal, UBCM participates in policy development and implementation processes in a number of ways:

- proactively – presenting our own independent initiatives to other governments (i.e. calling for the Province to maintain, at minimum, its traditional 33% commitment under the new federal infrastructure funding)
- reactively – responding to proposed provincial or federal policy changes (i.e. federal legislation to legalize marijuana)
- ongoing involvement – participating in Ministry-UBCM or multi-party policy development processes which are many and varied with some requiring sustained involvement while others may only require limited intervention (i.e. Working Group on Responsible Conduct).

Much of UBCM's policy work is done through the Executive and its Committees. The following pages provide an overview of the extensive policy work undertaken and outlines progress to date on various issues identified through annual Committee work plans.

In addition to the Executive and Committees, many policy topics are covered off through ongoing working groups, committees and meetings that UBCM appointments and staff attend. These policy matters are summarized in the section that follows the Committee overviews.



Chase, BC

Presidents Committee

Secretariat / Financial Management • Intergovernmental Relations • Best Practices • Member Services

Priorities	Progress to Date
Provide support to the UBCM Secretariat on member priorities, financial and human resource issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides strategic direction to the Secretariat between Executive meetings. • reports quarterly on UBCM finances to the Executive; oversees the annual financial audit and corporate investment policy. • serves as the contact point on staffing matters and HR initiatives. • established a committee to review and amend the FCM travel fund; established ad-hoc committee to review alternate 'unelected' electoral area directors and recommended locations / dates for future UBCM conventions. • confirmed an increase in the annual funding allocation to the Jeff McKelvey scholarship to support local government staff training/ education through the Board of Examiners.
Serve as the lead on intergovernmental relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • directs UBCM advocacy work on housing, asset management, compensation, infrastructure funding and oversees UBCM's participation in FCM's international programs. • renewed and signed Protocol on Cooperation and Consultation with BC School Trustees Association at the 2016 Convention. • serves as primary contact with Mayors' Caucus on coordinating activities. • oversaw development of the UBCM's 2017 Provincial Election Platform and led the Advocacy Days program in February 2017; including meetings with provincial elected officials, ministers and MLAs. • serves as the contact point for emerging local government issues with the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. • act as UBCM spokespersons with media and provincial and federal governments.

Policy and Advocacy

Priorities	Progress to Date
Promote Best Practices to UBCM Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> oversees the UBCM Excellence Awards program, issued call for applications, will review submissions in July and profile winners at 2017 UBCM Convention. developing a youth engagement strategy to assist and encourage members to attract youth into local elected office and / or careers paths.
Provide direction on UBCM Member Services and Group Benefits Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acted on recommendations coming forward from UBCM's group benefits program review; and serve as contact point for Plan Partner briefings on the Municipal Pension Plan.

Committee Members

Councillor Murry Krause, President
 Director Wendy Booth, First Vice-President
 Councillor Arjun Singh, Second Vice-President
 Mayor Maja Tait, Third Vice-President
 Mayor Wayne Baldwin, GVRD/Metro Representative
 Chair Al Richmond, Past President



2016 Convention in Victoria, BC

Convention Committee

The 2016 Convention was held in Victoria from September 26-30, with the theme of Stronger Together. A total of 2,080 delegates attended the Convention, an increase of 52 from 2015's Convention. The overall convention rating was a strong 4.2 out of 5, one of the higher ratings since UBCM started tracking results electronically in 1997.

A variety of tours and sessions were held this year on topics ranging from climate action, homelessness, and colonization. Programming also included a diverse range of clinics and workshops, including Cleaning Up Motels, Inns and Dives, Targeting Irresponsible Dog and Cat Breeders, and Responding Safely to Relationship Violence. As always, delegates had the opportunity to set policy through Resolutions sessions, and participate in a number of Provincial Policy sessions, Cabinet Panels and government meetings.

Committee Members

Councillor Kerry Jang, Chair
Councillor Chad Eliason, Vice Chair
Mayor Galina Durant
Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg
Chair Alison Sayers



2016 Convention in Victoria, BC

Policy and Advocacy

Environment Committee

Climate Action • Recycling • Contaminated Sites • Ocean Protection Plan • Land Based Spills

Priorities	Progress to Date
Respond to environmental policy matters falling within the scope of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provided a submission to the National Energy Board Expert Panel on the modernization of the NEB. raised local government concerns with the 2016 Identification of Contaminated Sites intentions paper and identified representatives for a provincial working group.
Participate in working groups and committees to ensure local government interests are represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> co-chaired the 3 new Green Communities Committee working groups to identify actions and strategies for refreshing actions under the Climate Action Charter and Climate Leadership Plan. participated in two land-based spill preparedness and response regime working groups. participated in the consultation on the federal government's Ocean Protection Plan, including the Area Response planning initiative, and the crude oil tanker moratorium. ongoing representative participation in Recycle BC's Advisory Committee on the packing and printed paper product stewardship program. participating in the Local Government Contaminated Sites Working Group. local government representative participation in the BC Energy Step Code Working Group and the BC Energy Step Code Council.
Work with the Province, Societies and other associations to seek out greater opportunities for environmental protection and improvement in BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> worked with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to address local government trapping challenges and solutions.

Committee Members

Councillor Arjun Singh, Chair
 Chair Art Kaehn, Vice Chair
 Councillor Brian Frenkel
 Councillor Chad Eliason
 Councillor Dave Murray

Indigenous Relations Committee

Treaty/Non-treaty Agreements • Indigenous Relations Policy and Initiatives • Relationship-Building

Priorities	Progress to Date
Monitor and respond to policy matters falling within the scope of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reviewed the federal Additions to Reserve Policy and coordinated with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on the communication of information on the policy to BC local governments. ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) regarding local government involvement in Strategic Engagement Agreements.
Advocate for local government interests through working groups and intergovernmental communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular communication and coordination with MARR and INAC on issues such as the Additions to Reserve Policy Directive, and the Regional Community to Community Forum program. member of the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan Provincial Coordination Team. met with Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to discuss implementation of the MOU on Local Government Participation in the New Relationship with First Nations, reconciliation, and other issues of mutual concern. attended Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Relations Committee and Municipal Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
Relationship-building between local governments and First Nations through best practices and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in partnership with the First Nations Summit, held a Province-Wide Community to Community Forum on June 6, 2017. continued joint work with Reconciliation Canada and the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres on the Reconciliation Dialogue Workshop initiative. with First Nations Summit, administered spring and summer intakes for the Regional Community to Community Forum Program. published a new Reconciliation section of ubcm.ca, providing information and resources for local governments pursuing work related to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

Committee Members

Councillor Murry Krause, Chair
 Councillor Barbara Price, Vice Chair
 Councillor Dave Murray
 Director Jim Abram
 Councillor Phil Brienese
 Councillor Barbara Steele, Chair, MVARC

Policy and Advocacy

Community Safety Committee

Policing • Marijuana Legalization • Liquor Policy • Emergency Management • Flood Protection • Road Safety • Crime Prevention • Bylaw Adjudication

Priorities	Progress to Date
Respond to community safety issues falling within the scope of the Committee	<p>Protective Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• continued to monitor the RCMP Contract Five Year Review.• continued to monitor implementation of the RCMP contract and provided feedback on community impacts through the Committee and the RCMP Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC).• provided feedback on proposed amendments to the Auxiliary Constable Program by surveying the membership and communicating results to the Province and RCMP.• continued to communicate concerns to the federal government regarding the resolution of specific outstanding policing issues.• communicated local government concerns regarding Bill C-7.• continued to monitor the provincial Road Safety Strategy, including the phase one introduction of electronic roadside ticketing.• continued to advocate for changes to the arbitrated settlements process for protective services to help mitigate cost pressures. <p>Marijuana</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• monitored the federal initiative to legalize and regulate marijuana by meeting with federal representatives, participating in an FCM working group, and surveying the membership.• continued to monitor other federal marijuana regulatory developments, legal proceedings and local government dispensary regulations.

Priorities	Progress to Date
	<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitored impacts and provided feedback to the new <i>Liquor Control and Licensing Act</i> and other liquor policy changes. • monitored the bylaw adjudication system, and impacts on local governments. • monitored and provided input to the Province's proposal for a province-wide cellular call answer levy. • continued to monitor the impact of mental health issues on communities. • provided feedback on proposed amendments to the <i>Emergency Program Act</i>, and monitored the review process. • continued to collaborate with other orders of government to address flood management and the resources available to local governments.
Participate in working groups and committees to ensure local government interests are represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordinated RCMP LGCMC. • coordinated and participated in RCMP Companion Document Working Group. • coordinated and participated in Local Government Working Group on Liquor Policy. • participated in Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy (Joint Program Committee). • UBCM appointments to the Advisory Committee on Provincial Policing Standards; Access to Justice Committee; BC Road Safety Strategy; Police Structure and Funding Expert Committee; and, PRIME-BC Board.
Work with the Province and other associations on community safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discussed establishing a committee, working group or forum with Emergency Management BC as a means to conduct further review of the <i>Emergency Program Act</i>. • collaborated with FCM and other local government associations on several community safety issues (Bill C-7, marijuana legalization and regulation). • monthly staff meetings with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to discuss community safety issues of mutual concern.

Committee Members

Mayor Wayne Baldwin, Chair
Councillor Bruce Hayne, Vice Chair
Mayor Debra Kozak
Mayor Sharon Gaetz
Councillor Corisa Bell / Councillor Jason Lum
BC Association of Police Boards

Policy and Advocacy

Community Economic Development Committee

Forestry • Fishing • Energy • Mining • Agriculture • Tourism • Economic Diversification • Arts, Culture, Heritage • Jobs, Skills (Re)Training • Telecommunications (connectivity)

Priorities	Progress to Date
Respond to policy matters falling within the scope of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• held 2016 pre-conference session on UBCM forestry survey results calling for greater community consultation and engagement; presented forest survey findings to numerous forest related associations; and contributed an article to summer issue of Association of BC Forest Professionals magazine.• coordinated provincial delegation to Executive on softwood lumber negotiations and sought appointment to provincial advisory group on softwood lumber.• coordinated work with AVICC and Province to better understand old growth forests designations.• met with BC Utilities Commission to discuss their role/responsibilities, electric vehicle infrastructure and member concerns regarding two tier electricity rates.• met with Province's Arts and Culture Branch to explore opportunities to promote arts, culture and heritage within communities.• undertaking research into the importance of agriculture to BC's overall economy.• monitoring Phase 2 of the Rural Dividend program.• made submission to the Expert Panel on the Modernization of the National Energy Board.• monitoring BC Ferries fares and service levels, supported a request to BC Ferries to extend the summer sailing schedule on Route 10.

Participate in working groups and committees to ensure local government interests are represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Kaehn serves as a member of Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Joint Advisory Group and chairs the UBCM ORV working group. Vice Chair Brian Frenkel serves as the UBCM appointment to the Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC), UBCM's appointment to the stakeholder group on softwood lumber. local elected officials serve as representatives to DFO aquaculture management advisory committees UBCM staff serve on the Community Energy Association's Executive.
Work with the Province, Trusts and other associations to seek out greater economic development opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote local government need for better broadband service through province (Network BC) and through federal government's Connect to Innovate, broadband program. met with Commercial Energy Consumers Association of BC to better understand energy demand and supply issues across BC. continue to meet with forest industry associations in an effort to support greater community engagement and consultation on forest policy decision-making.

Committee Members

Chair Art Kaehn, Chair
 Councillor Brian Frenkel, Vice Chair
 Councilor Barbara Price
 Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg
 Councillor Corisa Bell /Councillor Jason Lum
 Councillor Bruce Hayne



Port Alice, BC

Healthy Communities Committee

Healthy Communities • Opioid Crisis • Rural Health Care • Age-Friendly Planning

Priorities	Progress to Date
Respond to health policy matters falling within the scope of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • worked with Board Voice to issue a survey on a social policy framework. • offered a Convention session on the opioid crisis with the Provincial Health Officer. • presented to the provincial Select Standing Committee on Health, including on the recruitment and retention of health care professionals in BC. • worked with the Community Safety Committee to actively monitor the federal initiative to legalize and regulate marijuana • met with federal representatives, participated in an FCM working group, and surveyed the membership on cannabis legalization
Participate in working groups and committees to ensure local government interests are represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • member of the BC Healthy Living Alliance, an alliance of province-wide health related organizations addressing the impacts of chronic disease. • chaired the Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund to distribute funding for paramedic training, particularly for remote and rural communities. • member of the Management and Evaluation Teams for the Ministry of Health's Healthy Families BC - Communities program, which encourages health authorities and local governments to work together to create healthy communities. • member of the Healthy Built Environment Alliance, an alliance of public health, design and land use professionals. • member of the Community Paramedicine Advisory Committee, which is using paramedics in an expanded role in rural communities. • member of the Advisory Committee on Raising the Profile, a group that is supporting co-ordination of senior services.

Priorities	Progress to Date
Work with the Province, Societies and other associations to seek out greater opportunities for improved health in BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attended meeting with the Divisions of Family Practice Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee.

Committee Members

Chair Al Richmond, Chair
Mayor Maja Tait, Vice Chair
Councillor Kerry Jang
Mayor Deb Kozak
Mayor Galina Durant



Creston, BC

Policy and Advocacy

Resolutions Committee

The resolutions process is the foundation of UBCM's advocacy on behalf of BC local governments.

Members often ask UBCM about the status or progress of policy arising from a resolution endorsed by the UBCM membership at Convention. 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 bring positive change for local governments in BC.

UBCM achieves significant dialogue and success through the resolutions process. The following developments have been noted in 2016/17. Each of the issues was the topic of a resolution from a UBCM member local government.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Accessibility	2016-B62, 2015-B8, 2012-B52, 2011-A2, 2010-B70, 2009-B145, 2008-B157, 2008-B158, 2008-B159, 2007-B152, 2006-B132	Federal Budget 2017 allocates \$77 million over 10 years to expand the Enabling Accessibility Fund, with eligible projects including infrastructure (e.g. ramps, automatic door openers and accessible washrooms), accessible information and communication technologies, and retrofitting vehicles.
Age-friendly communities	2014-B45, 2013-B57, 2012-B40, 2012-B41, 2012-B104, 2011-A4, 2011-B63, 2010-B114, 2009-B145, 2009-B167, 2007-B152	Province announced continuation of Age-friendly Communities program with \$0.5 million to fund community planning initiatives or community projects in 2017.
Animal trapping	2013-B62, 2012-B124, 2011-B171	Province expressed interest in discussing with local governments challenges and potential solutions regarding wildlife trapping in communities.
Arts and culture	2009-B24, 2000-B108	Federal government allocated \$300 million over 10 years to Canada Cultural Spaces Fund. This investment supports development of Canadian talent and entrepreneurialism in arts and cultural communities.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Arts and culture	2014-B86, 2010-B48, 2009-B24	BC Alliance for Arts + Culture and provincial government launched SpaceFinder BC networking tool. SpaceFinder helps communities leverage talent, access new markets, maximize local investment and enrich communities through rental of local creative spaces. Free booking service to increase visibility of creative spaces for rent, help venues promote and rent under-utilized facilities, and connect the creative sector to the spaces they need.
Automobile insurance	2015-B43	Effective spring 2017, drivers with ICBC optional comprehensive coverage will receive free chipped windshield repairs, if considered safe to do so.
Biosolids and composting	2016-B112, 2015-B59	Province sought input on an intentions paper that proposed new biosolids and composting policies for the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation. The policies address transparency, notification requirements, organics recycling, harmonization with national guidelines, and protection standards for health and the environment.
<i>Building Act</i>	2015-A3, 2013-B2, 2010-B58, 2009-B56	Office of Housing and Construction Standards produced “Changes for Local Governments Under Section 5 of the <i>Building Act</i> ,” setting out restricted and unrestricted matters under the Act.
Childcare	2016-B51, 2011-B66, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2006-B169, 2004-B137, 2001-B98	\$7 billion committed over 10 years from federal Budget 2017 for more high quality, affordable child care spaces across Canada, with a portion dedicated to early learning and childcare programs for Indigenous children living on- and off-reserve.
Childcare	2016-B51, 2011-B66, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2006-B169, 2004-B137, 2001-B98	With provinces and territories, federal government expressed intent to develop a National Framework on Early Learning and Child Care, as well as a distinct Indigenous Framework on Early Learning and Child Care in cooperation with Indigenous partners.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Childcare	2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2011-B65	Province allocated \$20 million to support creation of 2,000 new childcare spaces.
Climate change	2014-B26, 2014-B95, 2012-B121, 2010-B31, 2010-B32, 2010-B101, 2009-B110, 2009-B111	Federal government and FCM launched Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program, which provides funding, training, and resources to help municipalities adapt to impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
Climate change	2013-B75, 2010-B32, 2009-B112	Province to provide \$9 million over 3 years to implement Forest Carbon Initiative.
Community gaming grants	2016-B54, 2016-B55, 2011-B70, 2010-B115	Provincial government added \$5 million per year to total community gaming grants. New funding will be directed to capital projects undertaken by not-for-profit agencies.
Community safety	2009-A4	Expanded provincial Guns and Gangs Strategy will receive \$23 million over next 3 years.
Community safety	2016-B3	RCMP Senior Executive Committee decided to implement a tiered Auxiliary Constable Program model, which will allow Auxiliary Constables to participate in activities based on their experience, training and local community's needs. To support implementation, the RCMP will: update Auxiliary Constable policy; finalize training standards; update the uniform; assess insurance needs; and communicate financial implications to partners.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Community safety	2009-A4	The Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of British Columbia (CFSEU-BC) expressed interest in presenting to local governments about integrated anti-gang policing in BC; Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority (PTEP) program; and the CFSEU-BC-led End Gang Life gang prevention, education, and public engagement initiative.
Disaster mitigation	2015-B75, 2001-B26	Federal government committed \$2 billion Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund over 11 years to support national, provincial and municipal infrastructure required to deal with the changing climate.
Disaster mitigation	2015-B7, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2010-B8	Emergency Management BC sought proposals from local governments to manage flood risks, with funding provided by National Disaster Mitigation Program.
Divestment of fossil fuel related investments	2016-B77	UBCM produced “Primer on Fossil Fuel Divestment” to provide information on fossil fuel related investments held by the Municipal Pension Plan and the implications of divesting from these holdings.
Drug policy	2016-A2, 2016-A3, 2015-B98, 2012-A5	In April 2017 the federal government tabled Bill C-45 as part of its framework for legalization and regulation of marijuana. The legislation places age restrictions on possession, and sets penalties for providing marijuana to minors, or using a minor to commit a marijuana-related offence. Confirms federal responsibility for regulating production and manufacturing, including licensing; types, sizes, potency, and labelling of products; a source registry; restrictions on adult access to marijuana; criminal penalties for operating outside the legal framework; distribution and sale; and enforcement at Canadian borders.
Drug policy	2016-A2, 2016-A3, 2015-B98, 2012-A5	Federal Budget 2017 allocated existing funding of \$9.6 million over 5 years, with \$1 million per year ongoing, for marijuana public education programming and surveillance activities in advance of legalizing cannabis.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Economic development	2016-B36, 2016-B41, 2013-B39, 2013-B42, 2013-B81, 2010-B95, 2010-B101, 2007-B143, 2007-B144, 2007-LR7	LGLA and provincial government presented a webinar series on key drivers of economic development. The series explored business retention and expansion, investment readiness, and regional collaboration, to help local governments grow, diversify, and increase economic benefits.
Economic development	2016-B12, as well as 2014 Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of BC Ferries	Provincial government committed to work with BC Ferries to provide a new seasonal ferry service between Port Hardy and Bella Coola, and make investments in tourism infrastructure such as highway rest areas, airports and cycling trails.
Economic development	2016-B36, 2016-B41, 2013-B39, 2013-B42, 2013-B81, 2010-B95, 2010-B101, 2007-B143, 2007-B144, 2007-LR7	Provincial government made available to local governments the BritishColumbia.ca website and online tools, which provide comprehensive economic profiles of communities, as well as listings of investment opportunities. Provincial staff are available to provide training and demonstrations for local governments.
Emergency preparedness	2016-B56, 2015-B77, 2014-B48, 2013-B64, 2012-B7, 2008-B14, 2007-B7	Province introduced new \$32 million Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, administered by UBCM, to enhance local resiliency in responding to emergencies. Program will support: emergency operations centres (EOCs) and training; emergency social services; evacuation route planning; flood risk assessment, flood plain mapping and flood mitigation plans; and structural mitigation.
Emergency preparedness	2016-B40, 2014-B29, 2012-B34, 2011-B52, 2011-B53, 2009-B89	Federal, provincial and territorial governments produced "Emergency Management Framework for Agriculture" through Agriculture and Agri-food Canada. Resource addresses risks and emergencies, prevention and recovery, and aims to strengthen resilience, sustainability and competitiveness of the agriculture sector.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Emergency preparedness	2016-B62, 2012-B52, 2007-B152, 2006-B132	Emergency Management BC provided provincial funding to Disability Alliance BC to work with local governments to meet Accessibility 2024 objectives. Eligible work includes review of local response plans, needs identification for people with disabilities and integration of Functional Needs Framework, and specialized emergency preparedness training.
Energy policy	2014-LR1, 2014-LR3	Federal government appointed an expert panel as part of modernization of National Energy Board (NEB). Composition of modernized NEB should reflect regional views, with expertise in environmental science, community development, and indigenous traditional knowledge. UBCM prepared a submission on behalf of BC local governments.
Environment	2015-B60, 2014-B21, 2013-B76, 2012-LR2, 2008-B86, 2006-B32	To prevent new aquatic invasive species, respond rapidly, and manage the spread of established aquatic invasive species, federal Budget 2017 committed \$43.8 million over 5 years.
Environment	2016-B109, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B105, 2012-B24, 2012-B77, 2011-B47, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2009-B142, 2008-B27, 2008-B78	Federal Budget 2017 committed \$70.5 million over 5 years to protect freshwater. A refocus on reducing release of toxic chemicals; cross-government collaboration on water quality, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; and improving collaboration with Indigenous Peoples.
Environment	2016-B24	Provincial Ministry of Environment produced a factsheet on the legislative framework around backyard burning of materials in BC, which sets out the requirements under the Environmental Management Act and acknowledges the importance of local fire protection and air quality bylaws.
First responders	2011-B118, 2006-B22, 2005-B15	\$3000 provincial tax credit announced for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Green infrastructure	2016-B23, 2014-B26, 2013-B42, 2008-B41, 2007-B129	\$9.2 billion federal funding announced for bilateral agreements with provinces and territories over 11 years, on a base plus per capita allocation basis. Eligible projects include reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, delivery of clean water, safe management of wastewater, community preparation for climate change, and construction of cleaner, better-connected electricity systems.
Green infrastructure	2013-B42, 2008-B41, 2007-B129	Green infrastructure projects will receive \$5 billion in federal funding over 11 years, including those that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, deliver clean air and safe water systems, and promote renewable power.
Green infrastructure	2014-B27, 2010-B86, 2008-B89	Federal government committed \$182 million over 11 years to develop and implement new building codes to retrofit existing buildings and build new net-zero buildings.
Green infrastructure	2014-B27, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25, 2012-B46, 2011-B136, 2010-B89, 2008-B70, 2008-B89, 2008-B136, 2008-B148	To continue ongoing work in the building and industrial sectors, federal Budget 2017 committed \$67.5 million over 4 years for existing energy efficiency programs.
Green infrastructure	2006-B44, 2003-B29, 2002-B19, 2001-B85, 1999-A18	Federal Budget 2017 proposed \$39.8 million over 4 years, to increase use of wood as a greener substitute material in infrastructure projects (e.g. mid-rise commercial and industrial buildings).

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Health	2016-B125	UBCM published a feature article in the Compass about Ron Poole, CAO, District of Mission, and his experience donating a kidney to his daughter Ashley. The article provided links to register as an organ donor, and identified contacts at the Kidney Foundation for local governments wishing to promote organ donation in their communities.
Health	2016-B57, 2016-B118, 2015-B33, 2014-B117, 2013-B99, 2012-B63, 2011-A4, 2010-B17, 2010-B18	Province made available \$1.7 million in Active Communities Grants for local governments and First Nations to develop programs that get people moving and promote physical activity.
Health	2013-B48, 2012-B39, 2012-B40, 2011-B63, 2007-B191, 2006-B155, 2006-B158, 2003-B132, 2000-A3, 1996-B96	Federal Budget 2017 proposed \$6 billion over 10 years for home care, to improve access to home, community and palliative care services; and increase support for informal caregivers.
Health	2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B83, 2013-B120, 2012-B37, 2011-B61, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2008-B51, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2006-B153	Federal government allocated \$5 billion over 10 years for mental health initiatives. This will improve access to mental health support for Canadians under 25 who cannot currently receive even basic mental health services.
Health	2012-B42	Province reduced Medical Service Plan Premiums by 50% for households with annual net income ≤ \$120,000.
Health	2016-B44, 2015-B68, 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148	Divisions of Family Practice Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee launched PracticeinBC.ca family doctor recruitment and retention website, to make it easier for doctors to join BC communities. Website provides career, regulatory and lifestyle information to family physicians, residents, and medical students. It also provides tools and information to support recruitment and retention activities.
Health	2011-B56	Provincial Health Services Authority released “Agriculture’s Connection to Health: A summary of the evidence relevant to British Columbia,” plus companion document “Responding to Local Governments” that explains how the evidence can inform local planning.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Health	2011-B160	Ministry of Health released new report, Public Health Guidelines: Major Planned Events. Supplements the Major Planned Events Guidelines from Emergency Management BC.
High-speed Internet	2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54	Province allocated \$40 million in additional funding to support full connectivity for all British Columbians before 2021.
High-speed Internet	2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54	In Dec 2016 the federal government committed \$500 million over 10 years for the Connect to Innovate program, to bring high-speed Internet to rural and remote communities. Program supports new “backbone” infrastructure to connect institutions, as well as upgrades and “last-mile” infrastructure to households and businesses.
Housing	2015-B48, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2005-A9, 2005-B47, 2005-B50, 2004-B30	Federal Budget 2017 identified \$3.2 billion for provinces and territories over 11 years to support affordable housing. Priorities may include: construction of new affordable housing units; the renovation and repair of existing housing; rent subsidies; and other affordability measures. This replaces the existing Investment in Affordable Housing initiative.
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58	In federal Budget 2017 the government proposed a \$5 billion National Housing Fund, administered through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation over 11 years.
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58	Federal government in Budget 2017 identified a total of \$2.1 billion over 11 years to extend the Homelessness Partnering Strategy. At the same time, committed to appointing an experts advisory panel, consulting with stakeholders, provinces, territories and Indigenous partners on redesign and improvement of Homelessness Partnering Strategy.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58	For development of affordable housing, \$202 million committed by federal government over 11 years to make available to housing providers at low or no cost surplus federal lands and buildings. This includes top up and expansion of existing Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative.
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58	Federal government allocated \$241 million to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation over 11 years, to improve data collection, analytics, and reporting on National Housing Strategy.
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58	To address gaps in national housing data, federal Budget 2017 proposed \$39.9 million over 5 years, and \$6.6 million per year thereafter, to Statistics Canada for a new Housing Statistics Framework.
Housing	2016-B45, 2015-B46, 2013-B120, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-A7, 2007-B58	Federal government released a national housing strategy consultation report. UBCM submission to the federal government emphasized 5 key principles: 1) social housing, 2) purpose built rental housing, 3) supportive housing for vulnerable Canadians, 4) retrofits to support environmental outcomes, and 5) recognizing the unique and important role of local governments in relation to housing.
Housing	2015-B14, 2015-B48, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-A7	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) sought applications for its \$200 million Affordable Rental Innovation Fund. Program encourages new funding models and innovative building techniques for rental housing. Local governments eligible to apply.
Human-wildlife interaction	2015-B25, 2013-B27, 2013-B74, 2012-B105	Provincial Urban Deer Advisory Committee (PUDAC) began meeting in 2016 and provided program input for the Urban Deer Cost-share Program, which assists local governments or First Nations with operational or research projects on urban deer management.
Income assistance	2016-B120, 2016-B134, 2015-B45, 2015-B117, 2013-B130, 2011-B175	Additional funding allocated in provincial Budget 2017 for social assistance: \$600 per person per year increase in disability assistance (total \$199 million); \$175 million for income assistance supports; and \$135 million over 3 years for community living.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Indigenous reconciliation	2015-B106	Province-wide Community to Community Forum (PC2C) took place in June 2017 at Musqueam Community Centre, bringing together First Nation and local government elected officials and senior staff. With a theme of “Joint Ventures,” dialogue about common responsibilities and mutual concerns focused on journeys of reconciliation and relationship strengthening, and mutually beneficial joint community opportunities.
Indigenous reconciliation	2016-B101	UBCM, with First Nations Summit, provided information to First Nations in BC about the eligibility criteria to apply for UBCM membership. Many BC First Nations may meet the criteria of elected representation; ability to tax; and ability to exercise regulatory power or provide local service.
Indigenous reconciliation	2015-B106	UBCM launched a reconciliation section of its website. Provides reconciliation resources for local governments, background information on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), and links to the TRC Summary report and Calls to Action. Resources include information on UBCM reconciliation initiatives as well as examples of pathways to reconciliation being taken by local governments across Canada.
Indigenous reconciliation	2015-B107	Orange Shirt Day was promoted and observed September 30, 2016 at UBCM Annual Convention.
Indigenous reconciliation	2015-B106	Federal and provincial funding made possible a fall intake for 2016/17 Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum program. The program aims to increase understanding and improve overall relations between First Nations and local governments, while addressing issues of common responsibility, interest or concern.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Indigenous reconciliation	2015-B106	UBCM First Nations Relations Committee partnered with Provincial Health Services Authority to offer San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training to local government elected officials and staff. Intake opened for courses starting October 2016.
Infrastructure	2012-B13, 2012-B69, 2011-B34, 2010-B75, 2010-B77	Federal government and FCM launched Municipal Asset Management Program, a 5-year, \$50 million program to help municipalities make informed infrastructure investment decisions based on sound asset management practices.
Infrastructure	2015-A1, 2014-B61, 2012-B13, 2012-B69, 2011-B31, 2011-B34, 2010-B74, 2010-B77, 2009-A1, 2009-B25, 2008-B21, 2008-B117, 2005-SR1	In Budget 2017, the federal government proposed a Canada Infrastructure Bank, which would strategically invest \$35 billion over 11 years, using loans, loan guarantees and equity investments. Focus will be large, transformative projects such as regional transit plans, transportation networks and electricity grid interconnections.
Infrastructure	2009-B25	Canada Infrastructure Bank is to work with governments and Statistics Canada to improve data collection and analysis regarding local government infrastructure. Initiative will assemble comparable data on infrastructure demand and usage; train a national lens on public infrastructure across asset classes; provide analytics and promote fact-based dialogue between all orders of government; and track impacts of infrastructure investments.
Infrastructure	2015-B87, 2014-B19, 2014-B61, 2012-B13, 2012-B16, 2012-B69	Federal government expanded Phase 2 of federal Infrastructure Plan to \$81 billion through to 2027/28.
Infrastructure	2015-B106, 2012-SR1	Federation of Canadian Municipalities Community Infrastructure Partnership Project application process opened to First Nations and local governments interested in establishing joint solid waste management projects. Successful applicants will receive 2 years of facilitation and capacity building services, resulting in a joint solid waste management service agreement.
Infrastructure	2012-B13, 2012-B69, 2011-B34, 2010-B75, 2010-B77	Provincial government announced funding for Asset Management Planning grants, as well as subsidies for staff training, in 2017.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Infrastructure	2015-B57, 2012-B16, 2012-B48, 2011-B107, 2009-B51	Federal and provincial governments confirmed \$450.1 million combined funding for the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF). Cost share in BC: federal 50 per cent, provincial 33 per cent, and local government 17 per cent instead of the historical 33 per cent.
Land-based spills	2015-A4, 2015-B13, 2015-B30, 2015-B31, 2010-B87, 2008-B32, 2007-B6, 2007-B173	Provincial government updated the land-based spill response and preparedness regime to define regulated and responsible persons; and set requirements for preparedness, spill reporting, and recovery plans. First set of prescribed substances to be addressed is liquid petroleum products including aviation fuel, bunker fuel and crude oil.
Liquor policy	2013-B115, 2012-B157, 2010-B152, 2007-B141	New <i>Liquor Control and Licensing Act</i> came into force in Jan 2017, implementing selected recommendations from the 2013 Liquor Policy Review. In many cases, local governments have the flexibility to influence potential changes through their own licensing and zoning regulations.
Liquor policy	2012-B157	Province released discussion paper on Special Occasion Licence policy changes, proposing to permit businesses to obtain these licences to raise money for charity, reducing red tape for non-profit organizations as they would not have to apply for licence.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Marine safety	2014-B23, 2013-B30, 2012-B23, 2010-B30, 2005-B112	<p>As part of Oceans Protection Plan, federal government announced \$6.85 million over 5 years for a national Abandoned Boats Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removal of existing smaller high-priority abandoned boats; • funding available to local government, provinces and territories, Indigenous groups, community organizations, private ports or marinas, Canadian port authorities, and academia; • Education, Awareness and Research Component emphasizes boat owner responsibility, and research into environmentally responsible boat design and recycling of end-of-life boats. <p>UBCM has long advocated for a coordinated and collaborative response between provincial and federal governments to address the issue of derelict and abandoned vessels in BC.</p>
Marine safety	2012-A3, 2012-B122	<p>As part of Oceans Protection Plan, federal government committed funding over 5 years for new lifeboat stations in Victoria, Hartley Bay, Port Renfrew and Nootka Sound, and 24/7 emergency response capacity at the Regional Operations Centre in Victoria.</p>
Marine safety	2015-B29, 2012-A8, 2010-B139	<p>As part of Oceans Protection Plan, federal government introduced Bill C-48, to ban oil tankers along BC's northern coast. Applies to tankers carrying $\geq 12,500$ metric tonnes of crude or other persistent oils, and bans stopping, loading or unloading from northern Vancouver Island to BC-Alaska border, with maximum fines of \$5 million.</p>

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Mental health and addictions	2016-B133, 2012-B37, 2008-B51, 2006-B51, 2006-B153	<p>Province committed funding to address youth mental health and addictions issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$45 million to expand counselling and treatment for children; • \$12 million for 28 addiction treatment beds for youth; • \$9 million to expand early intervention and specialized mental health and substance abuse services; • \$3 million to expand Youth E–Mental Health online and phone coaching; • up to \$5 million over 3 years for mental health initiatives for post-secondary students; and • \$10 million in 2017/18 to reduce wait lists for substance use treatment services.
Missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls	2015-B111	Federal government named 5 commissioners to lead an inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Inquiry has 2-year mandate, beginning work Sept 2016.
Provincial parks	2011-B49, 2002-B86	Province committed \$36 million to BC Parks Future Strategy over 3 years, for additional park rangers, 1,900 new campsites, and one-time grant to BC Parks Foundation.
Payday loans	2015-B122	Provincial government amended regulations to reduce maximum allowable charge for a payday loan from \$23 to \$17 per \$100 borrowed.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Private moorage	2009-B141, 2008-B115	Provincial Private Moorage Program expanded authorization of residential docks under a “General Permission” rather than an application-driven Crown land tenure. Previously, private moorage General Permission applied solely to certain freshwater docks, whereas now moderately-sized docks and docks located in marine waters can be eligible for General Permission, subject to conditions including local government requirements.
Public transit	2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2012-C37, 2009-B15, 2006-SR3	Federal government committed \$20.1 billion in public transit funding over 11 years for provinces and territories. Further, the Canada Infrastructure Bank is in part intended to build public transit infrastructure in Canada, investing \$5 billion+ in public transit systems.
Responsible conduct of elected officials	2017-B70	UBCM Executive established a collaborative working group to examine responsible conduct by local government elected officials. The working group, composed of staff from UBCM, provincial government, and Local Government Management Association of BC, will undertake policy work on this matter, with the UBCM Executive providing a full report and recommendation to the membership at the 2017 Convention.
Road safety	2009-B64, 2003-B107	BC Coalition to End Distracted Driving launched the Distracted Driving Kills website and initiative to encourage responsible behaviour such as putting phones away, keeping hands on the steering wheel, and being “present” while driving.
Road safety	2016-B10, 2015-B10, 2014-B53, 2013-B14, 2011-B84, 2009-B16, 2009-B20, 2009-B161	Safe Roads and Communities Working Committee released the results of the 2015 BC Communities Road Safety Survey.
Rural development	2016-B57, 2013-B19, 2013-B65, 2012-B10, 2012-B69, 2009-B162, 2008-B17, 2007-B7, 2007-B57	\$2.0 billion federal investment over 11 years on rural and northern infrastructure, allocated to provinces and territories on a base plus per capita formula. Projects could include improving road access; expanding Internet connectivity; or renewal and replacement of energy systems in northern communities, so that remote communities can reduce their reliance on diesel.

Policy and Advocacy

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Rural development	2016-B36, 2016-B38, 2013-B39, 2012-B45, 2012-B115, 2011-B29, 2011-B72, 2010-B50	Province announced new Rural Economic Development Strategy comprised of 3 key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moving forward with projects like Site C and LNG that create jobs in rural communities; • investment in infrastructure improvements to create jobs; and • a long-term plan to diversify rural economies by growing new and emerging sectors.
Rural development	2013-B39, 2011-B29	Provincial Rural Dividend program received an additional \$25 million in annual funding, through to 2019/20.
Social policy framework	2014-B123	The Board Voice network of community-based social service agencies, with support from UBCM, undertook consultation in 16 BC communities on how a social policy framework could improve decision-making and social services funding.
Species at risk	2011-B41, 2010-B35, 2008-B87, 2004-B80	Federal government sought input on seven draft policies on the implementation of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> . The policies address implementation of the act, critical habitat protection on non-federal lands, <i>Species at Risk Act</i> , permitting, and listing policy for terrestrial species at risk.
Species at risk	2011-B41, 2010-B35, 2008-B87, 2004-B80	Province sought input on species at risk protection, specifically principles; provincial role; protection on private land; and funding for species and ecosystems at risk.

Area	Related Resolutions	Action
Wildfire mitigation	2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1, 2012-B109, 2012-B113, 2012-B114, 2010-B68, 2010-B91, 2008-B59	New joint funding from Forest Enhancement Society of BC for the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI), for selected operational fuel treatments. Applicants can now exceed annual SWPI funding maximums; undertake operationally logical treatments both inside and outside the Wildland Urban Interface; and treat unincorporated areas within regional districts, which may face fiscal constraints under other SWPI program streams.

These are 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.

Committee Members

Director Wendy Booth, Chair
Chair Alison Sayers, Vice-Chair
Director Jim Abram
Mayor Sharon Gaetz
Councillor Phil Brienese



2016 Convention in Victoria, BC

Policy and Advocacy

Emerging and Ongoing Policy Files

In addition to the policy matters covered by UBCM's Committees, there are a number of other issues that are addressed outside the committee structure. The following provides an overview of those issues and how UBCM is representing the members' interests.

Building Act

Participated in two working groups supporting the implementation of the new *Building Act*. The Building Officials Qualifications Working Group addressed a range of stakeholder and local government issues related to the implementation of the new building official qualifications under the Act. The Energy Efficiency/Step Code Working Group sought to develop energy-efficiency requirements for new buildings that go beyond those in the BC Building Code. The Province brought the Step Code into force in April 2017, and convened a multi-stakeholder Energy Step Code Council to support local governments and industry towards smooth implementation of the BC Energy Step Code.

New RCMP Labour Relations Regime

Participated in an FCM-led working group regarding Bill C-7, and its implications for local governments. UBCM President Murry Krause, on April 10, 2017, wrote to Ministers Scott Brison and Ralph Goodale expressing concerns with Bill C-7, including the need to consider a local government's 'ability to pay'; the removal of bargaining exclusions; and a lack of direct consultation with UBCM and the Local Government Contract Management Committee. UBCM also requested a meeting to discuss these issues.

Legalization of Cannabis

Membership endorsed resolutions 2016-A2 and 2016-A3 at the 2016 Convention, requesting that local governments be included in the process to legalize cannabis; adequate time be provided to prepare for a new regime; and that a portion of cannabis-related taxation be shared with local governments. In April 2017, Mayor Baldwin and Councillor Jang met with Parliamentary Secretary Bill Blair to discuss this issue just prior to the April 13, 2017 tabling of federal legislation (Bill C-45 & C-46). Since that time, UBCM has held several brief discussions with provincial staff, focusing on broad concerns and the need for extensive consultation as a provincial framework is developed.

Electronic Roadside Ticketing

Held preliminary discussions with the Province, in July and August 2016, regarding electronic roadside ticketing. Initially, UBCM was provided access to a Road Safety Initiative (RSI) overview document indicating that all costs associated with electronic ticketing would be paid out of local government traffic fine revenue. The funding source was soon changed, and as of June 2017 all costs are expected to be borne by the provincial government, with a projected \$44 million increase in local government traffic fine revenue over the next 10 years. Thus far in 2017, the Province has presented two RSI updates to the Community Safety Committee.

Fire Safety Act amendments

UBCM members endorsed resolution A3 at the 2015 Convention requesting that the Province not download fire inspection services onto regional districts. A new *Fire Safety Act* was introduced into the Legislature on February, 2016 and the old *Fire Services Act* was repealed. While UBCM was assured that no new requirements for inspection services would be required by regional districts, a legal opinion by UBCM confirmed that since local governments are required to appoint a fire inspector under the new *Act*, there is an obligation on the part of local governments, including regional districts, to perform that function. UBCM expressed its opposition to the legislation as worded. The Province has assured us that amendments will be forthcoming that will reflect the original intent and of no new obligations being placed on regional districts.

Off Road Vehicle Management Framework

Continued to participate in the development of regulations that will accompany the new *Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Act* such as registration and licensing. UBCM supports the project by participating in the ORV Joint Advisory Group and seeks direction from its own Local Government working group on accompanying regulations in order to fully implement the *Act*. Engagement continues with local governments interested in expanding their trail networks to take advantage of economic development opportunities by way of tourism.

Natural Resource Roads Act

Advocated to the Province that local government concerns regarding future access to crown land and the consultation process be addressed while developing a new *Natural Resource Roads Act*. UBCM continues to participate in the Strategic Advisory Committee addressing issues related to permits, construction, deactivation, maintenance standards and cost sharing, notification, road use and environmental standards. Legislation was expected to come forward in the spring of 2017 but has been delayed.

Ad-Hoc Committee on Alternate Electoral Area Directors

At the February 2017 RD Chairs and CAO Forum the issue of alternates was raised and the challenges associated with having “unelected” alternates serving for extended periods of time when an electoral area director is unable to fulfill their duties. The matter was brought forward to the April 2017 board meeting where Executive directed that an ad-hoc committee be established to specifically look at this issue and explore potential options for addressing the problem. The Committee met in June and will be bringing forward a discussion paper in February 2018 for consideration.

Problem Vessels

Continued to monitor the federal government’s actions on abandoned and derelict vessels, and seek opportunities for further input. In April, Bill-C-352 was introduced to amend the *Canada Shipping Act* and to provide for the development of a national strategy on abandonment of vessels. In May, the federal government announced a \$6.85 million, national, five-year Abandoned Boats Funding Program for the assessment and removal of small, higher-priority abandoned vessels; and education, awareness and research initiatives. The funding program is one of the initiatives under the \$1.5 billion dollar Oceans Protection Plan, which was announced in November 2016. UBCM and Transport Canada held a teleconference session in July to answer local government specific questions regarding the funding program. UBCM continues to participate on the Problem Vessels Working Group with local, provincial and federal government representatives.

Federal Additions to Reserve Policy

Prepared a submission on the revised Federal Additions to Reserve Policy in October 2013 based on member feedback, UBCM policy, and internal analysis. On December 3, UBCM was invited to present on behalf of FCM to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development in Ottawa regarding the revised Policy on Additions to Reserve/Reserve creation. The testimony allowed UBCM to convey member concerns contained within UBCM’s submission, several of which were addressed in the final policy that was released in July 2016. UBCM continues to monitor the implementation of the final policy and is working with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada regarding communication on the directive to local governments.

Policy and Advocacy

Federal Comprehensive Land Claims Policy

Presented UBCM's submission to Ministerial Representative Douglas Eyford in September 2014 on the draft interim Comprehensive Land Claims Policy. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada staff have suggested that following the Tsilqhot'in decision, a fundamental reframing of the land claims process is being considered. The Prime Minister has referred to a National Reconciliation Framework, which may shape the land claims process going forward. UBCM continues to monitor and will respond as necessary throughout the renewal process.

Farm Assessment – Medical Cannabis Grow Operations

Approached the Province to discuss the issue that local government could lose property tax revenues if medical marijuana grow operations could qualify for farm classification, and confirmed that federally licensed medical marijuana grow operations will be excluded from the list of agricultural uses which qualify for farm classification for assessment and property tax purposes.

Mental Health and Policing

In 2015, UBCM asked the Province to 1) Implement a province-wide agreement between police and mental health officials on the management of mental health patients in emergency wards; 2) Develop integrated teams of health, police, and other officials on a twenty-four hour basis to manage individuals with mental health issues; and, 3) Introduce additional long-term care beds to deal specifically with mental illness cases. The Province has not met UBCM's requests to reduce this significant local government cost driver.

Emergency Program Act Review

As part of its *Emergency Program Act* review, the Province released, in January 2016, a discussion paper outlining some of the challenges to the current legislation as well as some proposed policy options/changes. UBCM took all local authority feedback (49 responses) and compiled an October 2016 summary report outlining concerns and identifying themes contained within the local authority submissions. In particular, the report identified the need for further consultation with local governments; local authority difficulty in assuming greater emergency preparedness responsibilities; and, a desire to maintain current levels of local government authority and caution regarding proposals that infringe on that authority. The Province is reviewing the report, with further consultation to ensue in the near future.

Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG)

At the 2016 UBCM Convention, resolution B100 - "Auditor General for Local Government" requested that UBCM acknowledge the existence of the AGLG and provide UBCM with the ability to work with the office. After extensive discussion, including proposed amendments, the resolution was defeated. As a result, the Executive has declined invitations from the AGLG to provide input on audit themes, but staff continue to monitor the work of the AGLG which has included:

- two reports in spring 2017 on *Managing the Inherent Risks of Limited Human Resources within Small Local Governments* focused on findings from audits in Tofino and Port Edward.
- released an audit report in May 2017 on *Local Government's Role in Ensuring Safe Drinking Water* based on Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen.

It has also announced that Quesnel, Sidney, Cariboo RD and Capital RD have been selected as auditees for a forthcoming series of audits on local government emergency management.

Auxiliary Constable Program Review

The RCMP produced an October 2016 Auxiliary Constable (AC) options paper for consideration by provincial and territorial partners, but not local governments. As a result, UBCM, using minimal information made available by the RCMP, prepared its own survey to solicit feedback regarding the options contained in the RCMP report. Survey results showed 91% approval for a tiered AC system. In December 2016, the RCMP announced it would move to a tiered model, consistent with the results of UBCM's survey.

The Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act

Presented with Metro Vancouver to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada in May 2013 to convey concerns regarding *The Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act*. Ongoing communication with AANDC as regulatory development has begun on a region-by-region basis. Minister Carolyn Bennett's mandate letter directs her to undertake a review of laws, policies and operational practices in partnership with First Nations, which may impact regulation development. UBCM continues to monitor.

911 Call Answer Levy

In April 2016, the UBCM Executive approved a recommendation to endorse a provincial discussion paper and proposed call answer levy on cellular devices, subject to an agreement with the Province on the establishment of an independent body for revenue distribution. At the November 17, 2016 Community Safety Committee meeting, the Province provided a status update indicating that a consultant has been hired to examine the process to date, research best practices, and recommend potential governance models.

Flood Hazard Management

Worked with the Fraser Basin Council, the Province and other organizations in the development of a strategy to manage flood hazard issues in the Lower Mainland. Additionally, the Province has provided \$32 million for UBCM to administer the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their residents in responding to emergencies. This new grant program will include funding for emergency operations centres and training; emergency social services; evacuation route planning; flood risk assessment, flood plain mapping and flood mitigation plans; and, structural flood mitigation.

Elections Education and Advice Technical Advisory Committee

Continued to participate in the development of information and resources to assist participants involved in local elections in response to new elections legislation enacted in 2014. The Technical Advisory Committee was constituted in fall 2016 to meet the requirements set out in the new *Local Elections Campaigning Financing Act*. The Committee is overseeing the preparation of guidebooks and documents in advance of the 2018 local elections to assist election participants understand the new rules, specifically the new campaign spending limits.

Trade issues

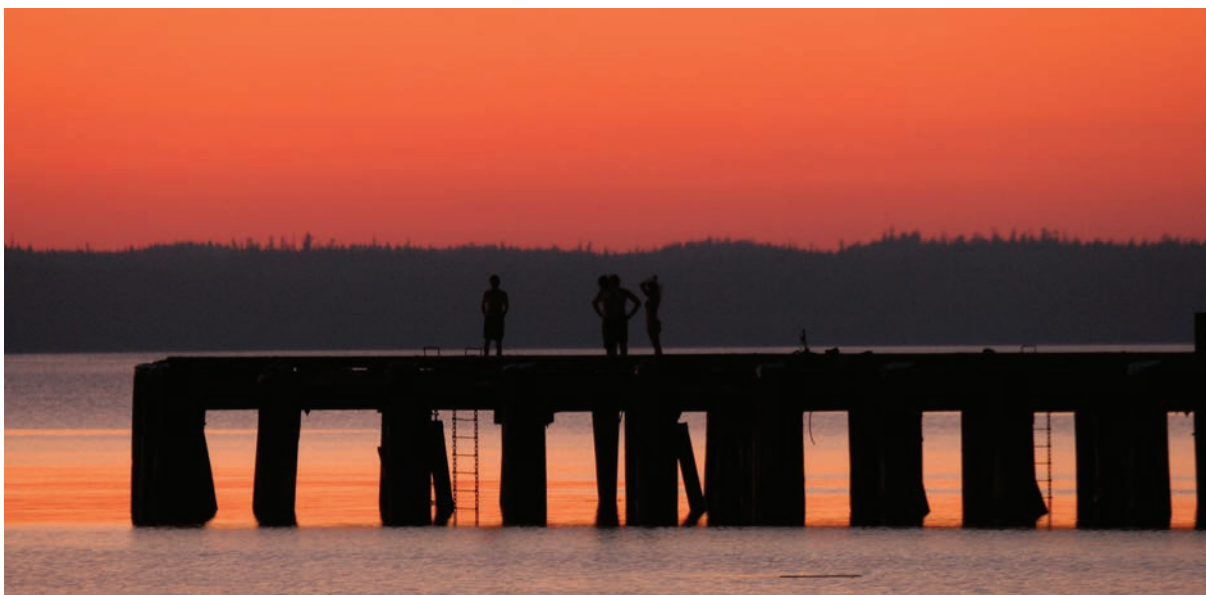
Continued to monitor new Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and European Union. Provisional implementation is set for September 21, 2017. UBCM staff has received briefings from provincial staff on the Agreement and further information on the impact of the Agreement for local governments will be forthcoming. Staff continue to monitor trade discussions related to the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

RCMP Contract: Five Year Review

Worked with the Province to coordinate local government feedback for the RCMP Contract Five Year Review. All local government issues falling within the scope of the review were approved for consideration, while the provincial government, upon the conclusion of the Five Year Review, will review all other local government issues. The Review is expected to be complete by December 2017.

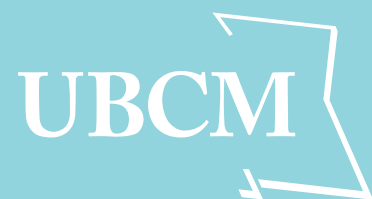


Bowen Island, BC



Port Clements, BC

Programs and Services



Programs and Services



Kimberley, BC

Highlights

Age-friendly Communities:

Since 2009, more than 142 local governments have completed projects or been approved for funding

Asset Management Planning: Since 2015, 142 applications have been approved

Regional C2C Forums: Since 1999, more than 580 C2C events have been funded

Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative: As of May 31, 2017,

- 307 Community Wildfire Protections Plans or updates have been prepared with 64 more in progress.
- More than 10,500 hectares of land have been treated, with an additional 1,200 ha in progress
- 31 FireSmart planning projects have been completed with 57 projects in progress

Local Government Program Services

UBCM has delivered numerous provincially funded programs since 2004. Multiple funding programs were available to local governments and First Nations in 2017.

Age-friendly Communities (formerly the Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative)

Administered for the Ministry of Health (\$5.25 million since 2004), the program assists local governments to prepare for an aging population by supporting the ability of BC's older adults to age in place.

Asset Management Planning Program

Administered for the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development (\$2.6 million since 2014), the program provides assistance to local governments to deliver sustainable services by extending and deepening asset management practices within their organizations.

Community Emergency Preparedness Program

Administered for the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (\$32 million in 2017), this new funding program is intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their residents in responding to emergencies.

The program has five funding streams:

- Emergency operations centres and training
- Emergency social services
- Evacuation route planning
- Flood risk assessment, flood plain mapping and flood mitigation plans
- Structural flood mitigation

Community Structural Protection Units

Administered for the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (\$1 million in 2004, with annual cost recovery), structural protection units are available for deployment in the event of a wildfire in the wildland urban interface.

Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum Program

Administered for the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development and Indigenous & Northern Affairs Canada (\$1.6 million since 1999). The Regional C2C program provides funding for local governments and First Nations to come together in dialogue on topics of mutual interest or concern.

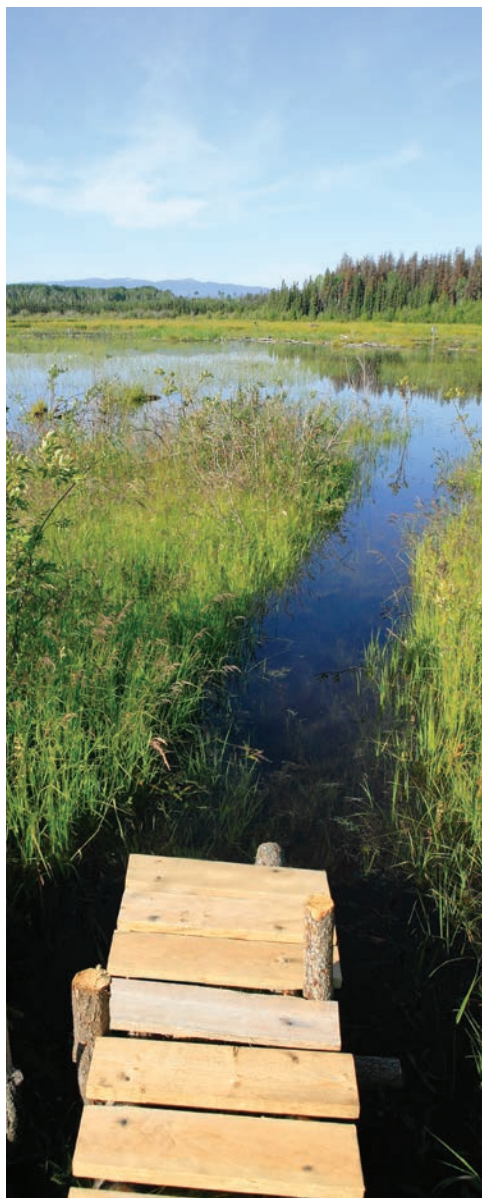
Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations (\$78.5 million since 2004), the Strategic Wildfire Prevention program has five funding streams:

- Community wildfire protection plans (CWPP) and updates
- Fuel management prescriptions
- Fuel management demonstration projects
- Operational fuel treatments and maintenance
- FireSmart planning



Vancouver, BC



Mackenzie, BC

Programs and Services



Merritt, BC



Coldstream, BC

Gas Tax Agreement

In May 2014, UBCM entered into a ten-year Gas Tax Agreement (GTA) with Canada and British Columbia which will see over \$1.3 billion in federal funding over the first five years transferred for investments in local government infrastructure and capacity building projects. The GTA provides the administrative framework for the delivery of federal Gas Tax funding to British Columbia local governments and other recipients.

UBCM continues to administer the Gas Tax Fund on behalf of the three parties through three distinct funding programs: the Community Works Fund; the Strategic Priorities Fund; and the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund.

Community Works Fund (CWF)

- UBCM will deliver over \$104 million to all local governments in 2017 through the Community Works Fund program
- Eligible investment categories for local government capital infrastructure include: local roads and bridges; highways; short-sea shipping; short-line rail; regional and local airports; broadband connectivity; public transit; drinking water; wastewater; solid waste; community energy systems; brownfield redevelopment; sport infrastructure; recreational infrastructure; cultural infrastructure; tourism infrastructure; and disaster mitigation.
- Local Governments can also invest CWF towards certain capacity building projects such as Integrated Community Sustainability Planning, Long-Term Infrastructure Planning and Asset Management Planning.
- Local Governments CWF allocation is based on a funding floor of \$52,500 and a per capita amount.
- All Local Governments in British Columbia participate in the Community Works Fund program.

Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF)

- The SPF is an application based Gas Tax program which is available for local governments outside of the Greater Vancouver region.
- SPF pools approximately \$30 million each year for eligible projects that are large in scale, regional in impact or innovative and align with the national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment, and strong cities and communities.

- The first intake for the Strategic Priorities Fund program was launched in December 2014 and UBCM accepted applications until April 2015.
- UBCM received 222 applications totaling over \$650 million in funding requests under the first SPF intake.
- In total, 66 projects were awarded SPF grants under the 2015 SPF intake, valued at \$120,389,256.98
- A second SPF intake was launched in February 2017, with applications accepted until June 2017.

Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (GVRF)

- UBCM continues to deliver pooled funding in the Greater Vancouver region for regional transportation projects.
- UBCM entered into a GVRF agreement with TransLink in 2017 which will deliver over \$1.3 billion over 10 years for transportation investments that benefit Metro Vancouver region.
- All projects submitted by TransLink are reviewed and approved by the Greater Vancouver Regional District Board of Directors.

Asset Management

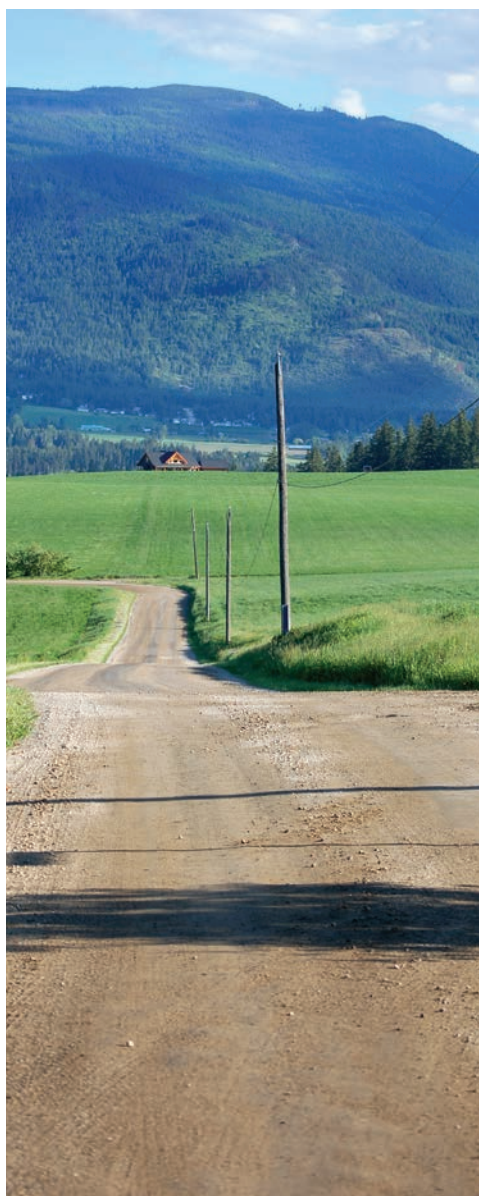
- The GTA states that all local governments must work to strengthen Asset Management in accordance with the Asset Management framework developed by the Partnership Committee.
- The Partnership Committee approved the Asset Management for Sustainable Service Delivery: A BC Framework and local government commitments pursuant to the Framework in 2015.
- An on-line Asset Management Assessment was launched in June 2016 whereby all local governments provided baseline information on the 'state of asset management' in their respective organization. A report on the findings is expected later in 2017.
- Included in the 2017 GTA reporting requirements will be development of an individual local government asset management implementation plan.
- Asset management, and showing progress made, will be part of the GTA Outcomes Reports, required for 2018 and 2023.

Gas Tax Information System

- UBCM Gas Tax Program Services launched the new Program Information Management System (PIMS) in 2017.
- PIMS provides an online portal for local governments to perform all Gas Tax program related activities including applying for grants, submitting expenditures reports, claims, and track all funded projects.
- PIMS also provides a robust program management tool for UBCM program staff to increase internal capacity and efficiency for the program administration.



Prince George, BC



Spallumcheen, BC

Programs and Services

Member Services

Group Benefits Program

UBCM in partnership with Pacific Blue Cross/BC Life offer a variety of health benefits including:

- Extended Health
- Dental
- Group Life, Dependent Life and Optional Life
- Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) and Optional AD&D
- Short Term Disability and Long Term Disability
- Administrative Services Only (ASO)
- Critical Illness Benefits
- Employee and Family Assistance Plan
- Health Spending Accounts
- Individual Travel Insurance
- Benefits for Elected Officials

With 137 local governments and affiliated organizations participate in the UBCM Group Benefits Plan, which accounts for more than 3,500 individuals.

Highlights from the year:

- New Plan members include: Cultus Lake Parks Board, Community Energy Association, District of Elkford and Building Official's Association of BC. Due to these new groups volume increased by 5.9%.
- Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and Village of Sayward terminated from the Group Benefits Plan.
- Issued updated Letters of Understanding to Plan Members for signature.
- 3 Plan members were visited.
- Produced 12 issues of Group Benefits Newsletter with a 47% average opening rate.
- Completed review of wording in employee booklets.
- Approximately 205 amendments processed.
- First audit of Sponsorship Fees was conducted.
- Phase one of database re-design completed.
- Continued review of Long Term Disability rates.

Petro-Canada SuperPass Rebate Program

UBCM in partnership with Petro-Canada offers UBCM members significant savings, convenience, control and security when using the Petro-Canada SuperPass Credit Card.

Designed to provide innovative security and control features, it can increase the overall efficiency by enabling better management of fleet expenditures. The SuperPass Card can be customized at the individual card level to provide the features (or control) best suited to your particular business needs.

A discount of 2.0 cents/litre on all grades of gasoline and diesel purchased at Petro-Canada retail service stations. There is a minimum of 400 litres/month that must be purchased to qualify for this discount.

Commercial Vehicle Licensing

UBCM is the trustee of the Municipal Commercial Vehicle Licensing Program as directed under Part 16 of the *Local Government Act*. UBCM coordinates distribution of licence decals to program members, who must make them available for sale to owners and operators of commercial vehicles using municipal roads in a participating municipality. Members submit revenue collected, net of their commissions, to UBCM who, in turn, pays out program expenses and then redistributes net proceeds to participating members on a per capita basis.

In 2016, 100 participating local government members sold nearly 39,000 licences, resulting in over \$907,000 shared by the program members this year. UBCM developed a web-based sales reporting system for member use in the 2015 licensing year.

Dog/Cat Tags

UBCM provides a discounted rate on dog and cat tags which local governments sell to their residents. Over 70 members participated in this program purchasing 52,000 tags.

Publications

UBCM provides a variety of publications for our members, affiliated organizations and the public.

NET•WORK•BOOK

The NET•WORK•BOOK is a comprehensive local government directory. In 2013, this publication became fully electronic on ubcm.ca. In 2017, over 473 books were distributed.

Local Government in BC

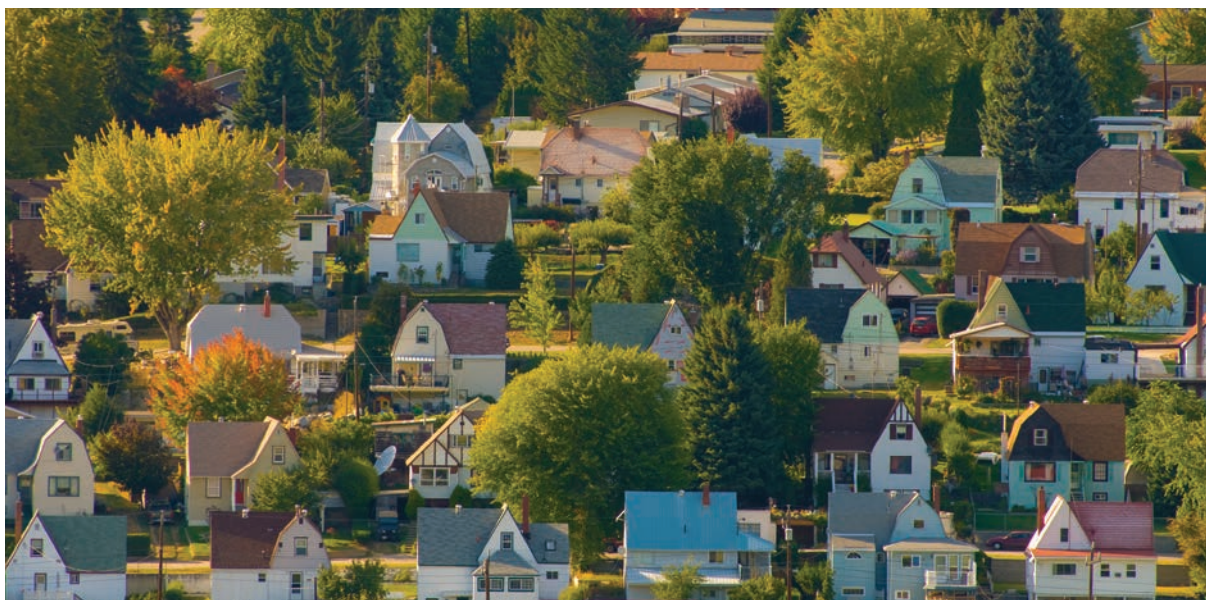
Local Government in British Columbia explains how government works and examines its role in our society. UBCM sold 2 books this year.

Community Effort Book

The Community Effort Book provides an excellent overview of local government in BC in an easy to read, colourfully illustrated format. UBCM sold 45 books this year.

Planners and Wall Calendars

Every year, UBCM produces a very useful Local Government Planner and Wall Calendar, noting dates of importance to local governments. Over 1,130 Planners and Calendars were purchased this year.



Warfield, BC



Tahsis, BC

Financial Statements of the
Union of British Columbia Municipalities
12 month period ended May 31, 2017



Financial Statements

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, which comprise the statement of financial position as at May 31, 2017, the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

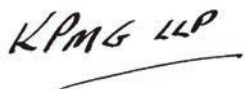
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities as at May 31, 2017 and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The signature of KPMG LLP is written in a stylized, handwritten font. The letters 'KPMG' are larger and more prominent, with 'LLP' written in a smaller font to the right. A horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

Chartered Accountants

July 14, 2017

Burnaby, Canada

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Statement of Financial Position

May 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 14,407,110	\$ 15,826,716
Investments (note 3)	313,286,601	410,568,798
Accounts receivables	57,371	145,327
Prepaid expenses	172,307	92,967
	327,923,389	426,633,808
Capital assets (note 4)	2,559,573	2,666,083
Intangible asset (note 5)	757,610	-
	\$ 331,240,572	\$ 429,299,891

Liabilities and Net Assets

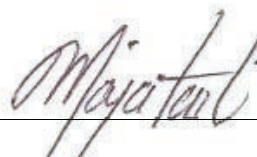
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 6)	\$ 2,277,138	\$ 70,378
Convention deposits	449,116	245,198
Deferred revenue and contributions (note 7)	316,293,484	417,087,963
	319,019,738	417,403,539
Other liabilities	93,448	96,924
	319,113,186	417,500,463
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets (note 8)	2,559,573	2,666,083
Internally restricted (note 9)	5,120,000	6,886,976
Unrestricted	4,447,813	2,246,369
	12,127,386	11,799,428
Commitment (note 12)		
	\$ 331,240,572	\$ 429,299,891

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Executive Committee:



Director



Director

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Statement of Operations

Year ended May 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Revenue:		
Annual member dues (note 7)	\$ 1,185,214	\$ 1,162,526
Convention	1,369,646	1,592,998
Members' services	619,672	628,204
Administrative fees (note 10)	150,766	153,870
Investment income	319,074	235,151
Local Government Program Services (note 7)	6,315,505	7,103,464
Gas tax (note 7)	400,764,453	263,383,574
	410,724,330	274,259,787
Expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	1,500,677	1,596,590
Executive	242,517	227,226
Members' services	138,242	145,505
Office services and supplies	235,275	271,719
Staff travel	52,211	46,942
Professional fees	61,434	45,648
Convention	1,086,058	1,250,688
Local Government Program Services (note 7)	6,315,505	7,103,464
Gas tax (note 7)	400,764,453	263,383,574
	410,396,372	274,071,356
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 327,958	\$ 188,431

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended May 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	Invested in capital assets (Note 8)	Internally restricted (Note 9)	Unrestricted	Total
Balance, May 31, 2015	\$ 2,781,091	\$ 6,778,484	\$ 2,051,422	\$ 11,610,997
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(136,083)	-	324,514	188,431
Invested in capital assets	21,075	(21,075)	-	-
Interfund transfers	-	129,567	(129,567)	-
Balance, May 31, 2016	2,666,083	6,886,976	2,246,369	11,799,428
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(139,784)	-	467,742	327,958
Invested in capital assets	33,274	-	(33,274)	-
Interfund transfers	-	(1,766,976)	1,766,976	-
Balance, May 31, 2017	\$ 2,559,573	\$ 5,120,000	\$ 4,447,813	\$ 12,127,386

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended May 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 327,958	\$ 188,431
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	139,784	136,083
Unrealized investment income	(123,955)	(106,930)
Other liabilities	(3,476)	(29,911)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	87,956	(82,961)
Prepaid expenses	(79,340)	12,037
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,206,760	(2,825,152)
Convention deposits	203,918	(78,198)
Deferred revenue and contributions	(106,023,547)	(6,002,907)
	(103,263,942)	(8,789,508)
Investments:		
Purchase of capital assets	(33,274)	(21,075)
Acquisition of intangible asset	757,610	-
Purchase of investments	(240,410,000)	(240,000,000)
Proceeds on disposal of investments	341,530,000	251,014,220
	101,844,336	10,993,145
Increase (decrease) in cash	(1,419,606)	2,203,637
Cash, beginning of year	15,826,716	13,623,079
Cash, end of year	\$ 14,407,110	\$ 15,826,716
Non-cash activities:		
Investment income recorded to deferred revenue and contributions	\$ 3,713,848	\$ 2,937,475

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended May 31, 2017

1. Operations

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities ("UBCM") is incorporated under the *Union of British Columbia Municipalities Act* and its principal activity is to represent the interests of its members in dealing with other orders of government. The UBCM is a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from income and capital taxes.

The UBCM's operations include the following significant activities:

- (i) Operating - Reflects the general operating activities and administration functions of the UBCM.
- (ii) Convention - Activities directly related to the annual convention.
- (iii) Local Government Program Services ("LGPS") - The Province of British Columbia (the "Province") has provided funding to the UBCM for shared provincial-local government interests in a variety of fields. The service that the UBCM provides is to control and deliver those funds to members for the purposes of the various programs.
- (vi) Gas Tax - The Government of Canada ("Canada"), the Province, and the UBCM had entered into the Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia (the "Gas Tax Agreement") to transfer funding to the UBCM to control and deliver the funding to local government organizations in British Columbia. The purpose of the funding is focused on achieving environmental sustainability and the improvement of public transit and infrastructure. The Gas Tax Agreement is effective from April 1, 2014 until March 31, 2024.

2. Significant accounting policies:

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting. Significant accounting policies include:

(a) Revenue recognition:

The UBCM follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions which include government grants. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Externally restricted contributions are recorded as deferred revenue and contributions in the year received, and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized.

Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned. Restricted investment income is recorded as deferred revenue and contributions in the year earned, and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized.

Revenue from annual dues, special levies, fees and contracts is recognized when the services are provided. Amounts collected relating to subsequent periods are recorded as deferred revenue and contributions.

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(a) Revenue recognition (continued):

Contributed capital assets are measured at the fair value at the date of contribution. Contributed capital assets not subject to amortization, such as land, are recorded as direct increases in net assets in the period the assets are received. Contributed capital assets subject to amortization and contributions restricted for the purchase of capital assets are deferred and amortized into revenue on a straight-line basis, at a rate corresponding with the amortization rate for the related capital assets.

(b) Capital assets:

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over the assets' estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset	Years
Building	25
Office equipment	4

(c) Intangible asset:

Intangible asset is recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated useful life as follows:

Asset	Years
Gas tax management software	7

(d) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The UBCM has elected to carry its investments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(d) Financial instruments (continued):

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the UBCM determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the UBCM expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

(e) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Investments:

Investments are comprised of pooled investments held with the Municipal Finance Authority in money market funds. For the year ended May 31, 2017, the average annualized yield was 0.84% (2016 - 0.75%).

4. Capital assets:

			2017	2016
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Land	\$252,000	\$ -	\$252,000	\$252,000
Building	3,347,623	1,087,818	2,259,805	2,393,710
Office equipment	116,713	68,945	47,768	20,373
	\$ 3,716,336	\$ 1,156,763	\$ 2,559,573	\$ 2,666,083

5. Intangible asset:

			2017	2016
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Gas tax management software	\$757,610	\$ -	\$757,610	\$ -

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

6. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities as at May 31, 2017 are government remittances payable of \$10,925 (2016 - \$7,714) for GST and payroll-related taxes.

7. Deferred revenue and contributions:

	Members' dues	LGPS	Gas tax (a)	Other	Total
Balance, May 31, 2015	\$ 673,551	\$ 22,945,488	\$ 394,679,370	\$ 1,854,986	\$ 420,153,395
Amounts received	1,173,563	11,174,500	253,276,892	27,593	265,652,548
Investment income earned	-	-	2,937,474	13,914	2,951,388
Recognized as revenue	(1,162,526)	(7,103,464)	(263,383,574)	(19,804)	(271,669,368)
Balance, May 31, 2016	684,588	27,016,524	387,510,162	1,876,689	417,087,963
Amounts received	1,201,516	33,159,500	269,379,777	39,926	303,780,719
Investment income earned	-	-	3,713,848	15,296	3,729,144
Recognized as revenue	(1,185,214)	(6,315,505)	(400,764,453)	(39,170)	(408,304,342)
Balance, May 31, 2017	\$700,890	\$ 53,860,519	\$ 259,839,334	\$ 1,892,741	\$ 316,293,484

(a) The UBCM is required to annually report in accordance with the Gas Tax Agreement to Canada and the Province by September 30

8. Net assets invested in capital assets:

Net assets invested in capital assets are calculated as follows:

	2017	2016
Net assets invested in capital assets, beginning of year	\$ 2,666,083	\$ 2,781,091
Amortization of capital assets	(139,784)	(136,083)
Purchase of capital assets	33,274	21,075
Net assets invested in capital assets, end of year	\$ 2,559,573	\$ 2,666,083

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

9. Internally restricted net assets:

Internally restricted net assets are comprised of reserves restricted by the Executive Committee of the UBCM for future expenditures related to specific purposes. In fiscal 2017, the Executive Committee approved the establishment of the following reserves:

(a) Business Stabilization Reserve: This reserve relates to:

50% of budgeted member dues restricted for the purposes of providing a stabilization fund in the event of unforeseen future revenue losses or events; and

50% of the normal convention expenses in reserve restricted for the purposes of providing funding in the case of an emergency event such as cancellation of a convention.

(b) Technology Reserve:

This reserve is restricted for providing sustainable funding to support new technology solutions; to upgrade of legacy systems; and to purchase new and to upgrade existing hardware and software.

(c) Legal Reserve:

This reserve is restricted for providing funding for the assistance of appeals of court decisions that impact members.

(d) Building and Equipment Maintenance Reserve:

This reserve is restricted for providing funding for replacing hardware, equipment and furniture at the convention; and for repairs and maintenance at the Richmond office and the Local Government House.

(e) Building Replacement Reserve:

This reserve is restricted for providing funding for the replacement of the Local Government House building. Amounts restricted in fiscal 2017 are as follows:

Business Stabilization Reserve	\$1,500,000
Technology Reserve	1,500,000
Legal Reserve	500,000
Building and Equipment Maintenance Reserve	500,000
Building Replacement Reserve	1,120,000

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

10. Administrative fees:

The UBCM charges administrative fees to third parties to recover its estimated costs incurred. Administrative fees are as follows:

	2017	2016
Commercial Vehicle License Program Fund	\$16,000	\$16,000
UBCM professional counsel	117,766	95,145
Rental fee	17,000	42,725
	\$150,766	\$153,870

11. Trust funds:

The UBCM administers the following trust funds where activities and balances are not reflected in the UBCM's financial statements:

(a) Jeff McKelvey Scholarship Fund:

The Jeff McKelvey Scholarship Fund was established through contributions from members, the Province of British Columbia and other individuals. Scholarship applications and awards are made within the Union executive's general guidelines by the Board of Examiners.

(b) UBCM / Federation of Canadian Municipalities ("FCM") Travel Fund:

The UBCM administers the UBCM / FCM Travel Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to assist FCM board members with their travel costs to FCM meetings through per capita levies.

(c) Commercial Vehicle License Program Fund:

Participating municipalities remit license fees collected for commercial vehicles to the UBCM in trust. Surplus funds are distributed to the participating municipalities on December 31 annually.

(d) Local Government Leadership Academy ("LGLA"):

The UBCM holds investments in trust for the LGLA. The LGLA provides local government and First Nations elected officials and senior administrators with leadership development opportunities in the interest of improving governance at the local level.

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

The funds held by the UBCM on behalf of the trust funds are as follows:

	2017	2016
Jeff McKelvey Scholarship Fund	\$71,546	\$76,930
UBCM / FCM Travel Fund	333,579	335,920
Commercial Vehicle License Program Fund	687,754	797,538
Local Government Leadership Academy	1,410,155	1,411,250
	\$ 2,503,034	\$ 2,621,638

12. Commitment:

The UBCM has an operating lease for its office space in Richmond, British Columbia, which expired on June 30, 2017. Subsequent to May 31, 2017, the UBCM entered into an amending agreement to extend the lease for a further period of five years with expiry on June 30, 2022. The UBCM is committed to annual basic lease payment plus estimated proportionate share of taxes and operating expenses as follows:

2018	\$117,360
2019	118,450
2020	118,540
2021	119,540
2022	119,630
Thereafter	9,970
	\$603,490

13. Municipal Pension Plan:

The UBCM and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (a jointly trustee pension plan). The Board of Trustees, representing Plan members and employers is responsible for administering the Plan, including investment of assets and administration of benefits. The Plan is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. Basic pension benefits provided are based on a formula. As at December 31, 2016, the Plan has about 193,000 active members and approximately 90,000 retired members. Active members include approximately 38,000 contributors, of which 24 (2016 - 23) are the UBCM's employees.

The most recent actuarial valuation as at December 31, 2015, indicated a \$2,224 million funding surplus for basic pension benefits. As a result of the 2015 basic account actuarial valuation surplus and pursuant to the joint trustee agreement, \$1,927 million was transferred to the rate stabilization account and \$297 million of the surplus ensured the required contribution rates remained unchanged. The next valuation will be December 31, 2018, with results available in 2019.

Employers participating in the Plan record their pension expense as the amount of employer contributions made during the fiscal year (defined contribution pension plan accounting). This is because the Plan records accrued liabilities and accrued assets for the Plan in aggregate, resulting in no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, assets and cost to the individual employers participating in the Plan.

The UBCM paid \$184,485 (2016 - \$189,764) for employer contributions to the plan in fiscal 2017.

Financial Statements

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended May 31, 2017

14. Financial risks:

(a) Credit risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss. For cash and accounts receivable, the UBCM's credit risk is limited to the carrying value on the statement of financial position. Management does not believe that the UBCM is subject to any significant concentration of credit risk. There have been no changes to the risk exposure from fiscal 2016.

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the UBCM will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The UBCM manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash. The UBCM monitors the cash flow to ensure a sufficient continuity of funding. There have been no changes to the risk exposure from fiscal 2016.

(c) Interest rate risk:

The UBCM is not exposed to significant interest risk as it does not have amounts payable that are charged interest. There have been no changes to the risk exposure from fiscal 2016.

15. Comparative information:

Certain comparative information have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation in the current year.

2017 UBCM Resolutions



Resolutions to be Considered at the 2017 UBCM Convention

Vancouver Convention Centre Vancouver, BC

The resolutions sessions are presently scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 27

10:40 am

Principal Policy Session

Section SR resolution

Section A resolutions

Section B resolutions as time allows

Thursday, September 28

8:55 am

Policy Session continues

Policy Paper 1

Section ER resolution

Section B resolutions as time allows

Friday, September 29

8:00 am

Policy Session continues

Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline

Section B resolutions as time allows

All times are subject to change—please check the Convention Program to confirm start times.

Report of the 2017 Resolutions Committee

All resolutions received by the June 30 deadline have been printed in the Resolutions Book and are indexed by both resolution number and sponsor.

This year, many resolutions were submitted to the five Area Associations prior to being submitted to UBCM—reflecting a trend of increased engagement in the different regions of the province, as compared to earlier in the decade. The Resolutions Committee credits members for submitting resolutions to their Area Associations for consideration at annual spring conferences, and reminds members that Area Association endorsement lends weight to a resolution when it is later considered at UBCM.

Key Issues

Members submitted 150 resolutions by the deadline, fewer resolutions than in 2016. This indicates a focusing of local government interest on selected important issues.

In 2017, members are proposing a broad variety of resolutions that reflect local government contexts and concerns, and respond to provincial and federal initiatives and legislation. Members' concerns include the affordability and availability of housing; infrastructure funding and eligibility criteria; reduction of waste and management of waste streams; and decision-making regarding forests and other natural resources.

Advance Preparation

The Resolutions Committee is committed to facilitating efficient and effective policy debate. Resolution sponsors should be ready to speak to their resolution and provide information that clarifies the debate. Delegates are also respectfully requested to limit repetitive debate, in order to make it possible to debate all member-submitted resolutions for 2017.

Order of Debate

As in years past, Section A resolutions feature priority issues and will be debated first at Convention. The intent is to highlight key areas of concern around the province.

The majority of the three Convention morning sessions are dedicated to resolutions and policy debate. Nevertheless, completing debate remains a challenge. Because of the number of high-profile issues to be debated, there will be a lot of work to do during Convention policy sessions.

If time constraints prevent all resolutions from being considered, policies ensure that resolutions not considered by the Convention will be submitted to the Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action. Please refer to the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions for the details of these policies.

Resolutions received after the deadline are handled as late resolutions, in accordance with the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions. These are printed in the "Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline," which is distributed to delegates on-site with the Convention registration package.

2017 UBCM Resolutions Committee

Director Wendy Booth, Chair
Chair Alison Sayers, Vice Chair
Director Jim Abram
Mayor Sharon Gaetz
Councillor Phil Briennesse

Organization of Resolutions in the Resolutions Book

Section	Subsection	Description	Handling
SR		UBCM Executive resolutions on priority issues.	Considered individually.
ER		Extraordinary resolutions—to amend the UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the <i>UBCM Act</i> .	Considered individually.
A		Member-submitted resolutions on priority issues.	Considered individually.
B1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that support established UBCM policy. Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment. 	Considered as a block.
B2	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed. Within local government jurisdiction, or affecting local government. Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment. 	Considered as a block.
	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed. Within local government jurisdiction, or affecting local government. Recommendation: Not Endorse No Recommendation No Action Required Referral 	Considered individually.
B3	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed. Outside local government jurisdiction. Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment. 	Considered as a block.
	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed. Outside local government jurisdiction. Recommendation: Not Endorse No Recommendation No Action Required Referral 	Considered individually.
C		Resolutions referred to similar resolutions in the Resolutions Book; to policy papers, reports, or special sessions at Convention; or to Area Associations.	Not admitted for debate.

Classification in the Resolutions Book

Outlined below are the subject area classifications used in the Resolutions Book. The policies for grouping resolutions into Section A, B1, B2, B3 or C are outlined in Section 18 of the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions, which begin on the following page.

Legislative

Resolutions that focus on the *Community Charter*, the *Local Government Act*, or other legislation that sets out local government jurisdictions and authorities.

Community Safety

Resolutions focused on legal matters; provision of court services; police services and associated costs; as well as the general administration of justice, protective and emergency services.

Elections

Resolutions that request changes in the election process, dates, voting, or procedures outlined in the *Local Government Act* or related statutes.

Transportation

Resolutions that request changes to issues related to transportation—e.g. trucking, highways, roads, off road vehicles, bicycles.

Taxation

Resolutions focused on charges and taxes levied by local governments, revenue from which supports their operations.

Finance

Resolutions of broad financial impact to local government. These may include federal grants-in-lieu, federal sales tax, fuel tax, infrastructure funding, or provincial funding (e.g. health care, tourism).

Assessment

Resolutions that relate to property assessment, market value, and changes to the current assessment system. The *Assessment Act*, BC Assessment, or assessment appeal boards may be referenced.

Environment

Resolutions on environmental issues of direct interest to local government, that impact local government operations. Examples include product stewardship, recycling, solid waste management, water and air quality, and streamside protection.

Land Use

Resolutions regarding planning issues such as housing, parkland, development cost charges, siting, Agricultural Land Reserve, Crown lands, and matters falling under Part 26 of the *Local Government Act*.

Community Economic Development

Resolutions regarding regional sustainability and economic development opportunities for local governments, including concerns of resource-focused communities.

Regional Districts

Resolutions that raise issues or propose changes to the statutory authorities and jurisdictions of regional districts.

Health

Resolutions that relate to health policy and health services – e.g. capital projects, access and level of service, home support, ambulance service, hospitals, internationally trained doctors.

Selected Issues

Resolutions of a general nature that are not easily classified in the above sections, or that are of interest to local governments but might not affect them directly.

Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions

General Rules

1. Sessions will begin and end promptly at the scheduled hours.
2. Delegates will use the floor microphones when speaking.
3. All Mayors, Councillors and elected Directors of member municipalities and regional districts attending the Annual Convention of the Union shall be delegates entitled to participate in debates and to vote on any matter before the Convention. Officials of member municipalities and regional districts may attend a Convention as guest delegates and shall not be entitled to the privilege of the floor unless authorized by the Convention and in any case shall not be entitled to vote [Bylaw s. 11]. Guest speakers may be permitted at the discretion of the Executive. [Bylaw s. 14(e)]
4. At all business sessions of the Convention, fifty delegates shall constitute a quorum. [Bylaw s. 12(h)]

Voting Rules

5. Only elected representatives from member municipalities and regional districts are entitled to vote. [Bylaw s. 11]
6. Voting on ordinary resolutions normally shall be by a show of voting cards or by electronic voting keypad, as determined by the Chair.

In cases where the number of votes for or against a motion is difficult to discern using a show of voting cards, the Chair may at his or her discretion call for a vote using electronic voting keypads. The results of a vote using electronic voting keypads are final.

Following a show of voting cards, the Chair's decision as to whether a motion is won or lost is final, unless immediately upon the decision of the Chair being declared, ten or more voting delegates then present, by standing, demand an electronic vote, whereupon the Chair shall again put the same question to the Convention to be decided by a vote using electronic voting keypads. The results of a vote using electronic voting keypads are final.

In the event that electronic voting keypads are not available or not functioning, the Chair may call for a standing vote, whereupon the Chair shall again put the same question to the Convention to be decided by a count of those standing in favour of and against the motion. In the event that the result of the standing vote is questioned by fifty or more voting delegates then present, or at any time at the discretion of the Chair, the Chair shall order that the matter before the

Convention be determined by ballot, and the result of such ballot shall be final. [Bylaw s. 13(a)]

7. Where voting is by ballot, scrutineers shall be appointed by the Chair to distribute the ballot, collect the same, and to count and report the vote. [Bylaw s. 13(b)]

8. In all cases, where the votes of delegates then present, including the vote of the Chair, are equal for and against a question, the question shall be negatived, and it shall be the duty of the Chair to so declare. [Bylaw s. 13(c)]

9. No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed. [Bylaw s. 13(d)]

10. When voting by show of hands all delegates shall hold their voting card. In the case of a ballot, the voting card must be presented and initialled by the scrutineers before a ballot is issued.

Rules of Procedure

11. The fundamental principles of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Union so far as they may be applicable without coming in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws. [Bylaw s. 22(a)]

12. The Chair shall enforce order and strict observance of the Bylaws. Subject to an appeal to the meeting sustained by a majority vote of delegates present, the Chair shall have the right to decide all questions of order and the Chair's rulings in this regard shall be final. [Bylaw s. 22(b)]

13. A delegate wishing to move, second or speak to a motion shall arise and address the Chair and shall wait until he or she is recognized before speaking. The delegate must announce his or her name, municipal or regional office and municipality or regional district or other qualifications each time he or she rises to speak. [Bylaw s. 22(c)]

14. Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes. The introducer of a motion is permitted three minutes. [Bylaw s. 22(d)]

15. No delegate may speak more than once on any one question unless and until all other delegates desiring to speak have been heard. [Bylaw s. 22(e)]

16. Any amendment and any motion to withdraw any resolution from consideration of the meeting or to refer the same to the Resolutions Committee, or to any other committee, and any motion affecting the resolution must be moved and seconded from the Convention Floor. [Bylaw s. 23(e)]

17. Should discussion continue on any resolution for an undue length of time without reasonable agreement being reached, the resolution may be cleared from the floor by a favourable vote to refer the resolution to the Resolutions Committee for further consideration and report. [Bylaw s. 23(f)]

Handling of Resolutions: Step-by-step Rules

Precedence of Resolutions

18. A special resolution of the UBCM passed in 1982 authorizes the Executive to separate resolutions into three sections and sets out the order in which resolutions will be considered:

SECTION A: Those which will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate. These are prefixed “A” and are printed in the first section of the Resolutions Book. Section A will feature new issues of interest to all members. Section A may also highlight issues from the Area Associations.

SECTION B: These resolutions will be divided into three categories and shall be brought to the Convention floor with the approval of the delegates after all resolutions in Section “A” have been considered. Such resolutions are prefixed “B” and are printed in the second section of the Resolutions Book.

The UBCM Executive has set the following criteria:

Section B shall be divided into three parts:

Part 1 – Resolutions Supporting Existing Policy

These resolutions include:

- previously considered and endorsed resolutions; or
- resolutions in keeping with the UBCM policy, including previously approved policy papers or other documents.

Part 2 and Part 3 – Resolutions Proposing New Policy

These resolutions include:

- resolutions on topics not previously considered;
- previously considered but not endorsed resolutions;
- topics of local or regional significance; or
- topics of national significance and recommended, as appropriate, for consideration by FCM.

The Resolutions Committee has discretion in classifying these resolutions as:

Part 2: those issues considered within the jurisdiction of local government.

Part 3: those resolutions on matters of interest to local communities that are considered not within the jurisdiction of local government.

Resolutions under Parts 2 and 3 that have not been debated by the Convention will be submitted to the Executive for appropriate action [note that the recommendation is printed in the Resolutions Book] and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Part 2 resolutions will be grouped as follows:

- a. resolutions recommended to be endorsed or endorsed with proposed amendment, sorted by subject
- b. all other resolutions, sorted by subject.

Part 3 resolutions will be grouped as follows:

- a. resolutions recommended to be endorsed or endorsed with proposed amendment, sorted by subject
- b. all other resolutions, sorted by subject.

Section B resolutions will be dealt with on the Convention floor in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book.

SECTION C: Those resolutions which have been:

- consolidated or grouped and referred to a similar resolution in Section A or B;
- referred to a Special Resolution to be put forward at Convention;
- incorporated into a policy paper to be presented during Convention; or
- referred to a special session at Convention.

These are prefixed “C” and are printed in the third section of the Resolutions Book and cross-referenced for delegates’ information. Sponsors will be notified of the action taken regarding the resolution with which their resolution was consolidated.

For Resolutions Printed in Section A of the Resolutions Book

19. The Chair will cause the title of the resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

20. The resolution will after reading be properly before the Convention and will not require a mover or a seconder. [Bylaw s. 23(b)]

21. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the views of the Resolutions Committee together with any suggestions and reasons therefore. [Bylaw s. 23(c)]

22. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from the sponsoring local government to introduce the resolution.

23. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.

24. The Chair will then call for discussion from the floor. [Bylaw s. 23(d)]

25. If there are no speakers opposed to the motion, the Chair may call the question.

Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure" (s. 11-17).

Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes. [Bylaw s. 22(d)]

Voting on the resolution shall proceed in accordance with the "Voting Rules" (s. 5-10).

Voting is on the resolution, NOT on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.

For Resolutions Printed in Section B of the Resolutions Book

26. After Section A resolutions have been considered, Section B resolutions may be entered for discussion with the approval of the Convention. [1982 Special Resolution]

Section B resolutions will be dealt with on the Convention floor in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book.

They will be divided into three sections: Part 1 – Resolutions Supporting Existing Policy and Parts 2 and 3 – Resolutions Proposing New Policy.

27. The Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section B – Part 1 resolutions as a block.

i) A voting delegate who wishes to have a Section B – Part 1 resolution entered for individual discussion shall, after being recognized by the Chair, put forward a motion to remove the resolution from the block and have the resolution entered for discussion.

ii) If duly seconded, the Chair shall put the question – "Shall the resolution be removed from the block and admitted for discussion?" – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. [Bylaw s. 14(c)]

iii) If the motion passes, then the Chair will remove the resolution from the block and it will be considered immediately following the Section B – Part 1 block of resolutions.

iv) The Chair will ask for the endorsement of the Section B – Part 1 block as amended.

v) After the Section B – Part 1 block has been considered, those resolutions removed for individual consideration will be entered for consideration.

28. After Section B – Part 1 resolutions have been considered, the Chair will introduce a motion to enter all Section B – Part 2 and 3 resolutions for consideration in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book.

If a delegate wishes to have a Section B – Part 2 or Part 3 resolution removed from discussion he or she shall, after being recognized by the Chair, put forward a motion to withdraw the resolution.

29. If the motion to enter all Section B – Part 2 and 3 resolutions for consideration passes, the Chair will cause the title and "enactment" clause of each resolution to be read by a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee and consideration will proceed as set out for Section A resolutions (s. 20-25).

In the course of consideration of Section B – Part 2 and 3 resolutions, the Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for Section B – Part 2-a resolutions as a block; and will later introduce a similar motion for Section B – Part 3-a resolutions. Consideration of the B2-a and B3-a blocks will proceed as set out for Section B – Part 1 resolutions (s. 27).

30. In the event of time constraints, the Chair may introduce a motion to adopt the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section B – Part 3 resolutions (resolutions not within the jurisdiction of local government) as a block. This motion can be amended if there is a resolution in the block that a voting delegate wishes to withdraw for individual consideration, following the procedures as for s. 27. If the motion, or motion as amended, is carried, those resolutions withdrawn from the block will be debated individually after the motion on the block is considered. If the motion on the main block is approved, the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee to endorse or not endorse will hold. Resolutions on which the Resolutions Committee has made no recommendation or has referred, will be referred to the Executive for consideration.

For Resolutions Received After the Deadline

31. A resolution submitted following the regular deadline shall be considered “late” and shall comply with all other submission requirements, except that the resolution shall be provided to UBCM by the Friday noon preceding the date of the Annual Convention.

32. Resolutions received after the deadline shall be available for discussion after Section A resolutions have been considered but not before the time printed in the Convention Program.

33. Resolutions received after the deadline shall be examined by the Resolutions Committee and shall be separated into the following categories:

(a) Emergency Resolutions recommended to be placed before the Convention for Plenary discussion.

(b) Resolutions recommended to be referred to the Executive for appropriate action (note that the recommendation for action will be printed in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline).

(c) Resolutions not recommended to be admitted for Plenary discussion or to be referred to the Executive.

34. Resolutions received after the deadline will be deemed appropriate for Plenary discussion only if the topic has arisen since the regular deadline date for submission of resolutions. Resolutions received after the deadline are appropriate to be referred to the Executive if the topic has arisen since the regular submission of resolutions and, in the opinion of the Resolutions Committee, the topic is noncontroversial and in keeping with UBCM policy.

Resolutions received after the deadline are not appropriate for Plenary discussion or referral if they concern a topic that arose or was known before the regular deadline for resolutions.

35. The Chair shall put forward a motion that contains the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee on entering Resolutions Received after the Deadline for discussion which, if duly seconded, will be dealt with as follows: The Chair shall put the question – “Shall the report of the Resolutions Committee and the recommendations therein be adopted?” – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote.

36. Only Emergency Resolutions shall be dealt with and they shall be dealt with in the order presented in the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline.

37. The Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline shall be produced by UBCM with sufficient copies for distribution to the Convention and the sponsor may be billed for the cost of printing.

38. The Chair will cause the title and “enactment” clause of the Emergency Resolution to be read by a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee.

39. The Emergency Resolution will after reading be properly before the Convention and the procedures for handling Section A resolutions will apply (s. 20-25).

For Resolutions Not Printed in the Resolutions Book

40. Any delegate may, during a Convention, put forward any motion which, if duly seconded, shall be dealt with as follows: The Chair shall put the question – “Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for discussion?” – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention.

The Chair, at his or her discretion, may require that any such motion be submitted in writing and may require that copies be provided to all delegates present before consideration thereof. [Bylaw s. 14(c)]

41. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Executive may submit any matters not requiring Extraordinary Resolution to any Convention for consideration or action at any time. [Bylaw s. 14(d)]

For Extraordinary Resolutions

42. All resolutions originating at a Convention workshop or seminar (including the regional district seminars) that is not held as a regular Plenary session shall be referred to the Executive unless handled pursuant to s. 40 or 41.

43. Amendments to Constitution: Any amendments to the Bylaws may only be made pursuant to Extraordinary Resolution duly adopted by the Union. [Bylaw s. 19]

44. Extraordinary Resolutions: Notice of Extraordinary Resolutions intended to be submitted for consideration shall be given in writing to the Executive Director not later than seventy-five (75) days prior to the date fixed for the Annual Convention, and shall be included in the printed material sent to member municipalities and regional districts by the Executive Director at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. A favourable three-fifths majority vote at an Annual Convention of the delegates then present shall be necessary to adopt an Extraordinary Resolution. [Bylaw s. 20]

Table of Contents

Section SR

SR1	Local Government Role in BC Framework for Cannabis	UBCM Executive	92
-----	--	----------------	----

Section ER

ER1	Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws Regarding Removal of a Resolution From a Block	Coquitlam	97
-----	--	-----------	----

Section A

Elections

A1	Local Government Election Campaign Financing	Oak Bay	99
----	--	---------	----

Selected Issues

A2	Encouraging the Use of Residential Property for Housing	Victoria	99
----	---	----------	----

Section B1

Legislative

B1	Public Notice	Penticton	103
B2	Recall of Local Government Elected Officials	Penticton	103

Community Safety

B3	Support for BC Fire Departments	Central Kootenay RD	104
B4	Interface Wildfire Prevention Responsibility	East Kootenay RD	104
B5	Victim Services Program Funding	Nanaimo RD	105
B6	Staffing Levels – Integrated RCMP Detachments	West Kelowna	106

Transportation

B7	Railway Manifest	Vanderhoof	106
B8	Public Transportation	Vanderhoof	107
B9	BC Transit Expansion & Funding Certainty	Sunshine Coast RD	107
B10	Highway Maintenance	Comox Valley RD	108
B11	Highway Lane Markings	Sayward	109
B12	Highway 16 Updates & Improvements	Vanderhoof	109

Taxation

B13	Provincial Compensation for Delinquent Taxes on Properties Not Subject to Tax Sale	Burnaby	110
B14	Restoration of Land Value Tax	Victoria	110
B15	BC Hydro Fair Compensation	Cariboo RD	111

Finance

B16	Small Community Grant	Wells	111
B17	Property Transfer Tax for Homelessness & Affordable Housing	Langley Township	112
B18	Federal Funding Rules Limiting Gas Tax Funds Stacking	Telkwa	113
B19	Future Tripartite Infrastructure Funding Programs	Sayward	113

Assessment

B20	Split Classification for Short Term Commercial Accommodation	Tofino	114
B21	Brownfields	Vanderhoof	115

Environment

B22	Access to Used Oil Recycling Facilities in Rural BC	Kootenay Boundary RD	115
B23	Local Partnerships for Energy Efficiency Retrofits	Victoria	116
B24	Contaminated Sites	Nelson	117
B25	Disposal of Drywall or Gypsum Board	Squamish-Lillooet RD	117
B26	National Strategy for Abandoned Vessels	Victoria Oak Bay Ladysmith	118
B27	Quagga & Zebra Mussel Funding	Sicamous	119
B28	Ban on the Sale of Invasive Species	Squamish-Lillooet RD	119
B29	BC Conservation Service Funding	Princeton	120
B30	Canada Goose Population Management	Parksville	121

Land Use

B31	Forest Stewardship Plans – Request for Improved Consultation	Columbia Shuswap RD	121
B32	Wind Turbine Siting on Crown Land	Peace River RD	122
B33	Development Permits for Private Institutional Developments	Sechelt District	123

Community Economic Development

B34	Non-tenured Value-added Wood Processors	North Cowichan	123
B35	Facilitating Value-added Resource Development	Kitimat	124
B36	Optimizing Community Benefits of Forest Resources	Victoria	125
B37	Exemption from Assistance to Business Requirements – Broadband	East Kootenay RD	125
B38	Business Improvement Districts	Central Kootenay RD	126

Health

B39	Regional Hospital District Capital Funding	Nelson	126
B40	Health Services Planning	Esquimalt	127
B41	Nurse Practitioners	Burns Lake	127
B42	Provincial Assistance to Attract Doctors to BC	Colwood	128
B43	Provincial Support for Physician Retention	Logan Lake	129
B44	Regulation & Licensing of Supportive Recovery Homes	Chilliwack	130
B45	Mandatory Certification & Licensing of Asbestos & Hazardous Material Removal Contractors	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	130

Selected Issues

B46	Aboriginal Day	Metchosin	131
B47	Rural Schools	Central Kootenay RD	131
B48	Don't Close the Doors on Adult Education	Nanaimo City	132
B49	Bus Passes for Persons with Disabilities	Port Moody	132
B50	Affordable Child Care	Delta	133
B51	Social Support Services for Seniors	Delta	133
B52	Addressing Homelessness	New Westminster	134
B53	Rental Housing	Esquimalt	135
B54	UBCM Convention Resolution Section	Hudson's Hope	135

Section B2-a

Legislative

B55	Improvement District Governance	Oak Bay	139
-----	---------------------------------	---------	-----

Community Safety

B56	Funding for Police-based Victim Assistance Services	North Okanagan RD	139
-----	---	-------------------	-----

Transportation

B57	Regulation of Ride-sharing Services in Small, Rural, & Remote Communities	Enderby	140
B58	Designation & Maintenance of Recreation Roads	Fraser-Fort George RD	141
B59	Forest Service Roads, Tourism & Economic Diversification	Kitimat-Stikine RD	142

Finance

B60	Restoration of Previous Provincial Funding Levels for Public Libraries	Powell River City	142
B61	Funding for Fire Equipment	Port Hardy	143

Environment

B62	Provincial Action on Building Energy Benchmarking	Richmond	144
B63	Provincial Zero Waste Strategy	LMLGA Executive	145
B64	Illegal Dumping	Peace River RD	145
B65	Environmental Assessment Cumulative Analysis	Squamish	146
B66	Panel on Management and Preservation of Old Growth Forests	Port McNeill	147

Land Use

B67	Provincial Private Moorage Program	Coldstream	148
B68	Dock & Buoy Regulations	Columbia Shuswap RD	149

Community Economic Development

B69	"Buy Local" Policy for Public Institutions	North Okanagan RD	150
-----	--	-------------------	-----

Health

B70	Funding for Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Collaborative	Squamish-Lillooet RD	151
B71	The Case for Prevention of the Opioid Crisis	Abbotsford	152

Section B2-b

Finance

B72	Unconditional Local Government Grants	Bulkley-Nechako RD	153
B73	Provincial Share of Infrastructure Spending	Victoria	153
B74	Water Improvement Districts	Central Kootenay RD	154
B75	Community Works Funding – Small Communities	Sayward	154
B76	Local Government Infrastructure Project Funding	Oliver	155
B77	Eligibility to Access Federal Gas Tax Funding	Thompson-Nicola RD	156

Elections

B78	<i>Local Elections Campaign Financing Act</i>	Ashcroft	157
-----	---	----------	-----

Legislative

B79	First Nations & Closed Meetings	North Cowichan	158
B80	Elimination of Boards of Variance	Cariboo RD	158
B81	Definition of a Parcel of Land	Castlegar	159

Transportation

B82	Whistle Cessation	Vanderhoof	160
B83	Expedite Accident Clearing	North Vancouver District North Vancouver City	160

Community Safety

B84	Interface Wildfire Risk	Central Kootenay RD	161
B85	Modification of Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes	Delta	162
B86	Emergency Recovery Costs	Squamish-Lillooet RD	162
B87	Sprinklers for 4-storey Wood Frame Residential Buildings	Langley City	163
B88	Funding for Drug Recognition Experts	Delta	163
B89	Restorative Justice Training	New Westminster	164
B90	Local Government Photo Radar	West Kelowna	165

Taxation

B91	Tax on Vacant & Derelict Residential Properties	Nelson	165
B92	Federal GST Charges on Provincial Carbon Tax	Vernon	166
B93	Tax-free Employer-provided Health Benefit Plans	Burnaby	166
B94	2017 Federal Budget – Proposed Removal of One-third Non-taxable Expense Allowance	View Royal	167

Regional Districts

B95	Hazardous Properties Remediation Costs	Nanaimo RD	167
-----	--	------------	-----

Health

B96	Review of & Amendments to the <i>Hospital District Act</i>	Kootenay Boundary RD Central Kootenay RD	168
B97	WorkSafeBC Regulations on Asbestos	Greenwood	169

Selected Issues

B98	Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy	Kitimat	169
B99	Municipal Lobbyist Registry	Vancouver	170

Land Use

B100	Microcell Transmitter Placement Consultation	Grand Forks	171
B101	Policy on Breweries, Distilleries & Meaderies	Sunshine Coast RD	172
B102	Provincial Water Lot Leases	Delta	172

Community Economic Development

B103	Forest Health	Williams Lake	173
B104	Business Registry	Penticton	174

Environment

B105	Comprehensive Reporting of Community Energy & Emissions Inventory	Highlands	174
B106	On-road Transportation Sector Required in the Community Energy & Emissions Inventory	Capital RD	175
B107	Ending the Inhumane Use of Animal Traps	Nanaimo City	175
B108	Province-wide Rat Reduction Strategy	West Kelowna	176
B109	Recycle BC	Central Kootenay RD	176
B110	Preventing Polystyrene Foam Pollution in the Marine Environment	Islands Trust	177
B111	Non-compostable Produce Sticker Labels	Maple Ridge	177
B112	Spill Detection Technology	Kitimat	177
B113	Environmental Assessment Funding System	Squamish	178
B114	Woodland Caribou Implementation Plan Consultation	Northern Rockies RM	179
B115	Task Force for Watershed Management	Central Kootenay RD	179
B116	Resale of Electricity for Electric Vehicle Charging	Metro Vancouver	180

Section B3-a

Community Safety

B117	Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits Funding	Squamish	182
------	---	----------	-----

Finance

B118	Rural Dividend Fund Program	Fraser-Fort George RD	182
------	-----------------------------	-----------------------	-----

Selected Issues

B119	Equal Access to Public Education	Hudson's Hope	183
B120	Long Term Rental Accommodation	Radium Hot Springs	184

Section B3-b

Selected Issues

B121	Family Day	Quesnel	186
B122	Rights of Service Dog Teams	Maple Ridge	186
B123	Ending Discriminatory Insurance Coverage	Maple Ridge	187
B124	Handling of Motions to Vary the Agenda	Port Hardy	187
B125	Location of UBCM Annual Convention	Central Kootenay RD	188
B126	Renovictions & the <i>Residential Tenancy Act</i>	New Westminster	189
B127	National School Food Program	Vancouver	189
B128	Exam Requirements for Owner Builder Certification	Nanaimo RD	190
B129	Abolition of Daylight Savings Time	Grand Forks	190

Finance

B130	Bill C-15 Federal Banking “Bail-in” Legislation	Nanaimo RD	191
------	---	------------	-----

Environment

B131	Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking	North Saanich	192
B132	Electric Vehicle Charging in Strata Buildings	Metro Vancouver	192

Health

B133	BC Ambulance Services	Cache Creek	193
B134	Comparable Standby Wages for BC Ambulance Service	Hudson’s Hope	193
B135	BC Ambulance Service	North Coast RD	194
B136	Helicopter Emergency Medical Services	Terrace	194
B137	Protocols to Respond to Student Drug Overdose on Secondary School Grounds	Maple Ridge	195

Community Safety

B138	Agricultural Dams	Cariboo RD	196
------	-------------------	------------	-----

Land Use

B139	Single Wide Mobile Homes as Second Dwellings on Agricultural Properties	Nanaimo RD	196
------	---	------------	-----

Section C2

C1	Extension of Taxation Authority for Vacant & Derelict Buildings	Victoria	199
C2	Legalization & Regulation of Cannabis	North Vancouver City	199
C3	Federal Budget Impact on Tax Exemptions	Capital RD	199
C4	Provincial Funding Levels for Libraries	Ladysmith	200
C5	Regulation of Small On-farm Breweries & Meaderies	Columbia Shuswap RD	200
C6	Regional Hospital District Capital Infrastructure Funding Formula	Terrace	201

Section C3

C7	Creating a Fair Market Approach to Lease Rates for Marinas	Nanaimo City	202
C8	UBCM Resolutions	Quesnel	202

Sponsor Index of Resolutions

Abbotsford	B71	Maple Ridge	B111, B122, B123, B137
Ashcroft	B78	Metchosin	B46
Bulkley-Nechako RD	B72	Metro Vancouver	B116, B132
Burnaby	B13, B93	Nanaimo City	B48, B107, C7
Burns Lake	B41	Nanaimo RD	B95, B128, B130, B139
Cache Creek	B133	Nelson	B24, B39, B91
Capital RD	B106, C3	New Westminster	B52, B89, B126
Cariboo RD	B15, B80, B138	North Coast RD	B135
Castlegar	B81	North Cowichan	B34, B79
Central Kootenay RD	B3, B38, B47, B74, B84 B96, B109, B115, B125	North Okanagan RD	B56, B69
Chilliwack	B44	North Saanich	B131
Coldstream	B67	North Vancouver City	B83, C2
Columbia Shuswap RD	B31, B68, C5	North Vancouver District	B83
Colwood	B42	Northern Rockies RM	B114
Comox Valley RD	B10	Oak Bay	A1, B26, B55
Coquitlam	ER1	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	B45
Delta	B50, B51, B85, B88, B102	Oliver	B76
East Kootenay RD	B4, B37	Parksville	B30
Enderby	B57	Peace River RD	B32, B64
Esquimalt	B40, B53	Penticton	B1, B2, B104
Fraser-Fort George RD	B58, B118	Port Hardy	B61, B124
Grand Forks	B100, B129	Port McNeill	B66
Greenwood	B97	Port Moody	B49
Highlands	B105	Powell River City	B60
Hudson's Hope	B54, B119, B134	Princeton	B29
Islands Trust	B110	Quesnel	B121, C8
Kitimat	B35, B98, B112	Radium Hot Springs	B120
Kitimat-Stikine RD	B59	Richmond	B62
Kootenay Boundary RD	B22, B96	Sayward	B11, B19, B75
Ladysmith	B26, C4	Sechelt District	B33
Langley City	B87	Sicamous	B27
Langley Township	B17	Squamish	B65, B113, B117
LMLGA Executive	B63	Squamish-Lillooet RD	B25, B28, B70, B86
Logan Lake	B43	Sunshine Coast RD	B9, B101

Telkwa	B18	Vernon	B92
Terrace	B136, C6	Victoria	A2, B14, B23, B26, B36, B73, C1
Thompson-Nicola RD	B77	View Royal	B94
Tofino	B20	Wells	B16
UBCM Executive	SR1	West Kelowna	B6, B90, B108
Vancouver	B99, B127	Williams Lake	B103
Vanderhoof	B7, B8, B12, B21, B82		

Section SR Resolutions

Section SR resolutions pertain to priority issues identified by the UBCM Executive, of concern to a broad range of UBCM members around the province.

Section SR

SR1 Local Government Role in BC Framework for Cannabis

UBCM Executive

Whereas the federal government intends to legalize cannabis by July 2018, and to date the provincial government has conducted minimal consultation with local government regarding the development and implementation of a BC framework for cannabis;

And whereas within a BC framework for cannabis, it is likely that a substantial portion of the regulatory burden and associated costs—for example, in the areas of compliance and enforcement—will fall on local government:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM membership endorse the following principles to guide UBCM's advocacy with the provincial government regarding local government's role in a BC framework for cannabis:

- fulsome and meaningful provincial consultation with local governments;
- provision of adequate provincial funding to cover any responsibilities and increase in administrative burden of any provincial framework that requires local government participation;
- equitable sharing of tax revenues from cannabis between all orders of government; and
- respect for local choice, jurisdiction and authority, including but not limited to land use and zoning decisions.

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee understands that legalization of cannabis has emerged as a major policy issue for UBCM and its membership, as local governments stand to face widespread impacts. Recently tabled federal legislation (Bill C-45 and Bill C-46) has provided greater clarity regarding federal and provincial frameworks that may be developed, and potential areas of responsibility for all orders of government. With the expectation that a 'made in BC' framework will be developed by July 2018, the UBCM Executive has put forward Special Resolution 1 (SR1), consistent with current policy, to provide broad organizational direction.

1. Rationale

Special Resolution 1 addresses an emerging policy issue for British Columbia local governments; one that was only recently given some clarity through the tabling of federal legislation (Bill C-45 and Bill C-46). Legislation has provided information on federal, provincial and potential local government areas of responsibility, while also leaving provinces and territories to create their own unique cannabis legalization frameworks. The federal government intends to legalize cannabis by July 2018, leaving provinces and territories little time to develop their frameworks, or allow a federal mail order system to prevail.

With this in mind, the UBCM Executive has proposed SR1 to provide broad organizational direction going forward. SR1 is consistent with past policy (2016-A2 and 2016-A3), the results of UBCM's cannabis survey, and information obtained through participation in local government working groups. UBCM's Community Safety Committee and Healthy Communities Committee have vetted the resolution, which was endorsed by UBCM's Executive in July 2017.

2. Current UBCM Policy

BC local governments endorsed two resolutions at UBCM's 2016 Convention that are directly related to the federal government's initiative to legalize cannabis:

2016-A2 Marijuana Regulations

That UBCM request that the federal and provincial governments directly involve local government, through UBCM and FCM, in the process of establishing a regulatory approach to marijuana in Canada, while ensuring that all orders of government are granted adequate time to align and integrate regional and local regulations and practices with new federal laws.

That UBCM call on the federal government to request that a portion of any future federal or provincial tax collected through marijuana sales and distribution be shared with local governments, and that the concept of tax sharing with local governments be forwarded to the task force looking into the new system of marijuana sales and distribution, for consideration.

3. UBCM Cannabis Legalization Survey

On March 29, 2017, UBCM distributed a survey to its membership, seeking input on a number of issues related to the legalization and regulation of non-medical cannabis (e.g. revenue sharing, consultation, implementation, potential repercussions, and attitudes towards legalization) as well as issues related to medical cannabis.

One of the most cited concerns among the 57 respondents was the potential for a transfer of responsibilities to local governments without accompanying funding from other orders of government. When asked to indicate their three primary concerns regarding a legalized cannabis regime, 78.9% of respondents selected “downloading of duties onto local governments” as a concern. Many respondents were also concerned with the potential distribution of revenue, and the necessity for local governments to receive a share, especially if they were to assume new responsibilities. This is consistent with UBCM resolution 2016-A3, which requested that a portion of any future federal or provincial tax collected through cannabis sales and distribution be shared with local governments.

The lack of communication and consultation between federal and provincial orders of government and local governments was also apparent, with only 7.2% of respondents having been directly consulted by the federal government, federal Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation, or the provincial government. Many respondents refrained or were unable to answer portions of the survey due to a lack of federal/provincial communication.

The survey results are available on the Cannabis Regulation page of the UBCM website:

<http://ow.ly/ub0G30eLye0>

4. Background

On April 13, 2017, following approximately ten months of work by the federal Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation, the federal government tabled long awaited cannabis legalization and enforcement legislation (Bill C-45 and Bill C-46), with the intention of legalizing cannabis by July 2018.

Federal legislation places emphasis on keeping cannabis away from children, and profits out of the hands of criminals. This is accomplished in part by imposing a set of strict penalties for those who operate outside the legalized system, including but not limited to:

- up to 14 years in jail for selling cannabis to anyone under 18, or using someone under 18 to commit a cannabis-related offence;
- up to 14 years in jail for taking cannabis across international borders; and
- up to 14 years in jail for production beyond permitted personal cultivation.

There are also promotional restrictions, including a ban on any promotion (e.g. celebrity endorsements), packaging or labeling that could be appealing to children. This includes a restriction on selling cannabis through any self-service display or vending machine.

Initially, sales will be restricted to fresh and dried cannabis, oils and seeds, and plants for cultivation. Edibles will be legalized and regulated once appropriate rules for their production and sale are developed. Individuals will initially be able to make cannabis products (e.g. foods, drinks) at home under some restrictions.

Cannabis production, distribution and possession outside the federal medical cannabis program will remain illegal until new laws are in place. This includes a ban on importing and exporting cannabis-related products. The federal government has set aside \$9.6 million for a comprehensive public awareness campaign that will focus on youth, health and safety risks, and surveillance.

a) Federal Responsibilities

As expected, the federal government will be responsible for the supply of cannabis. This entails a number of responsibilities, including:

- establishing a federal licensing regime for cannabis production;*
- monitoring and setting requirements for federally licenced producers;*
- setting industry-wide standards around the following:*
 - types of products available;*
 - packaging and labelling requirements;*
 - serving sizes and potency standards;*
 - prohibiting the use of certain ingredients;*
 - promotional restrictions;*
- seed to sale registry to track products and ensure cannabis comes from a legal source;*
- restrictions on adult access to cannabis;*
- establishing criminal penalties for those operating outside the legal system;*
- enforcing law at the border; and*
- managing Canada's international treaty commitments.*

The federal government has also been placed in charge of establishing minimum conditions that provincial and territorial legislation for distribution and retail would be required to meet to ensure consistency. These minimum conditions are in areas such as minimum age of consumption, personal possession limits, and personal cultivation.

Should provinces and territories fail to enact legislation regulating cannabis sales prior to the date of legalization, there are provisions in place that will allow recreational cannabis to be purchased by individuals through mail orders from federally licenced producers.

b) Provincial Responsibilities

There are a number of responsibilities transferred to provincial and territorial governments as part of Bill C-45; some are constrained by minimum federal conditions, while others are at the discretion of provinces and territories. These responsibilities include:

- setting a minimum age for consumption (minimum set at 18 by the federal government);*
- establishing distribution and personal possession limits within the federal maximum of 30 grams per adult, 5 grams per "young person" aged 12-18 (adults and young persons are permitted to distribute limited quantities of cannabis, but are not permitted to sell cannabis);*
- regulation of personal cultivation operations (maximum number of plants set at 4 per residence with a 100 cm height limit by the federal government);*
- creating restrictions around where adults can consume cannabis (e.g. public places, vehicles, designated lounges, etc.);*
- licensing distribution and retail operators (where cannabis will be sold), and carrying out associated compliance and enforcement activities;*
- establishing provincial zoning rules; and*
- amending provincial traffic safety laws to address impaired driving.*

c) *Other Issues*

In addition to Bill C-45, the federal government concurrently tabled Bill C-46, providing for new enforcement powers related to cannabis and alcohol. Essentially, it will be considered impaired driving to have “a blood drug concentration that is equal to or exceeds the blood drug concentration for the drug that is prescribed by regulation” within two hours of operating a motor vehicle. How this will be measured and determined is not clear. The federal government still has not determined what constitutes an illegal blood alcohol or blood drug concentration. Research continues into the development of a device that can detect tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) levels from an individual’s saliva.

As part of this legislation, the police will have the authority to request a roadside alcohol breath test at any time, but may only request a cannabis saliva sample if they have reason to suspect an individual has been using cannabis.

Despite legislation giving stakeholders and Canadians a better idea of what a legalized regime will entail, it still leaves unresolved issues. These issues include, but are not limited to:

- federal and provincial tax rates;*
- packaging rules and regulations;*
- date that edibles will be introduced into the legalized framework;*
- restrictions for making cannabis products at home (e.g. foods, drinks);*
- information around police enforcement tools and regulations; and*
- compensation for provinces, territories and local governments related to enforcement and other resources expended as part of the legalization and regulation of cannabis.*

See also resolutions B88 and C2.

Conference decision:

Section ER Resolutions

Section ER contains extraordinary resolutions—specifically, those that request amendments to the UBCM Bylaws, or request the provincial government to amend the *UBCM Act*.

In accordance with the UBCM Bylaws, a three-fifths (60 per cent) majority vote is necessary to adopt an extraordinary resolution.

Section ER

ER1	Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws Regarding Removal of a Resolution From a Block	Coquitlam
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Whereas Sections 23(a) and (d) of the UBCM Bylaws provide that voting delegates present at the Annual Convention may move to group resolutions for consideration as a block; with voting delegates enabled, under certain conditions, to move removal of a resolution from the block for separate consideration and debate;

And whereas the original motion to group resolutions for consideration as a block requires only a simple majority to pass, but a motion to remove a resolution from a block for separate consideration and debate must receive a three-fifths (60 per cent) vote to pass:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM simplify the rules of procedure in the UBCM Bylaws by amending Section 23(d) to remove the requirement for a three-fifths (60 per cent) vote in order to remove a resolution from a block for separate consideration and debate, with such an amendment having the effect of allowing removal from a block by way of a simple majority.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution proposing amendments to the UBCM Bylaws to simplify the rules of procedure and allow removal of a resolution from a block with the support of a simple majority.

The Committee would clarify that if the resolution were to be endorsed and the UBCM Bylaws changed, the new procedures would take effect in 2018.

Conference decision:

Section A Resolutions

Section A resolutions pertain to new policy matters not previously discussed by the membership, or priority issues that have broad application for all UBCM members.

Section A may also contain select resolutions endorsed and forwarded by the Area Associations, on policy matters that have broad application for all UBCM members and highlight issues of concern around the province.

Section A

Elections

A1 Local Government Election Campaign Financing

Oak Bay

Whereas there are currently no limits on election campaign donations or restrictions on corporate or union donations for local government elections;

And whereas all major political parties have committed to enacting some form of electoral finance reform for provincial elections in the coming term:

Therefore be it resolved that should the provincial government make changes to provincial campaign finance regulations to limit and restrict campaign donations, those changes be extended to include campaign finance regulations for local government.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2015-B94, which called on the provincial government to “prohibit political campaign contributions from corporate and union sources” for both provincial and local government elections, as well as to limit the size of individual candidate contributions and contributions to campaigns.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government referenced the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA), which includes expense limits. The Province stated that it did not intend to introduce campaign contribution limits.

Conference decision:

Selected Issues

A2 Encouraging the Use of Residential Property for Housing

Victoria

Whereas residents and communities across British Columbia face acute housing affordability and housing availability challenges, threatening the economic security of individuals as well as the productivity and viability of local economies, as youth, seniors, people with disabilities and working people lack access to affordable housing options;

And whereas effective fiscal and taxation tools have been identified to address these challenges by encouraging the use of residential property to provide housing, and discouraging speculation, “flipping,” commodity investment and other market distortions aimed at maximizing the exchange-value of residential property for the owner, while contributing toward a sharp escalation in the price of housing:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia and Government of Canada take action to introduce effective fiscal and taxation tools to encourage the use of residential property to provide housing, and discourage speculation, “flipping,” commodity investment and other market distortions that contribute toward a sharp escalation in the price of housing;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia adjust the (1) Property Transfer Tax and (2) Capital Gains Tax Exemption for primary residences, to encourage residential occupancy and discourage speculation, including the option of a phased-in Capital Gains Tax exemption for primary residences that increases over time to encourage residential occupancy and discourage speculation, and guarantee a dedicated and fixed portion of revenues from Capital Gains, Property Transfer and Land Value Capture taxes for municipal affordable housing and transit infrastructure.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for provincial and federal fiscal and tax tools to encourage the use of residential property to provide housing, while discouraging real estate speculation on residential property (2016-B136, 2006-B23, 2000-B77).

See also resolutions B14 and B91.

Conference decision:

Section B Resolutions

Section B resolutions will be dealt with on the Convention floor in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book.

Section B contains those resolutions which will not automatically be entered for debate but may be brought to the Convention floor with the approval of the delegates after all resolutions in Section A have been considered.

The amended UBCM Executive Policies on resolutions state that Section B will be divided into three categories and shall be brought to the Convention floor with the approval of the delegates after all resolutions in Section A have been considered. Such resolutions are prefixed B and are printed in the second section of the Resolutions Book.

Part 1 – Resolutions Supporting Existing Policy

- previously considered and endorsed resolutions;
- resolutions in keeping with UBCM policy; or
- resolutions in keeping with other major previously approved policy papers or documents.

Part 2 and Part 3 – Resolutions Proposing New Policy

- resolutions on topics not previously considered;
- previously considered but not endorsed resolutions;
- topics of local or regional significance; or
- topics of national significance and recommended, as appropriate, for consideration by FCM.

The Resolutions Committee has discretion in grouping resolutions from Parts 2 and 3 as:

- Part 2: issues considered within the jurisdiction of local government; or
- Part 3: resolutions on matters that are considered not within the jurisdiction of local government.

Section B resolutions that have not been debated by the Convention will be submitted to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action. Note that the recommendation for each resolution is printed in the Resolutions Book.

Section B – Part 1

Resolutions Supporting Existing Policy

This section contains resolutions that:

- have been previously considered and endorsed; or
- are in keeping with UBCM General Policy or other major previously approved policy documents.

Included in Section B – Part 1 are resolutions numbered:

B1 – B54

After consideration of Section A resolutions, a spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion:

I move that the resolutions in Section B – Part 1 be considered as a block.

If the motion is endorsed by delegates, then the resolutions in Section B – Part 1 will be considered as a block.

These resolutions will not be debated individually unless there is a motion introduced to specifically consider such a resolution; for example:

I move that resolution B(x) be removed from the block and be considered separately for debate.

Such a motion would be introduced as an amendment to the general motion stated above. A delegate may request to remove a resolution from the block and consider it separately for debate, only if they wish to speak in opposition or propose an amendment to the resolution. [UBCM Bylaws s. 23(d)]

If the motion to remove a resolution from the block is approved, the resolution would be considered individually, after the vote on the block been decided.

Finally, once all motions regarding the block have been heard, the spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the motion:

Shall the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section B – Part 1 be adopted?

If the motion is approved by delegates, then the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section B – Part 1 resolutions will be endorsed as a block.

Section B1

Legislative

B1 Public Notice

Penticton

Whereas Section 94 of the *Community Charter* prescribes public notice provisions through a newspaper distributed at least weekly;

And whereas other forms of media have a far greater reach than newspaper publications:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development be requested to conduct a comprehensive review and evaluation of the statutory advertising provisions with a view to amending such provisions in response to the technological advances of recent years.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2016-B1 and 2015-B88, both of which called on the provincial government to amend the Local Government Act and Community Charter to provide greater flexibility for local government publication of statutorily required public notices.

In response to resolution 2016-B1, the provincial government pointed out that the Community Charter already supports use of “alternative means” where it is not practical to publish a public notice in a newspaper. The Province also clarified that once a local government meets the minimum statutory requirement to publish a notice in a newspaper, the Community Charter “explicitly authorizes additional public notices, including by the internet or other electronic means.” The provincial government expressed willingness to engage in future dialogue with UBCM regarding changes to public notice requirements.

Conference decision:

B2 Recall of Local Government Elected Officials

Penticton

Whereas constituents may believe local government elected officials are in breach of integrity and/or eroding public confidence;

And whereas the recently extended term of office for local government elected officials in British Columbia negatively affects the ability of the local electorate to vote for change in their local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia amend legislation to include a recall process for local government elected officials.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2015-B93, which requested that the provincial government make legislative amendments to provide a mechanism for voter recall of local government elected officials.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government indicated that it was not at the time considering recall legislation for local governments. Further, the Province cited local government elections as “the fundamental democratic framework around which elected officials are ultimately held accountable for their decisions and actions.”

Conference decision:

Community Safety

B3 Support for BC Fire Departments

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the Office of the Fire Commissioner has, over the past two 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 has negatively impacted fire fighter recruitment and has resulted in increased local government taxation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be directed to work with the Office of the Fire Commissioner to explore provincial funding options to help support British Columbia fire departments in meeting the standards now required by that Office.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide funding, training, and resources to support fire departments throughout the province (2016-B4, 2015-B3, 2012-B10, 2009-B27, 2009-B63, 2006-B68, 2003-B34, 2003-B48, 2002-B28, 2001-B46, 1996-A2). Most recently, members endorsed resolution 2016-B4, which asked the Office of the Fire Commissioner to establish “Fire Training and Evaluation Teams” to provide ongoing training opportunities, evaluation and records management training for all fire departments in British Columbia.

In response to resolution 2016-B4, the provincial government highlighted the training curriculum for interior and exterior firefighting developed and made available by the Office of the Fire Commissioner, as well as provincial funding for “train-the-trainer” team leader courses through the Fire Chiefs Association of BC. The Province also referenced on-going regional workshops offered in partnership with the Local Government Management Association “to provide training to Chief Administrative Officers and Fire Chiefs including the provision of information management, record keeping and training tools.”

Conference decision:

B4 Interface Wildfire Prevention Responsibility

East Kootenay RD

Whereas wildfire is identified as a significant risk to many communities in British Columbia;

And whereas the current Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative places the responsibility for both wildfire prevention and forest management on Crown land onto local governments and First Nations, who do not have jurisdiction on Crown lands or staff with forestry expertise, resulting in a program that demands excessive staff time to administer and creates unnecessary liability for the local government or First Nation:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be requested to develop a more efficient and effective model to address the interface wildfire risk reduction needs of BC communities under the supervision of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to fund and engage in wildfire management planning, especially on Crown land (2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1, 2013- B116, 2012-B109, 2012-B112, 2012-B113, 2012-B114, 2011-B80, 2010-B59, 2010-B68, 2010-B91, 2009- B131, 2008-B59, 2007-B74).

Since 2011, the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) has allowed staff and consultant costs as eligible expenditures for operational fuel treatments. In part, the intent of these eligible expenditures is to allow eligible applicants to access the forestry expertise they require to oversee fuel treatments.

The Committee understands that in January 2017, changes were made to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan funding stream to increase the maximum grant available and lessen the required community contribution. A template is now available for all CWPPs which will help local governments and First Nations to identify and prioritize future fuel management and FireSmart activities.

In addition, in April 2017, changes to the SWPI were announced. Eligible applicants may now apply for joint funding for operational treatments with the Forest Enhancement Society of BC. Funding permitting, joint funding for operational fuel treatments will be available to:

- *allow applicants to access funding in excess of the annual SWPI funding maximums;*
- *enable operationally logical treatments with areas inside the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and outside of the WUI; and*
- *support treatments in regional district unincorporated areas that did not previously meet the requirements regarding service area and a community contribution of 10%—which may result in 100% funding for selected eligible projects in unincorporated areas.*

Conference decision:

B5 Victim Services Program Funding

Nanaimo RD

Whereas victim services programs provide support and assistance to victims of crime;

And whereas the Ministry of Public Safety has the ultimate responsibility for the victim services programs and yet does not fully fund these programs:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia fully fund all victim services programs.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting that the Province provide funding for victim services programs (2015-B4; 2014-B4; 2011-B14; 2010-B12; 2008-B4; 2006-B9; 2003-Victims Services Program; 1996-B43).

In response to resolution 2015-B4, the Province re-iterated its position that police-based victim service programs should be cost shared with local governments in communities that contribute to their policing costs.

See also resolution B56.

Conference decision:

B6 Staffing Levels – Integrated RCMP Detachments

West Kelowna

Whereas RCMP 'E' Division uses, in some areas, an integrated detachment model (two or more municipal or provincial RCMP units housed in one building) to provide policing to combined municipal and provincial areas;

And whereas municipalities authorize and fund increases to the number of municipal officers at the integrated detachments, but the number of provincially funded officers does not automatically change, possibly resulting in a potential imbalance and financial subsidy to provincial or rural areas by the municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to initiate a review of the number of provincial officers serving at an integrated detachment when the municipal component of the detachment is increased to ensure that the municipal and provincial areas are being funded fairly.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government and the RCMP to fund and staff the provincial component of combined or integrated detachments, to ensure that rural areas outside of municipal boundaries are provided with the same service and responsiveness as areas within municipal boundaries (2016-B82, 2009-B67, 2006-B12).

Conference decision:

Transportation

B7 Railway Manifest

Vanderhoof

Whereas Transport Canada made the requirement in 2013 obliging railroad companies to provide annual aggregate information on dangerous and hazardous good, on a quarterly basis for CN and CP to municipalities that request it;

And whereas there is no consideration to go beyond the current approach, which would ensure emergency response organizations have the information on dangerous and hazardous goods at their disposal:

Therefore be it resolved that Transport Canada require that all railway companies ensure that local emergency response organizations are provided with up to the minute information on the dangerous and hazardous goods on any train that is traveling through their community.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B55, which in part requested federal legislation that would require rail carriers to provide local governments with "timely information regarding the frequency of Class III tank cars travelling through communities carrying hazardous materials."

Members also endorsed resolution 2015-B13, which called for a "comprehensive national strategy for the rail transportation of dangerous and hazardous goods" that would include in part:

- A security-focused, prevention-based reporting structure to allow first responders and key municipal officials information about dangerous and hazardous goods before they pass through their community; and*
- A strategy to allow for local governments to induce timely inquiries into infrastructure safety after rail derailments or similar failures.*

The sponsor correctly notes that the federal government in 2013 began requiring railway companies, if requested by local governments, to share with municipal first responders and emergency planners information on the nature and volume of dangerous goods being transported by rail through their communities. However, UBCM acknowledges that at present, the railway companies provide this information only to local governments that request it; and on an annual basis, rather than up to the minute.

Conference decision:

B8 Public Transportation

Vanderhoof

Whereas many rural communities in northern British Columbia do not have public transit;

And whereas the absence of public transportation in these rural communities places them at a distinct disadvantage as their citizens have no opportunity to use public transportation within or between communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC implement a public transportation strategy and establish solutions leading to the sustainability of public transit in all rural communities.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable public transportation solutions across BC, including in rural and remote communities (2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2007-B13, 2005-B7). Most recently, resolution 2015-B9 from the same sponsor asked the Province for “adequate funding to support local and intercommunity transportation in rural communities.”

In response to the 2015 resolution, the provincial government expressed willingness to work with communities to find public transit options. The Province also referenced the Action Plan for the Highway 16 Corridor; as well as work by the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition on intra-regional transportation service.

See also resolution B57.

Conference decision:

B9 BC Transit Expansion & Funding Certainty

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the current Annual Operating Agreements (AOA) between BC Transit and local governments provide for base service levels that are equal to the previous year but do not reflect agreed upon expanded transit service levels;

And whereas local governments are expected to authorize future commitments for transit expansion which are subject to cost increases at the discretion of BC Transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to provide a rolling 3-year funding commitment to BC Transit in order to provide and secure longer term funding assurances necessary for local governments to adequately budget and plan for transit expansion beyond the current year.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide dedicated and sustainable funding for public transit and future expansion of services, thereby supporting local government budget and transportation planning processes (2015-B55, 2014-B60, 2013-B15, 2012-B95, 2012-B115, 2010-B21, 2006-B20, 2005-B7, 2004-B55, 2003-B60, 2003-B65).

Conference decision:

B10 Highway Maintenance

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for highway maintenance and provides service delivery performance requirements within their maintenance contracts and no independent process is provided to ensure the timely delivery of those services and communication of when those services will be delivered;

And whereas community and neighbourhood concerns in electoral areas suggests that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure needs to fund its highways and road maintenance programs in a more effective manner:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure:

- a) review how it provides performance measures to its public and how it keeps its public informed as to when it can expect the remediation of a maintenance deficiency so that it can devise a process that will assure the public that it is delivering its highway maintenance obligations; and
- b) ensure adequate resourcing is available to administer and monitor highways and road maintenance contracts such that public safety and traveling conditions are enhanced on rural roads.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to communicate more transparently with the public about highway maintenance performance measures and increase the funding for road maintenance and safety improvements (2009-B16, 2009-B161, 2008-B113, 2007-B97, 2005-B80, 2001-B14).

Resolution 2008-B113 specifically requested that the Province:

- *conduct more stringent monitoring and performance audits of road maintenance contractors; and*
- *communicate more transparently, frequently and regularly with stakeholders and the general public about the results of such performance assessments.*

In response to resolution 2008-B113, the provincial government described:

- *the quality control requirements it imposes upon highway maintenance contractors;*
- *different mechanisms used by provincial staff to assess the performance of highway maintenance contractors; and*
- *the frequency and nature of provincial communication with stakeholders including local governments, regarding highway maintenance.*

Conference decision:

B11 Highway Lane Markings

Sayward

Whereas in many driving areas, driving is made unsafe for the public due to faded line markings both on the shoulder and the centre of highways;

And whereas the Department of Transportation has contractor line painting guidelines which do not respond adequately to the adverse weather conditions faced by drivers:

Therefore be it resolved to increase public safety on roads the Department of Transportation be requested to change the guidelines to increase the frequency and visibility of shoulder and centre line painting on all provincial roads.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2016-B10 and 2014-B53, both of which requested that the Province improve the line markings and the maintenance of those markings on all provincial roads.

In response to resolution 2016-B10, the provincial government indicated that it had been working for several years to improve the durability and effectiveness of highway markings, through product research and by implementing more stringent requirements in its contracts for pavement marking.

Conference decision:

B12 Highway 16 Updates & Improvements

Vanderhoof

Whereas the Trans-Canada Highway 16 is the only east-west highway connecting communities in northern BC and is a critical link for the economic development of the region and province, especially providing access to the Asia-Pacific;

And whereas there is a need to facilitate safe and efficient traffic flow on the highway through areas that are in dire need of improvements, reducing 'bottle-necks,' more 'three-laning,' and safer level rail crossings, etc.:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the federal and provincial governments to allocate the necessary funds and implement a comprehensive program to make improvements on the TransCanada Highway 16, as well as Highways 118, 37, and 27, within BC.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B81, which asked the provincial government to develop an "Asia-Pacific northern infrastructure strategy" to address barriers to trade and transportation, and impacts to northern communities along Highway 16; and called for consultation with northern stakeholder communities and industry as part of the development of the strategy.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government referenced an analysis of multi-modal transportation trade networks along Highway 16, as part of the Pacific Gateway Initiative.

UBCM also notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking a province-wide, multimodal transportation strategy or policy that would include components such as highway upgrades; safety improvements; transportation of dangerous goods; emergency response; and coordination between different modes of transport (2013-B13, 2009-B16, 2008-B110, 2008-B107, 2003-B59, 2000-B63, 1998-A6, 1996-B88, 1995-B55, 1992-A17).

Conference decision:

Taxation

B13 Provincial Compensation for Delinquent Taxes on Properties Not Subject to Tax Sale

Burnaby

Whereas the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* regulate municipal actions for the recovery of unpaid property taxes by means of a tax sale;

And whereas the *Community Charter* restricts municipalities from auctioning off any property belonging to the Crown or Crown entity that is held under lease or licence by a third party thereby eliminating municipalities' abilities to recover delinquent taxes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to repeal Section 257(6) of the *Community Charter* and add a provision that makes the Province the final guarantor of taxes payable to a municipality in all cases whereby taxes are unrecoverable on Crown land held under lease or licence, or other property not subject to tax sale under Section 254 of the *Community Charter*.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2011-B86, which called for provincial amendments to the Community Charter to enable local governments to collect outstanding taxes owing on defaulted Crown leases; as well as a provincial commitment to compensate local governments for revenue loss in cases where a Crown lessee defaulted on its local taxes.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government suggested that local governments could apply the legal remedy of distress, in accordance with Section 252 of the Community Charter. The Province indicated that local governments could use this mechanism to "collect on outstanding taxes before they become delinquent," thereby providing an opportunity to collect prior to provincial cancellation of a Crown lease.

Conference decision:

B14 Restoration of Land Value Tax

Victoria

Whereas concern around housing affordability is widespread in British Columbia communities, and the Land Value Tax provides a fiscal mechanism to incentivize improvements to property for housing and other purposes, and creates a disincentive to holding vacant property for speculative purposes;

And whereas local governments in British Columbia previously had the authority to introduce Land Value Taxes—taxing land at a higher rate than improvements:

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of British Columbia restore the authority of local governments to introduce a Land Value Tax, to incentivize improvements to property for housing and other purposes, and create a disincentive to holding vacant property for speculative purposes.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to grant municipalities the option of setting differing property tax rates for land and improvements (2011-B24; 2008-B18; 2007-B72). The Committee would observe that these previous resolutions have focused more on the issue of vacant and derelict buildings, rather than housing affordability.

In response to resolution 2011-B24, the provincial government highlighted the utility of existing mechanisms in the Community Charter and related regulations, such as local service taxes that municipalities can impose on land, on improvements, or on both; and revitalization tax exemptions, which can be used to provide tax relief for property owners who make significant improvements to their properties.

The Committee also notes that members endorsed resolution 2016-B13, which called for an amendment to the Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation to include prescribed classes for vacant land and vacant contaminated land, making possible a higher tax rate or flat taxes for these classes of property.

See also resolutions A2 and B91.

Conference decision:

B15 BC Hydro Fair Compensation

Cariboo RD

Whereas private utilities are required to pay property taxes on properties including rights-of-way for distribution and transmission lines;

And whereas BC Hydro is authorized by provincial law to pay grants-in-lieu to local governments rather than paying property taxes:

And whereas this inequity has been an ongoing issue of importance to local governments, especially regional districts where the majority of distribution and transmission lines are located, but for which no property taxes may be collected:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Minister of Finance to review the issue of grants-in-lieu paid by BC Hydro with respect to its transmission and distribution assets as promised during the preparation of Budget 2012.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions relating to Crown Corporation assets and the payment of grants in lieu of property taxes, or full property taxes based on assessed property values (2012-B68; 2011-B23; 2009-B44; 2005-B96; 2001-B21; 2001-B24; 1995-A6). Further, UBCM General Policy 1.8 states that “property taxation distribution ... should be based on actual value assessments and grants in lieu of taxes paid by other governments and their agencies should be paid on the same basis as the ordinary taxpayer.”

Conference decision:

Finance

B16 Small Community Grant

Wells

Whereas most small communities (those with populations of less than 5000 people) in British Columbia have small tax bases and limited revenue sources;

And whereas the operational costs of the municipal governments and municipal capital projects have increased significantly over the last ten (10) years:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to increase the funding it provides to small communities through the Small Community Grant program in order to address the actual costs to serve and support British Columbia’s small communities.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the Small Community Grant program and asking for the funding formula to be indexed and fine tuned to the realities of small local governments in BC (2014-B20, 2013-B18, 2012-B132).

The Committee would observe that for selected small local governments in BC, funds received from the provincial government through the Small Community Grant already comprise up to 70 per cent of the total budget for local government operations.

Conference decision:

B17 Property Transfer Tax for Homelessness & Affordable Housing Langley Township

Whereas the District of Saanich introduced resolution B109 in 2007 for said purpose with a prescriptive remedy of 20 per cent of the Property Transfer Tax (PTT) to be annually directed to a pooled fund to be administered by UBCM to address homelessness and affordable housing;

And whereas the resolution was endorsed by the Executive but not acted upon by the provincial government;

And whereas the incidences of homelessness throughout BC have increased exponentially in the past decade and most particularly in recent years, based on anecdotal and empirical information derived from the Regional Homelessness Count across Metro Vancouver and across the province as a whole;

And whereas there is a growing financial and social burden on local governments who are not statutorily mandated to provide below-market housing and deal with homelessness issues, but are nonetheless increasingly forced to spend inordinate and extraordinary resources relative to their tax base as in order to deal with the rising homeless population while concomitantly grappling with affordability issues;

And whereas the provincial PTT has increased by 44 per cent between 2014/15 and 2015/16, and is forecast to increase by over 50 per cent between 2015/16 and 2016/17:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that a defined percentage of funds arising from the Property Transfer Tax be attributed to a specific “Affordable Housing and Homelessness” reserve fund in order to address these issues proportionately facing local governments throughout the province of BC.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that requested the provincial government allocate a portion of revenues from the Property Transfer Tax to address issues of homelessness and housing affordability (2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2004-A8).

The 2017 resolution from Langley Township calls on the provincial government to direct a defined

percentage of Property Transfer Tax revenues to a specific “Affordable Housing and Homelessness” reserve fund in order to address these issues proportionately facing local governments across BC.

However, the Committee would observe that the most recent resolution addressing this issue, 2011-B67, proposed alternate means of disbursing funds from Property Transfer Tax revenues. The resolution asked the Province to “create Regional Housing Trust Funds from Property Transfer Tax revenues to provide subsidized, supportive and affordable housing,” with funds levied for this purpose “kept within the regions they are levied from and disbursement be contingent on financial or in-kind local contributions.”

In response to resolution 2011-B67, the provincial government stated that any “proposed transfer of tax revenue to local governments must be evaluated in the context of the Province’s need to fund essential services.” The Province observed that tax revenues fluctuate, and may not always meet the funding needs of specific programs.

With its support for previous resolutions, the UBCM membership clearly identifies the Property Transfer Tax as a provincial revenue source that should, in whole or in part, be used to address homelessness and housing affordability issues. Members are less clear about the specific framework under which this should be done, as well as the degree of responsibility for homelessness and housing that would be appropriate to download onto local governments.

Conference decision:

B18 Federal Funding Rules Limiting Gas Tax Funds Stacking

Telkwa

Whereas most large local government water and wastewater infrastructure projects require grant funding support from the provincial and federal governments;

And whereas federal funding rules restrict “stacking” gas tax funds as part of municipal grant funding contributions;

And whereas the preference of some communities may be to utilize accumulated federal gas tax funds as part of their matching grant contribution to limit the burden on their property tax payers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the federal government to allow communities to use federal gas tax funds as part of their matching contribution to grant funding for critical infrastructure projects involving water and wastewater.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2006-B84, which called on the federal government to allow for the use of federal gas tax funds (specifically, Community Works Funds) in conjunction with other federal funding programs such as the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government acknowledged that local government use of gas tax funds was constrained “if the eligible project is receiving federal funds under another infrastructure program. In that case, the rules respecting the maximum federal contribution limitations under that other infrastructure program apply.”

Conference decision:

B19 Future Tripartite Infrastructure Funding Programs

Sayward

Whereas many communities are wrestling with increased infrastructure costs for essential services and in finding adequate sources of funding;

And whereas small communities have very limited funding options for providing basic infrastructure for their residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province and federal government to develop future infrastructure funding programs that provide for a lower cost-share threshold for communities under 5,000.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking increased flexibility within grant or funding programs regarding matching funds from local governments, and a lessening of the project cost share borne by local governments (2016-B18, 2015-B22, 2015-B87, 2014-B19, 2012-B13, 2009-B29, 2004-A7, 2000-B12).

Resolution 2015-B22 in particular asked the provincial and federal governments to “revise the current one-third/one-third/one-third formula to reflect the inequities for smaller communities with identified essential projects within their boundaries.”

In response to resolution 2015-B22, the provincial government indicated that it regularly considers “the challenges of small local governments, and as such, analyses the cost-share formula in the development of all programs.” The Province expressed concern that changing the cost-sharing formula might “equate to fewer communities that ultimately receive funding support.”

The Province further pointed out that for federal-provincial programs, “cost sharing formulas are set by the federal government and must be adhered to,” and that “there is not an opportunity to change these formulas which are set in federal-provincial agreements.”

The Resolutions Committee would point out that, with recent federal ‘Phase 1’ funding programs such as the Clean Water & Wastewater Fund, the federal contribution was established at 50%, with the provincial contribution at 33%, leaving a 17% contribution share for BC local governments. This is consistent with UBCM’s position captured in the UBCM Phase 2 Funding Submission to Infrastructure Canada, as well as UBCM’s 2017 Provincial Election Platform, where UBCM advocated to a 50% federal contribution and a minimum provincial contribution of 33% for all local government capital funding programs.

Conference decision:

Assessment

B20 Split Classification for Short Term Commercial Accommodation

Tofino

Whereas the Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation enables BC Assessment to split-classify two specific Short Term Overnight Commercial Accommodation Properties (strata accommodation properties and ‘bed and breakfast’ residential properties) between Class 1 and Class 6 to reflect the dual residential and commercial use of these properties;

And whereas the regulation does not capture residential properties that are also used commercially for short-term overnight accommodation (known as “short term rentals” or “vacation rentals”), creating a tax fairness issue:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend legislation so that all residential properties used for short-term overnight accommodation be eligible to be split-classified between Class 1 and Class 6, and that classification methodology for short-term rentals be developed in consultation with stakeholders.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2016-A4, which called on the Province to work with UBCM to regulate short term accommodation in a manner that would address compliance, and taxation fairness between providers of short term accommodation.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government observed that concern with “levelling the playing field” between traditional accommodation providers and those providing accommodation through peer-to-peer networks, relates primarily to a “lack of regulatory requirements for the sharing economy, rather than actual differences in tax treatment.” The Province highlighted income tax compliance efforts by the provincial and federal governments related to the sharing economy. The Province also pointed out that accommodation “subject to tax under the Provincial Sales Tax Act remains taxable regardless of how it is advertised or how providers and customers connect.”

Unlike the 2016 resolution, this resolution is specifically attempting to address the issue of tax fairness by seeking regulatory changes to allow BC Assessment to include short term rentals into the split classified category.

Conference decision:

B21 Brownfields

Vanderhoof

Whereas vacant sites or orphan properties known as “brownfields” are prevalent on properties located within communities along the Highway 16 transportation corridor, are eyesores to the community and have caused real or suspected environmental contamination and negatively impact economic development of that specific site and in the general area of that specific site;

And whereas the owners of these “brownfield” sites have already reaped the benefits and there should be a financial cost for those who don’t clean up their mess:

Therefore be it resolved that the *Assessment Act* Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation be amended to add a separate property class; “Class 10 – Brownfield,” which applies to any vacant or deserted properties that are classified as a brownfield.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2016-B104, which called on the provincial government to create a separate assessment class for brownfield sites.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government indicated that it is not currently considering a separate property class for brownfield sites. The Province pointed out that “the cost of remediation, if required, is often prohibitive and can even exceed the market value of the property,” and expressed reservations about unintended consequences and challenges resulting from taxing brownfields at a higher rate.

Conference decision:

Environment

B22 Access to Used Oil Recycling Facilities in Rural BC

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas access to used oil, used oil filters and used oil container recycling services in BC is very inadequate particularly in rural areas;

And whereas the British Columbia Used Oil Management Association (BCUOMA) is required by provincial statute to provide used oil, used oil filters and used oil container recycling services to all citizens of British Columbia;

And whereas the British Columbia Used Oil Management Association must submit a Stewardship Plan to the provincial Ministry of Environment for approval:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial Ministry of Environment require that the British Columbia Used Oil Manufacturing Association (BCUOMA) Stewardship Plan include minimum requirements for public drop-off depots that will insure that there is access to public recycling facilities no more than 10 kilometres from where BCUOMA recycling program materials are sold.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a similar resolution, 2016-B29, from the same sponsor, calling on the provincial government to require the BC Used Oil Management Association to provide collection of used motor oil, used oil filters, and used oil bottles in all communities where new oil is sold.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government suggested that implementing collection of used oil, filters and bottles in all communities where new oil is sold would be quite challenging and costly for the BC Used Oil Management Association and for the public. The Province pointed out that used oil collection facilities must meet the requirements of the Hazardous Waste Regulation. According to the Province, the Ministry of Environment and the BC Used Oil Management Association are aware of underserved areas of BC, and are in the process of reviewing revisions to the Stewardship Plan. The provincial government suggested contacting Ministry of Environment staff for updates on the status of the review.

Conference decision:

B23 Local Partnerships for Energy Efficiency Retrofits

Victoria

Whereas local governments across North America are partnering with other levels of government to provide incentive programs to property owners to save money and reduce the environmental impact of buildings, including incentive programs funded through local service charges to support the installation of solar energy technology options for solar photovoltaic, solar hot air and solar hot water;

And whereas municipal local improvement charges in British Columbia cannot currently include the provision of cost recovery for municipal services on private property;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia work with local governments, First Nations governments and the federal government to introduce robust incentive programs to support residents, property owners and property managers in improving energy efficiency of buildings to address climate action and housing affordability objectives, and that the Province of British Columbia enact legislation to allow the cost recovery of municipally-financed green energy technologies on private properties through municipal local improvement charges.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions asking the provincial government to enable local governments to support energy efficiency improvements to privately owned buildings. The mechanism proposed is municipal financing for green energy technologies on private properties, including the ability for local governments to recover costs through local improvement charges (2016-B19, 2014-B64).

In response to resolution 2016-B19, the provincial government observed that existing legislation permits municipalities to undertake a “financial agreement or assistance to individual residents to subsidize a portion of the acquisition of solar panels. However, the assistance or agreement would be a standard commercial contract or grant between the municipality and the individual property owner, and would not be done through a local service (with a tax levy on the individual property purchasing a solar panel).” The Province pointed out that the contract or grant must not be used to provide assistance to business.

The provincial government further clarified that “local services and accompanying public borrowing and tax levies are reserved for financing the costs of public infrastructure ... owned and controlled by the municipality,” and are not appropriate for financing “private acquisitions that are owned by individual residents (such as solar panels or energy efficient devices).”

Conference decision:

B24 Contaminated Sites

Nelson

Whereas large tracts of industrial lands situated in strategic locations within British Columbian municipalities are assessed as brownfields and lie dormant and undeveloped having been contaminated from industrial use;

And whereas the provincial taxation system in British Columbia does not encourage owners of brownfield properties to clean up their contaminated sites and effectively allows those who polluted these lands to enjoy a ‘tax holiday’:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development review the way contaminated sites (brownfields) are assessed to create a system where sites that are sitting dormant are taxed as green (remediated) sites, and that local governments be permitted to provide a permissive tax exemption as an incentive to clean up these sites.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2016-B104, which asked the provincial government to create a new tax class for brownfield sites, to enable local governments to use property tax rates to provide an economic incentive for property owners to remediate brownfield sites.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government stated that it is not considering a separate property class for brownfield sites. The Province indicated that it was reviewing the 2008-2014 Brownfield Renewal Strategy to “develop potential options for encouraging remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites in the future.”

Conference decision:

B25 Disposal of Drywall or Gypsum Board

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas illegal dumping is a significant issue affecting all areas of British Columbia;

And whereas the illegal dumping of construction or demolition waste in forested or wilderness areas warrants a more effective and comprehensive approach by the Province than what currently exists:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province develop and implement an extended producer responsibility program regarding the disposal of drywall or gypsum board and given the impacts of illegal dumping on the environment as well as on human health of pre-1990 drywall or gypsum board, do so on a fast-tracking basis;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide assistance to local governments with respect to the disposal of pre-1990 drywall/gypsum board (and other building materials which contain asbestos) through measures such as:

- Providing subsidies towards the costs of transporting hazardous waste to authorized landfills, resulting in lower tipping fees and possibly removing, or reducing, what some residents may perceive as an incentive to engage in illegal dumping activities;
- Increased enforcement activity by ministries and agencies having jurisdiction over illegal dumping;
- Implementing legal surveillance techniques; and
- Education and public awareness campaigns.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM 2017 Resolutions Book

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2012-B81, which called on the provincial government to “establish options to assist local governments to dispose of asbestos contaminated gypsum;” or include gypsum as a product category in the Recycling Regulation, thereby triggering the process to develop a stewardship plan for this material.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government cited its commitment to the 2009 Canada-wide Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility, and stated that the BC Ministry of Environment Service Plan would include extended producer responsibility for “construction and demolition materials, as well as furniture, textiles and carpet, and appliances (including ozone-depleting substances)” by 2017/18. The Province projected that this would include construction and demolition waste such as gypsum wallboard.

Conference decision:

B26 National Strategy for Abandoned Vessels

**Victoria
Oak Bay
Ladysmith**

Whereas the AVICC and UBCM have passed a number of motions with regard to the removal of derelict vessels;

And whereas in Parliament an *Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001* and to provide for the development of a national strategy (abandonment of vessels) has been introduced:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM endorse the *Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001* and to provide for the development of a national strategy for abandoned vessels.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Bill C-352, An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 and to provide for the development of a national strategy (abandonment of vessels), received first reading on April 13, 2017.

The Act would amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 to designate the Canadian Coast Guard as a receiver of wreck and requires the receiver of wreck to take steps to identify and locate the owner of the wreck and to take measures to remove, dispose of or destroy the wreck. It also provides for the development and implementation of a national strategy to address the abandonment of vessels by improving vessel registration, implementing recycling facilities and supporting salvage businesses, among other measures.

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a solution to the issue of abandoned and derelict vessels (2016-B22, 2014-B23, 2014-B62, 2013-B30, 2012-B23, 2012-B78, 2010-B30, 2005-B112).

Resolution 2016-B22 in particular called on the provincial and federal governments to implement recommendations from a 2012 Transport Canada study by establishing an abandoned and derelict vessel program, as well as an “end of life” vessel disposal program.

In response to the 2016 resolution, the provincial government confirmed that federal authorities are the lead agency for derelict vessels. The Province referenced its guidance paper, “Dealing with Problem Vessels and Structures in BC Waters;” as well as its participation in the Joint Working Group for the Removal of Derelict Vessels.

Conference decision:

B27 Quagga & Zebra Mussel Funding**Sicamous**

Whereas British Columbia's lakes generate international tourism business totalling millions of dollars each and every year;

And whereas the Zebra and Quagga mussel infestation poses a serious threat to the economic welfare of British Columbia's tourism industry:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government provide increased educational funding and increased monitoring efforts to combat the invasive mussel infestation threatening the pristine lakes of British Columbia's tourism areas.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to promote awareness and education, increase funding, and establish vigilant monitoring for quagga and zebra mussels (2016-B60, 2015-B60, 2014-B21, 2013-B76, 2012-LR2).

Most recently, members endorsed resolution 2016-B60, which proposed that the provincial government should implement specific measures:

- restrict all non-BC registered watercraft from entering into British Columbia; and*
- 30-day quarantine and ministry approved inspection and/or decontamination for BC-registered watercraft that leave the province, or are purchased by BC residents from outside BC.*

In response to the 2016 resolution, the provincial government pointed out that Transport Canada, a federal agency, is responsible for registration of certain powered watercraft, while other types of watercraft are not required to be licensed or registered. The Province indicated that it would not consider a "zero tolerance" policy for out-of-province watercraft in BC waters, and instead was focused on an expanded Mussel Defence Program and efforts to intercept, inspect, quarantine and enforce penalties for non-compliance.

The Committee understands that the Province announced in late 2016 a \$2 million boost to the province's invasive mussel defence program, that will see eight permanent mussel inspection stations installed at major entry points along BC's borders.

Conference decision:

B28 Ban on the Sale of Invasive Species**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas the introduction and spread of invasive plant species within British Columbia bring adverse impacts to the environment and economy;

And whereas significant financial and human resources are being allocated to control treatments, labour and research while at the same time the commercial sale of known invasive species continues to occur through retail outlets in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province ban the sale of known invasive species (plants and seeds) at retail outlets.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2011-B44 and 2008-B71, both of which called on the provincial and federal governments to develop a strategy to prevent the sale of invasive plant species and seeds.

In response to the 2011 resolution, the provincial government indicated that the Inter-Ministry Invasive Species Working Group was in the process of reviewing legislation and policy regarding sales of invasive plant species and seeds, and that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations was open to “examining and proposing opportunities for improving the Weed Control Act and Regulation.”

The Province also referenced education and awareness efforts in collaboration with the Invasive Plant Council of BC, such as the “Grow Me Instead” program.

Conference decision:

B29 BC Conservation Service Funding

Princeton

Whereas the provincial government is responsible for managing conservation service, and the British Columbia Conservation Service has not been able to adequately address public safety, focus on natural resource law enforcement, human and wildlife conflicts prevention and respond to wildlife human conflict;

And whereas underfunding is having a negative impact on the ability of the BC Conservation Officer Service to meet the needs of the communities served;

And whereas the reduction in service has reduced the number of conservation officers in the field, while expecting them to adequately monitor and enforce activities throughout large management units;

And whereas conservation officers should be protecting our fish, wildlife and environment by helping to ensure healthy game populations; clean land, air and water; and should be the first responder to human-wildlife conflicts where public safety may be at risk;

And whereas the conservation service has lacked the ability to:

1. Periodically review their risk assessment models for response and make appropriate amendments;
2. Deliver awareness training to RCMP and municipal police forces;
3. Provide effective zone coverage practices, where officers should be responding to complaints and concerns;
4. Review the call centre’s response criteria, and make appropriate changes;
5. Provide public education and partnerships with local communities; and
6. Protect wildlife from illegal poaching and other illegal activities that weaken wildlife populations, health and security;

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government provide adequate funding and staffing in order for the BC Conservation Service to provide public education and partnerships with local communities, deliver awareness training to RCMP and municipal police forces and review their risk assessment models and call centre response criteria.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide financial and staff support to the BC Conservation Service (2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2012-B21, 2012-B22). Most recently, members endorsed resolution 2016-B30, which called for the Province to provide “adequate funding, offices and staffing to fully support the BC Conservation Service to be more active and proactive in effectively managing wildlife-human conflicts.”

In response to the 2016 resolution, the provincial government explained that the Conservation Officer Service uses a zone coverage and deployment approach. The Province acknowledged that it had not increased Conservation Service staffing levels.

Conference decision:

B30 Canada Goose Population Management

Parksville

Whereas in the 1950s wildlife managers began relocating Canada Geese to the east coast of Vancouver Island, leading to the over abundant goose population which has devastated agricultural lands, estuaries, wildlife and critical fish habitat across Vancouver Island, bringing some of these vital ecosystems to the brink of extinction;

And whereas the City of Parksville, Regional District of Nanaimo and Guardians of the Mid Island Estuaries Society have employed sound science and a series of management actions designed to reduce resident geese numbers to levels consistent with estuary recovery in 2010:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM fully support a regional coordinated approach to resident Canada Goose management, including population controls needed to protect natural assets and promote sustained recovery of vital estuary habitats.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed amended resolution 2016-B59 regarding the management of non-migratory resident Canada Geese. Specifically, the resolution called for:

- *federal exemption of non-migratory resident Canada Geese from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918;*
- *local government to be offered the option of choosing to undertake management of non-migratory resident Canada Geese in their communities; and*
- *funding from other orders of government to assist local governments who choose to undertake management of non-migratory resident Canada Geese in their communities.*

More generally, the Committee notes that members have sought solutions to control populations of geese, with some proposals seeking greater authority and involvement of local governments in managing the problem (2013-B107, 2011-B42, 2002-B53).

In response to resolution 2016-B59, the provincial government acknowledged the risks to transportation safety, health, property, and natural habitats posed by resident Canada Geese, and expressed general support for local government efforts to gain more control over the management of resident Canada Geese.

Conference decision:

Land Use

B31 Forest Stewardship Plans – Request for Improved Consultation Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas numerous forest stewardship plans are expiring or are undergoing significant amendments;

And whereas significant concerns have been raised about the amendments with regard to impacts on domestic water sources and the overall health of watersheds and slope stability;

And whereas local residents believe that they have not been adequately consulted given that previous forest stewardship plans are now many years old:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government ensure that forest tenure holders have comprehensive consultation in potentially affected communities with residents, local government and other stakeholders.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking a direct and effective role in forest resource policy and planning decisions (including but not limited to 2016-B32, 2015-B24, 2015-B39, 2015-B63, 2015-LR2, 2013-B80, 2013-B105, 2013-B112, 2013-B116, 2011-B57, 2011-B167, 2010-B91, 2010-B98).

The Committee would note that the request put forward in this resolution is consistent with the feedback from members in response to the 2016 report by UBCM entitled “Forest Policy Decision-Making: The Case for Greater Community Consultation and Engagement.”

Conference decision:

B32 Wind Turbine Siting on Crown Land

Peace River RD

Whereas the placement of wind turbines on Crown land that is adjacent to private property has effects on the private property and its owners;

And whereas the private property owners and other stakeholders such as local government expect proper consultation regarding placement and permitting of any large projects affecting them and their right to private enjoyment of their properties:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to require that local government land use regulations apply to all small scale energy generation projects, including wind energy projects, regardless of their location on public or private property to ensure proper consultation with affected landowners and local governments takes place in advance of construction of wind energy projects in the province.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to ensure that local government land use regulations, as well as consultation with landowners and local governments, are considered when assessing proposals for new power projects in BC (2009-B40, 2009-B137, 2008-B39).

Specifically, resolution 2009-B137 in part called on the Province to develop “clear and measurable evaluation criteria to evaluate independent power production projects, and include as part of this criteria community social, land use and environmental values.”

In response to resolution 2009-B137, the provincial government confirmed that “existing federal and provincial processes assess the potential impact of proposals, including impacts on the environment, protected areas, existing land uses, recreational uses, other resource uses and First Nations’ asserted rights and title.”

Conference decision:

B33 Development Permits for Private Institutional Developments

Sechelt District

Whereas, historically, institutional developments were funded and built by senior levels of government and so legislation that would allow local government development permit oversight for the form and character of these developments was not contemplated in the *Local Government Act*;

And whereas institutional developments are now being funded and built by private providers in the Province of BC:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be requested to amend the appropriate sections of the *Local Government Act* regarding the designation of development permit areas for form and character to include privately owned institutional development in a manner consistent with that of commercial, industrial, or multi-family residential developments.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to amend the Local Government Act to grant local governments the authority of development permit oversight for institutional developments (2004-B19, 2001-B30, 1993-B13).

In response to resolution 2004-B19, the provincial government expressed willingness to consider such amendments "the next time there is a general review of Part 26 of the Local Government Act." UBCM is not aware of any subsequent action by the provincial government on this issue.

Conference decision:

Community Economic Development

B34 Non-tenured Value-added Wood Processors

North Cowichan

Whereas British Columbia's non-tenured value-added wood processors find it increasingly difficult to access a share of public wood resources for further processing in British Columbia due to the consolidation and control of the non-competitive harvest into very few hands;

And whereas British Columbia's non-tenured value-added wood processors have had their access to the US market impeded by the dispute between the US Lumber Coalition and the tenured companies that have exclusive access to BC's non-competitive and administratively-priced wood resource:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be requested to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that BC's non-tenured value-added wood processors have access to a share of BC's non-competitive wood resource for the purpose of processing it in BC and that BC's non-tenured value-added wood processors have unimpeded access to the US market for their products;

And be it further resolved that in the event of a quota based Softwood Lumber Agreement with the United States that the Province of British Columbia allocate quota in such a way that it does not impede the survival and growth of BC's non-tenured value added wood processors.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions and policy in support of non-tenured value-added wood processors (2011-B167, 2006-B43, 2005-B32, 2003-B29, 2002 Forest Policy Paper, 2001-B85, 1998-B75, 1997-LR4).

See also resolutions B35 and B36.

Conference decision:

B35 Facilitating Value-added Resource Development

Kitimat

Whereas adding value to natural resources is of great economic benefit to the north, the province, and the nation, because it attracts investment, delivers tax revenue, creates employment, and captures previously foregone economic value;

And whereas adding value to natural resources often reduces environmental risks associated with transporting products, minimizes waste by utilizing a great percentage of products, and ensures processing occurs under world class Canadian standards:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to adopt policies and implement regulations that will facilitate and stimulate value-added resource development.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2016-B42 and 2015-LR2, which raised similar questions about distribution of existing timber supply, provision of the “Right Log To The Right Mill,” and called on the provincial government to “re-examine the appurtenance requirement in the Forest Act to help create local or regional economic benefits from the timber that is being logged in an area.”

In response to the resolutions, the provincial government has indicated that it is “exploring options to ensure smaller mills have access to needed timber types that meet their needs of quality;” however, the Province stated that it had no plans to restore appurtenance requirements.

By way of background, the UBCM membership endorsed a Forest Policy Paper in 2002.

The Forest Policy Paper in part expressed UBCM members’ concerns about the removal of the appurtenance clause from the provincial government’s forest policy, fearing that it would result in “a further loss of control over where the wood is processed and in some cases, massive job loss.” The paper further asserted that “if the break is made between harvesting and processing there has to be something provided to affected communities in exchange,” with affected communities consulted about the form and amount of compensation (i.e. community-based tenure, reimbursement to community for removal of resource, or reinstating some form of local processing requirement.)

The Committee notes that this resolution speaks to resource development broadly, not just forestry, so the Committee would also acknowledge that the membership has requested that legislation be brought forward to entrench the principle of adjacency and afford resource based communities a direct role in the control and use of the resources which surround them and upon which their livelihood depends (2000-LR6).

See also resolutions B34 and B36.

Conference decision:

B36 Optimizing Community Benefits of Forest Resources

Victoria

Whereas British Columbia's regions are rich in forest resources, a renewable source of employment, revenues and materials that provide vital habitat for biological diversity, water quality, outdoor recreation and economic development, noting that employment and public revenues from British Columbia's forests have declined substantially in recent decades, at the same time that watersheds and ecosystems have experienced negative impacts due to existing forestry practices;

And whereas British Columbia's diverse communities can realize substantially improved outcomes from forest resources by adopting best practices in forest stewardship and forest management from Scandinavia and other jurisdictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia work with First Nations, regional districts and municipalities to substantially improve community benefits of forest resources, including: expansion of community tenures, introduction of regional log markets, incentives for value-added production, and strengthened standards of forest stewardship to increase legislated protection of drinking watersheds and biological diversity.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to work with local governments and First Nations to improve the community benefits of forest resources (most recently 2016-B32, 2015-B37, 2015-B38, 2015-B63, 2013-B79, 2013-B105, 2012-B33, 2012-B109, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B104, 2011-B105, 2011-B167, 2010-B40, 2010-B104, 2010-B105, 2009-B47, 2009-B128, 2009-B131, 2008-B36, 2008-B37, 2007-B43, 2007-B44).

Resolution 2011-B57 in particular asked the provincial government to undertake a comprehensive review of the forest tenure system, to develop a "blueprint for reform" that would:

- guarantee long-term environmental sustainability for our forests;*
- allow for more community control in decisions about forest management; and*
- ensure more of the benefits from developing forest resources stay in local communities.*

In response to resolution 2011-B57, the Province pointed out that it reviewed the BC forest tenure system in 2009, and was in the process of implementing recommendations from the Working Round Table on Forestry.

See also resolutions B34 and B35.

Conference decision:

B37 Exemption from Assistance to Business Requirements – Broadband

East Kootenay RD

Whereas the *Local Government Act* provides an exemption from the assistance to business prohibition for the provision of capital financing for services provided by a telephone, natural gas or electric power utility;

And whereas the availability of high speed broadband service has become as critical to economic development, education, and communication as those services listed, and has recently been declared a 'basic' service by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development to amend Section 275 of the *Local Government Act* by adding broadband as a service for which capital financing can be provided.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2010-B72 from the same sponsor, which called on the provincial government to amend the Local Government Act by adding broadband as a service for which capital financing can be provided. In response to the resolution, the Province expressed willingness to engage with regional district chairs and CAOs on the topic.

Conference decision:

B38 Business Improvement Districts

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas some rural areas of BC have experienced an increase in population and growth in business activity over the past fifteen years which has created business clusters based on tourism and the service industry and supported by community planning and or zoning;

And whereas electoral areas in the province have few tools to support business clusters in the rural areas to create an identity and present themselves in an integrated way:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development consider creating a mechanism, similar to that available under the *Community Charter*, for regional districts to empower business improvement districts in the electoral areas.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2010-B95, which called for provincial amendments to the Local Government Act to grant regional districts the power to establish business improvement areas.

In its response to the resolution, the Province referenced the work of the Regional District Task Force, and indicated that a proposal arising from the task force was “enabling regional districts to establish business improvement areas in unincorporated areas.” At the time, the provincial government expressed interest in the proposal, but UBCM is unaware of follow up action regarding business improvement areas in unincorporated areas of regional districts.

Conference decision:

Health

B39 Regional Hospital District Capital Funding

Nelson

Whereas regional hospital districts were created by provincial legislation to raise a ‘local share’ of capital costs for hospital equipment and building through property taxation with the ‘local share’ historically held at 40% for regional hospital capital projects and the Province contributing 60%;

And whereas local governments have limited ways to generate funding to pay for local services and infrastructure since property taxes are the primary source of revenue and are being stretched to meet the diverse demands local governments already face which cannot sustain the increased load in meeting hospital board expenditures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to acknowledge that property tax revenue is an unsuitable avenue to fund hospital infrastructure renewal projects and prioritize the urgent review of the historic cost sharing ratio with a recommendation to amend current policy accordingly.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed the same resolution, 2016-B114, from the same sponsor.

In response to the 2016 resolution, the provincial government expressed general openness to a review of the historic cost sharing ratio, with the caveat that it can only undertake a review when the legislative agenda permits. The Province indicated that it would consult with regional hospital districts as part of such a review.

See also resolutions B96 and C6.

Conference decision:

B40 Health Services Planning

Esquimalt

Whereas the social determinants of health include housing, transportation, and built environment, which are directly influenced by local government decision making;

And whereas there is no mandated direct process for coordination of integrated planning between health authorities and local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to establish formal mechanisms for including local government consultation in health services planning by health authorities.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for the provincial government to provide opportunities for meaningful consultation with local governments on health care issues and changes to health care services (2013-B45, 2007-B53, 2004-B29, 2003-A10, 2003-B101, 2002-B61).

Resolution 2013-B45 in particular called on the provincial government to require consultation with local health providers, residents of the affected community, and local governments, on any proposed change in the level of health services available.

In response to the 2013 resolution, the provincial government confirmed that “all health authorities are expected to consult with local communities when planning new services and/or changes to services.”

The Province also referred to its “Patients as Partners” engagement initiative for the design and planning of health services.

Conference decision:

B41 Nurse Practitioners

Burns Lake

Whereas the attraction and retention of sufficient medical doctors is an ongoing issue for rural BC communities;

And whereas nurse practitioners provide an excellent means of supporting doctors in meeting the needs of those seeking medical care and allowing physicians to focus on more complex and challenging patient health complaints:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province of BC provide additional funding for nurse practitioners in rural communities and support their implementation throughout the province.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM 2017 Resolutions Book

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2015-B70, which asked the provincial government to fund overhead and operating costs for nurse practitioners throughout the province, in order to support the efficacy of this form of primary health care delivery.

In response to the resolution, the Province expressed intent to review incentive programs for non-physician health professionals, such as nurse practitioners, in order to better support rural recruitment and retention.

See also resolutions B42 and B43.

Conference decision:

B42 Provincial Assistance to Attract Doctors to BC

Colwood

Whereas British Columbians are facing a critical shortage of primary care physicians in BC communities and unable to provide vital services to residents because BC is not competitive for a number of reasons, such as trained physicians choosing to practice in other provinces where opportunities are more economically attractive, the average gross clinical payments to BC physicians being one of the lowest in Canada and almost \$100,000 less than Ontario, and new graduates with substantial student debt accepting positions in other provinces, such as Alberta, where the average physician salary is the highest in the country at \$366,000 from billings;

And whereas too many highly qualified undergraduates are denied admission to UBC's 288 seat four-year medical degree program where only about 15% of the applicants are accepted compared to Alberta's 332 seats for first year medical students in a province with a population 12% smaller than BC's, forcing students to look elsewhere for their medical training, compounded by BC doctors who go abroad to get their medical education and must annually compete with up to 160 graduates from foreign medical schools for the handful of international residency training spots because there is no preferential treatment for BC born applicants who want to set up practices in BC in order to be closer to family and friends:

Therefore be it resolved that the communities of British Columbia—a strong and flourishing province, who want BC to be the greatest province in Canada by providing the full, holistic and complete communities that our residents expect and deserve—work together to open the doors for communities to attract doctors back to BC communities;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia take definitive action to put in place the necessary framework, tools, and incentives to make us competitive with the other provinces and attract physicians back into BC communities.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system (2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162).

The Committee also recognizes that the issue of health care service in BC has been significant for the UBCM membership. Members have consistently endorsed resolutions supporting improved physician recruitment and retention, and the need for more health care professionals (including but not limited to 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B154, 2005-B41, 2003-B104).

Resolution 2016-B44 in particular proposed that the provincial government should “allocate long-term fixed funding to Divisions of Family Practice to support ... ongoing recruitment and retention of family physicians,” as well as collaborate with the regional health authorities towards the goal of “attaching every citizen to patient-centred and community base primary care homes.”

In response to resolution 2016-B44, the provincial government reaffirmed its commitment to “a provincial system of primary and community care built around inter-professional teams,” while pointing out that the current Physician Master Agreement remains in effect until March 31, 2019. The Province indicated that it was collaborating with the General Practice Services Committee to “increase practice capacity and patient access by supporting the addition of nurses in physician practices,” and that this would be tested initially “as proof of concept in key communities.”

See also resolutions B41 and B43.

Conference decision:

B43 Provincial Support for Physician Retention

Logan Lake

Whereas the provincial practice ready assessment program is attracting new physicians to rural communities;

And whereas rural communities, including Logan Lake, have benefitted from the program;

And whereas the doctor is encouraged to establish a private practice by securing patients, but is reluctant to do so because:

- patients have secured physician services elsewhere (given the lack of a doctor for several years in their home community) and are hesitant to sign-on with the new local doctor as they fear losing the service once the return to service program concludes;
- due to lack of staff, is hesitant to hire additional staff and begin a private practice due to a lack of patients;
- existing staff are unable to respond to the influx of calls from new patients due to workload; and
- they have limited understanding/knowledge of how to run a business in the province (i.e. the current health care billing system or the sharing of patient files);

And whereas the new doctor looks forward to moving on after 3 years to establish practice elsewhere where there are more patients:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health increase funding for the rural doctor program and establish a new support model for health provision for rural communities, with other possible solutions including:

- re-establishing a local advisory council or ensuring site managers attend facilities in a timely and on a more regular basis, particularly during the transitional period of the arrival of a new doctor, during staff changeover, or to provide leadership and support to existing staff, so that IH is better informed about what is happening in their rural communities;
- incentivizing rural community graduates seeking health care training whereby a student obtains a specified number of years free post-secondary education in exchange for returning to their home community for a specified number of years; or
- providing additional and adequate support to rural doctors in the form of additional office staff and/or seed money to bridge establishing a private practice.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that have called on the provincial government to provide increased funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (most recently, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, and 2005-B146).

See also resolutions B41 and B42.

Conference decision:

B44 Regulation & Licensing of Supportive Recovery Homes**Chilliwack**

Whereas addictions are a health care issue and the operation of supportive recovery homes can play an important role in supporting improvements to individual and community health outcomes through recovery from drug and alcohol addictions;

And whereas under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, many of the operating standards required of licensed treatment facilities—such as screening, programming, nutrition, staff competencies, and staff-to-client ratios—do not apply to supportive recovery homes, thereby reducing their effectiveness and putting at risk the safety of the vulnerable individuals they serve; facility staff; and the local community:

Therefore be it resolved that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to undertake licensing and more stringent regulation of supportive recovery homes to ensure effective care, support, and safety for persons seeking assistance with recovery from drug and alcohol addictions; and to provide improved oversight and accountability to the communities in which they are situated.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2006-B7 and 1995-A12, both of which called on the provincial government to improve regulation of supportive recovery homes.

In response to resolution 2006-B7, the provincial government indicated that it was developing a registration process for recovery houses and other mental health and addictions residences that provide lower levels of support.

UBCM would also note that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provincial funding for mental health and addiction services; expansion of existing facilities and establishment of new facilities; and funding for related social service and housing programs (2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B60, 2013-B36, 2013-B52, 2010-B44, 2010-B143, 2010-B145, 2008-A1, 2007-B51, 2007-B153, 2006-B8, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-A1, 2005-B43, 2000-B61).

Conference decision:

B45 Mandatory Certification & Licensing of Asbestos & Hazardous Material Removal Contractors**Okanagan-Similkameen RD**

Whereas:

- Health and safety risks have been identified for local government employees engaged in building inspection and landfill operations due to hazards from demolition and renovation materials;
- Asbestos exposure is the leading cause of work related deaths in BC;
- WorkSafeBC found 43 per cent of all hazardous material surveys done by contractors renovating or demolishing homes were inadequate;
- WorkSafeBC lacks the tools for enforcement and monitoring of existing hazardous material regulations;
- There is currently no provincial certification or licensing in BC of asbestos abatement professionals to ensure standards and allow for the suspension of non-compliant contractors; and
- Mandatory provincial certification and licensing of demolition and environmental remediation contractors would allow local governments in BC to require these licenses from contractors as a condition for issuing demolition and renovation permits:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government require mandatory licensing, certification, and enforceable compliance in safely handling asbestos and other hazardous material for all demolition, renovation, and environmental remediation contractors.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B143 with the same enactment clause as this 2017 resolution, was not debated at the 2016 Annual Convention, and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive. The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive endorsed resolution 2016-B143. Because the resolution was endorsed subsequent to Convention, and was conveyed to the Province later than the other resolutions, a response from the provincial government has not yet been received.

See also resolution B97.

Conference decision:

Selected Issues

B46 Aboriginal Day

Metchosin

Whereas number 80 of the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada calls for a national statutory holiday for Truth and Reconciliation;

And whereas National Aboriginal Day recognizes and celebrates the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada, but is not a national statutory holiday;

And whereas a statutory holiday would allow all Canadians to be able to participate in the recognition and celebration of First Nations' cultures and histories:

Therefore be it resolved that the federal government, working with Aboriginal leaders, designate a national statutory holiday that celebrates the cultures and histories of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples of Canada.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B138 was referred to the UBCM Executive for their consideration. Resolution 2016-B138 asked the provincial and federal governments to declare June 21, National Aboriginal Day, a statutory holiday across Canada. Upon consideration, the UBCM Executive endorsed the resolution.

Conference decision:

B47 Rural Schools

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas public education funding increases in British Columbia (BC) have not kept up with increases in basic costs and inflation, and BC is now second to last in per student funding in Canada by providing approximately \$1000 below the national average per student;

And whereas the Government of BC has not followed the recommendations of its own Legislative Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, for the government to adequately invest in public education:

Therefore be it resolved that to ensure our constituents do not face rural discrimination, the boards of education in rural BC receive adequate funding to maintain busing for rural area students; stop more closures of rural schools; increase levels of services to all students; adequately fund public education; and stop any further erosion of the same.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide funding to support high quality education in all parts of the province, including rural areas (2013-B50, 2013-B51, 2007-B162, 2006-B165, 2005-B157, 2004-B94, 2003-B36, 2002-LR2, 2000-B109, 1999-B96).

The Committee would note that UBCM was invited to make appointments to a Ministry of Education Transportation Committee that will be looking at issues such as ride times, student walk limits, joint planning with school districts and transit providers, student safety, route management, etc. Recognizing that our membership has endorsed resolutions on these specific issues, UBCM agreed to participate and has made two appointments: Director Karen Goodings, Peace River RD and Councillor Mary Beil, Parksville.

See also resolution B119.

Conference decision:

B48 Don't Close the Doors on Adult Education

Nanaimo City

Whereas the Ministry has abolished funding for adult basic education programs and instituted tuition fees:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Federation of Students' campaign "Don't Close the Doors" be endorsed by requesting the Ministry reinstate funding for adult basic education programs and abolish tuition fees.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B131 regarding provincial funding for adult basic education, was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for their consideration. In particular the resolution called on the provincial government to "reinstate long-term, dedicated funding for adult basic education." Upon consideration at their April 2017 meeting, the UBCM Executive endorsed resolution 2016-B131.

UBCM awaits response from the provincial government.

Conference decision:

B49 Bus Passes for Persons with Disabilities

Port Moody

Whereas the provincial government changed the benefit for persons with disabilities in February 2016 by replacing the \$45 per year bus pass with a \$52 per month bus pass;

And whereas 70% of the announced increased benefit entitlement of \$77 per month would be required to cover the increased cost of the bus pass, leaving the disability bus pass users with only \$25 per month in additional funding, which has not been increased for nine years:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to:

- reinstate the \$45 per year bus pass for persons with disabilities;
- eliminate the \$52 per month bus pass fees; and
- raise the Persons with Disability Benefit to \$1,200 per month.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B134 was not debated at the UBCM Annual Convention and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for consideration. Resolution 2016-B134 called on the provincial government to increase disability assistance by \$77 a month; cease deducting the cost of transportation assistance from the disability assistance; and maintain the fee for a BC Bus Pass at \$45 annually.

The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive amended resolution 2016-B134 to read:

"Therefore be it resolved that the cost of transportation assistance not be deducted from disability assistance."

The UBCM Executive endorsed amended resolution 2016-B134. The provincial government has not yet provided a response to the amended resolution.

Conference decision:

B50 Affordable Child Care

Delta

Whereas the current lack of qualified and affordable daycare for working families in BC is hindering economic growth and creating financial stress for many families;

And whereas British Columbia has the second-highest child-care fees in Canada;

And whereas wait-lists for daycare in some areas exceed 3,000 children:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to develop an affordable child care system that provides a regulated space for every child whose family needs it.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop and invest in an affordable child care program (most recently 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2001-B98).

Conference decision:

B51 Social Support Services for Seniors

Delta

Whereas the demographic of those over 65 continues to increase across British Columbia;

And whereas increasing numbers of seniors experience financial, social, health and housing vulnerabilities;

And whereas services for seniors are provided by a variety of local ministries, agencies and governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to plan system-wide initiatives to support seniors' healthy, stable and successful aging to limit social isolation, varieties of abuse and limited access to needed housing.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide coordinated health and social support programs for seniors across BC (2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2007-B152, 2006-B162). The most recent resolution, 2012-B41, requested that the provincial government provide funding for enhanced seniors' outreach and health prevention programs, and better coordination among existing services.

In response to resolution 2012-B41, the Province referenced its action plan "Improving Care for BC Seniors," released earlier that year. The provincial government suggested that it had followed through on a number of items in the plan, including improvements to information resources about health care and other government programs for seniors; public consultation regarding establishment of a Seniors' Advocate; development of a provincial strategy to prevent, identify and respond to elder abuse; the Better at Home program for non-medical support services; funding to expand Community Response Networks; and funding for age-friendly community planning and implementation.

Conference decision:

B52 Addressing Homelessness

New Westminster

Whereas the homeless population in Metro Vancouver increased by 29.8 per cent between 2014 and 2017;

And whereas the federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy has focused its resources on crisis response to the chronically and episodically homeless resulting in those at-risk of homelessness not being eligible for housing support and advocacy services;

And whereas municipalities have experienced significant funding cuts to housing outreach, referral and advocacy services, and inadequate funding from other orders of government to address addictions and mental illness is significantly impacting the sheltered and unsheltered homeless population:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to work collaboratively with the federal government to place equal emphasis on homelessness prevention and crisis response, to increase funding for housing outreach, referral and advocacy services, and to provide additional funding to address addictions and mental health.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy as part of a comprehensive plan to address homelessness (most recently 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

Resolution 2015-B46 in particular requested that the provincial government develop a "comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable province-wide homelessness plan that sets out a series of actions, timelines and financial requirements aimed at ending homelessness in the province, while supporting community-led initiatives on homelessness, in a compassionate, dignified and fiscally responsible manner;" and called on the federal government for a federally funded national housing strategy.

In response to resolution 2015-B46, the provincial government referenced its Housing Matters BC provincial housing strategy, updated in 2014.

See also resolution B98.

Conference decision:

Whereas lower investment in rental housing stock over the past 30 years have resulted in a low vacancy rate and steadily increasing rental costs in many communities;

And whereas market conditions have led to increased appetite for rental building owners to invest in upgrades to their buildings which provide improved unit quality, safety, and energy efficiency, but this creates the impetus for existing tenants to be evicted and subsequently experience challenges finding suitable and affordable replacement housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province to provide a funding model and regulatory framework to assist local governments in reducing the impact of "renovictions" on tenants while continuing to encourage investment in upgrading older rental housing;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the Province to increase the housing allowance portion of Income Assistance and Disability Assistance, as well as housing subsidies through BC Housing, to mitigate the impact of rising rental costs on low-income and vulnerable British Columbians.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking ways to encourage investment in older and new rental housing stock (2016-OF1, 2015-B14, 2015-B47, 2015-B48, 2015-B49, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B143, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-A7, 2007-B40, 2007-B108, 2007-B197, 2006-B118, 2005-B47, 2004-B30, 2000-B77, 1998-B15, 1991-A13, 1991-B56, 1990-A20, 1990-A21).

The Committee also notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase income assistance and disability assistance rates, as well as housing subsidies (2015-B45, 2014-B42, 2014-B44, 2013-B53, 2011-B175, 2000-B30, 2000-B31, 1999-A22).

See also resolutions B120 and B126.

Conference decision:

B54 UBCM Convention Resolution Section**Hudson's Hope**

Whereas the resolution section of the annual UBCM conference is undoubtedly the most important business at hand for elected representatives attending;

And whereas often time runs out at the end of convention before all resolutions have been brought to the floor, resulting in the remaining resolutions not being heard or debated by members on the convention floor:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM executive allow for more time during convention for the resolutions;

And be it further resolved that this additional time is created within the existing schedule without additional convention time.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2012-B142, which asked the UBCM Executive and staff to undertake policy amendments to ensure sufficient time to hear and decide upon all resolutions submitted for consideration at the annual UBCM Convention.

Conference decision:

Section B – Part 2 and Part 3

Resolutions Proposing New Policy

This section contains resolutions that:

- address topics not previously considered;
- were previously considered but not endorsed;
- involve topics of local or regional significance; or
- involve topics of national significance and that are recommended, as appropriate, for consideration by FCM.

The resolutions have been classified as:

- Part 2: issues considered within the jurisdiction of local government; or
- Part 3: resolutions that are considered not within the jurisdiction of local government.

A motion to enter all resolutions in Section B – Parts 2 and 3 for discussion will be made by a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee:

I move that all Section B – Part 2 and Part 3 resolutions be considered for debate.

Once it is determined which resolutions will be considered individually, discussion will begin in the order the resolutions are printed.

Sponsors do not have to move each resolution individually, but they are invited to speak to their resolution at the appropriate time.

Section B – Part 2-a

Resolutions Proposing New Policy

Included in Section B – Part 2-a are resolutions numbered:

B55 – B71

After the motion to enter all resolutions in Section B – Parts 2 and 3 for discussion, a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion:

I move that the resolutions in Section B – Part 2-a be considered as a block.

If the motion is endorsed by delegates, then the resolutions in Section B – Part 2-a will be considered as a block.

These resolutions will not be debated individually unless there is a motion introduced to specifically consider such a resolution; for example:

I move that resolution B(x) be removed from the block and be considered separately for debate.

Such a motion would be introduced as an amendment to the general motion stated above. A delegate may request to remove a resolution from the block and consider it separately for debate, only if they wish to speak in opposition or propose an amendment to the resolution. [UBCM Bylaws s. 23(d)]

If the motion to remove a resolution from the block is approved, the resolution would be considered individually, after the vote on the block been decided.

Finally, once all motions regarding the block have been heard, the spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the motion:

Shall the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section B – Part 2-a be adopted?

If the motion is approved by delegates, then the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section B – Part 2-a resolutions will be endorsed as a block.

Section B2-a

Legislative

B55 Improvement District Governance

Oak Bay

Whereas Section 82 of the *Local Government Act* prohibits an employee of a municipality or regional district from being nominated for or elected to the municipal council or regional board by which they are employed unless they take a leave of absence for the period for which they intend to serve in elected office;

And whereas there are no provincial regulations prohibiting an employee of an improvement district from being nominated for or elected to the board of an improvement district by which they are employed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to align improvement district regulations with regulations governing other local government bodies by restricting employees of an improvement district from being nominated for or elected to the board of their improvement district employer.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting provincial amendments to the Local Government Act to restrict employees of an improvement district from being nominated for or elected to the board of their improvement district employer.

However, the Resolutions Committee notes that bringing the rules and regulations for improvement district employees into line with those of municipal or regional board employees does appear to be a consistent approach to avoid any situations which could result in a conflict of interest for the employee.

Conference decision:

Community Safety

B56 Funding for Police-based Victim Assistance Services

North Okanagan RD

Whereas costs for providing police-based victim assistance service continues to escalate;

And whereas the responsibility for providing victim services rests with the Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General;

And whereas the Province of BC continues to download additional responsibilities such as security checks and information technology without corresponding funding:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advise the Province of BC, through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, that local governments reject the additional responsibilities of security checks and information technology without the Ministry's commensurate funding to local governments to cover the cost of those additional responsibilities.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting the provincial government to cover the cost of meeting the requirements imposed upon police-based victim services, including security checks and information technology.

The Committee would note, however, that provincial government funding for victim services programs is a long-standing issue, with members consistently endorsing resolutions calling on the Province to increase funding for victim services programs (2015-B4, 2014-B4, 2011-B14, 2010-B12, 2008-B4, 2006-B9, 2003-OF1, 2001-B12, 1994-B35, 1998-A11).

See also resolution B5.

Conference decision:

Transportation

B57 Regulation of Ride-sharing Services in Small, Rural, & Remote Communities Enderby

Whereas the Province of BC has expressed its intent to create a regulatory framework that permits ridesharing services and transportation network companies to operate in BC;

And whereas the assessment of the possible impacts of allowing new entrants into the passenger transportation field has focused primarily on large urban communities with robust, established, passenger transportation options, which is often not the reality for small, rural, and remote communities where ridesharing and transportation networking offers uniquely viable solutions in the absence of other options:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to implement a viable, flexible, ride-sharing service regulation in BC with attention given to regulatory solutions that will help solve those passenger transportation challenges that are unique to small, rural, and remote communities.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2012-B115, which called on the provincial government to develop a transportation strategy that would “critically assess and determine solutions towards ... passenger directed vehicle operations including both public transit and taxis in rural communities.” Members also endorsed resolution 2015-B9, asking the Province to fund “local and intercommunity transportation in rural communities.”

In response to resolution 2012-B115, the provincial government highlighted the successes of BC Transit service in smaller communities in BC.

Responding to resolution 2015-B9, the Province cited a 2010 transit feasibility study of Vanderhoof, which recommended alternative transportation modes such as volunteer driver and car share programs.

The Province also referenced its \$3 million Action Plan for the Highway 16 corridor, which included up to \$750,000 over three years for community transportation conditional grants, available to First Nations, local governments and non-profit organizations to establish or expand community-based transportation.

The Committee would note that unlike the 2012 resolution, this resolution from Enderby is not about public transit it is specifically asking that the Province regulate ride sharing services in a manner that fosters innovative private sector solutions to the transportation challenges that affect rural, remote and small communities. The sponsor views ride sharing services as an opportunity to fill an existing transportation gap.

See also resolution B8.

Conference decision:

B58 Designation & Maintenance of Recreation Roads

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia promotes tourism and encourages the use of the variety of outdoor touring experiences available on British Columbia's Crown land base to stimulate rural job growth and the rural economy but many of these Crown land recreation areas are becoming more difficult to access or rendered inaccessible due to the closure or reduced maintenance of resource roads;

And whereas resource roads are also important for non-resource related agricultural, commercial and educational activities on public Crown lands as well as being important for emergency management access and evacuation purposes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to work with communities and stakeholders to identify key resource roads that are no longer required for industrial use and designate these roads as recreational roads that require provincial oversight and funding for ongoing maintenance in support of the back country recreation tourism industry and other critical agricultural, commercial, educational, and emergency uses.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province, with communities and other stakeholders, to support economic diversification by identifying "key resource roads ... no longer required for industrial use and designate these roads as recreational," thereby requiring provincial oversight and funding for ongoing maintenance.

UBCM would acknowledge that in 2008, the provincial government drew together a joint committee of cabinet ministers and UBCM representatives, chaired by the provincial government, to examine and make recommendations to improve the way that resource roads work for communities. Based on its findings, the joint committee released a staff report, "Resource Roads and Communities," in 2010.

Summarized at a high level, the recommendations from "Resource Roads and Communities" in part propose that the provincial government should explore the following:

- 1. Adopt policy tenets that recognize the evolved role that resource roads play in our economy and society.*
- 2. Within the larger resource road network, consider establishing a "High Public Use" class of resource road, and for such roads, develop a new funding model.*
- 3. Without reducing environmental standards, minimize road deactivations, so that non-industrial users may realize the social and economic benefits of resource roads.*
- 4. When necessary, to resolve serious conflict, apply the Corporate Results-Based Model for Access Management. The provincial government must balance these planning processes for all participants, with outcomes grounded fully in sound science.*
- 5. For resource road management matters, establish a "one-window" platform for information exchange and dialogue between public, commercial, and resource industry stakeholders.*
- 6. Encourage establishment of Industrial Road User Committees in all parts of the province. These committees would focus on developing locally appropriate, collaborative solutions to resource road issues, between and amongst industrial users and community users of resource roads.*

See also resolution B59.

Conference decision:

B59 Forest Service Roads, Tourism & Economic Diversification Kitimat-Stikine RD

Whereas Forest Service Roads (FSRs) are not maintained by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) when there is no industrial use of the roads;

And whereas circle routes in British Columbia are a popular way of tourism travel, which use a variety of transportation means, including FSRs, to connect travelers to many different tourist attractions in a continuous manner and are a significant contributor to the province's tourism industry and the local economy of communities connected to the circle routes:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations make the exception of forest service roads that are part of tourism-related circle routes to maintain them more consistently, and work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) to develop a comprehensive plan to improve the forest service roads and transfer responsibility to the MoTI.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution specifically asking the provincial government to transfer to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure the responsibility for maintaining forest service roads that are part of tourism-related circle routes.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling for additional funding and improved maintenance of rural and resource roads (2015-B74, 2013-B128, 2010-B19, 2008-B17, 2001-B13). Resolution 2013-B128 in particular called on the Province to identify forest service roads that provide or formerly provided public access to provincial parks, and improve and maintain these forest service roads as if they were public highways.

In response to the resolution, the provincial government suggested that "maintaining roads to provincial public highway standards" is not appropriate in all circumstances, and increasing vehicle access could negatively impact the "natural values" of parks and other areas left "intentionally rustic." The Province indicated that it focuses on forest service roads with high public use; "roads providing access to community and rural residences and established high-value recreational areas."

See also resolution B58.

Conference decision:

Finance

B60 Restoration of Previous Provincial Funding Levels for Public Libraries Powell River City

Whereas the Ministry of Education, Library Branch completed the "Inspiring Libraries, Connecting Communities" vision and strategic plan which:

"focuses on enabling libraries to deliver the connected and innovative services, programs, and information resources that British Columbians need now and will need in the future. The vision also recognizes the important role libraries play in enabling equitable access to information. People will have access to the information they need regardless of who they are or because of any physical or geographical barriers;"

And whereas the Province recognizes that “public libraries play a key role in welcoming newcomers and job seekers in British Columbia,” and provides “British Columbians with access to the information and tools they need to learn, work, create and thrive in today’s changing world” in “safe, open spaces for people of all ages and backgrounds;”

And whereas provincial funding for public libraries has decreased from 21 per cent of total revenue in 1986 to five per cent of total revenue in 2016;

And whereas in order for public libraries in British Columbia to remain current, relevant and accessible to all, municipalities and regional districts have had to increase contributions while their capacity to continue to do so is severely limited and tenuous:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to restore funding for the public library system to a level of 21 per cent of the core annual budget required to operate the British Columbia Public Library System in an efficient, effective and equitable manner.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to provide funding for public libraries equivalent to “21 per cent of the core annual budget required to operate.”

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to maintain and index its funding for public libraries (2016-B95, 2014-B17, 2012-B71, 2011-B27, 2010-B46, 2008-B57, 2007-B56, 2006-B55, 2006-B56, 2002-B13, 2000-B28, 1999-B13, 1996-B82).

Resolution 2011-B27 in particular asked the Province to restore funding for libraries “to the levels that were achieved as part of the strategic plan prior to 2009.”

In response to resolution 2011-B27, the provincial government observed that it had maintained funding for the public library sector at \$14 million in 2011, which was “60 per cent more funding than in 2001.” The Province also suggested that implementation of the public library strategic plan “Libraries Without Walls” had “generated substantial economies of scale, enhanced the stability of libraries and improved organizational infrastructure.”

See also resolution C4.

Conference decision:

B61 Funding for Fire Equipment

Port Hardy

Whereas communities are required to provide essential services including fire safety, and emergency vehicles and equipment for fire safety are costly;

And whereas grants for emergency equipment have all but disappeared since the early 2000’s, with small communities required to fund 100 per cent of emergency equipment through taxation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to create grants for emergency vehicles and equipment and make them available to smaller municipalities, regional districts and improvement districts at a cost share of no less than 50 per cent.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to create grants for emergency vehicles and equipment and make them available to all local governments at a cost share of no less than 50 per cent.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to establish a grant funding program for local governments with population under 100,000, that would provide at least 50% provincial funding towards emergency vehicles and equipment.

The Committee notes, however, that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking sources of funding for first responder supplies and equipment (2014-B15, 2012-B10, 2010-B6, 2000-B15, 1993-A5, 1993-B40). Based on this member feedback, during the negotiation of the renewed Gas Tax Agreement (2014) UBCM advocated, unsuccessfully, for the inclusion of emergency response infrastructure as an eligible expense within the Gas Tax Agreement.

The Resolutions Committee would observe that resolutions that set population limits have been divisive amongst the UBCM membership. Local governments of all sizes—not only smaller municipalities or regional districts—are faced with bearing the full costs of emergency equipment. The Committee would propose an amendment to acknowledge this reality.

The Committee would also note that, following a March 2017 provincial announcement, UBCM will be administering the new \$32 million Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. This new funding program will include a funding stream that focuses on building capacity for Emergency Social Services teams through new equipment, training and volunteer recruitment/retention.

Conference decision:

Environment

B62 Provincial Action on Building Energy Benchmarking

Richmond

Whereas as described in the Canada Green Building Council's "Energy Benchmarking, Reporting & Disclosure in Canada: A Guide to a Common Framework," mandatory energy benchmarking and reporting is a low cost, market-based means to enable buildings to reduce energy costs and GHG emissions;

And whereas the Province of BC is a signatory to both the Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change and Clean Growth, and the Pacific Coast Climate Leadership Plan, both of which commit the Province to implement benchmarking requirements for larger buildings;

And whereas a provincially administered benchmarking requirement similar to that adopted by the Province of Ontario would be most impactful and administratively simple;

And whereas climate change threatens BC communities, and action in the built environment is necessary to mitigate climate change and realize economic opportunity:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to develop a requirement that buildings above a size threshold benchmark their energy performance and report this information to the province annually, and that the resulting data be available to local governments to inform their climate policy and programs.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B94, which asked the provincial government for legislative amendments authorizing local governments to:

- 1. require annual submission of building energy use data by building owners; and*
- 2. two years after submission, publish non-confidential and non-competitive building energy benchmarking information, contingent upon an accuracy review by building owners.*

The resolution suggested that this would enable local governments to use normalized comparison benchmarking between similar buildings as a means of targeting efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

In response to the resolution, the Province expressed support for benchmarking, and referenced its participation in the Pacific Coast Collaborative. However, the Province indicated that while it was “exploring approaches and policy options” to enable benchmarking activities, it was not willing to undertake legislative amendments.

With regard to this 2017 resolution on building energy benchmarking, the Committee is unclear on what the size threshold would be, and as such, the scope of the proposed benchmarking policy.

Conference decision:

B63 Provincial Zero Waste Strategy

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the provincial government has delegated solid waste management planning to regional districts (many of whom are pursuing zero waste) and set a target of municipal solid waste disposal of 350 kg per capita by 2020/21;

And whereas local governments can work on diversion and management of materials but the provincial government has more powers to influence what kinds of materials come in, the volume of those materials and reductions of those volumes as well as the power to regulate extended producer responsibility programs:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC develop a provincial Zero Waste Strategy.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to write a policy paper in order to ask the provincial government to develop a provincial zero waste strategy.

UBCM acknowledges that members have long supported resolutions calling on the provincial government to expand and better coordinate extended producer responsibility programs (most recently 2015-B62, 2014-A6, 2014-B97, 2013-SR1, 2013-B77, 2012-B27, 2012-B28, 2012-B30, 2012-B81, 2012-B125, 2011-B39, 2010-B33, 2009-B36, 2009-B37, 2009-B114, 2009-B115, 2009-B116, 2008-B29, 2008-B84, 2007-B25, 2006-B29, 2006-B30, 2006-B106).

Conference decision:

B64 Illegal Dumping

Peace River RD

Whereas illegal dumping of waste on private and crown land continues to be an issue across the Province resulting in unsightly, unsanitary and potentially dangerous refuse deposits in natural rural areas that should be protected and preserved for public enjoyment in ‘supernatural British Columbia’;

And whereas the problem of illegal dumping is an area of shared jurisdiction between multiple provincial ministries including Environment and Forest, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations, which results in decreased accountability and gaps in service:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to designate a single ministry as responsible for regulation of illegal dumping in the province, including enforcement of said regulations and clean-up and removal of dumped waste;

And be it further resolved that UBCM respectfully request that the Province provide adequate funding to the designated ministry to ensure minimum staffing levels can be maintained in all areas of the province to address the issue of illegal dumping.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government designate a single ministry to be responsible for regulation and enforcement of illegal dumping in BC. However, members did endorse resolution 2011-B89, which called on the provincial government to allocate additional human and financial resources to enforce, monitor and clean up illegal dump sites on Crown land; and resolution 2012-B29, which asked the Province to invest more resources to prosecute illegal dumping on Crown land.

In response to resolution 2011-B89, the provincial government expressed willingness to work directly with local governments to address local challenges with illegal dumping on a case-by-case basis.

Conference decision:

B65 Environmental Assessment Cumulative Analysis

Squamish

Whereas a project subject to provincial environmental assessment (EA) process can be separated into different EA processes or excluded from the process altogether such as hydro, gas supply, navigation, etc.;

And whereas, because of this, there is no cumulative analysis that creates a clear picture of the entire impact of a proposal, including the five pillars of environmental assessment; economic, social, environmental, health and heritage, thereby distorting and potentially minimizes the magnitude of the impact or understanding by the community and local government:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province consider projects in their entirety when evaluating them through the Environmental Assessment Office.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government ensure that the environmental assessment process takes into account the entire and cumulative impact of a project proposal, including the “five pillars” of environmental assessment: economic, social, environmental, health, and heritage impacts.

However, members endorsed resolution 2015-B61, which asked the Province to conduct a complete health impact assessment as part of the environmental assessment for all projects; and work with the Health Officers Council to develop guidance documents to support such health impact assessments.

In response to resolution 2015-B61, the provincial government stated that the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) determines the requirements for environmental assessments on a project-by-project basis, but pointed out that the EAO frequently requires human health risk assessments as part of environmental assessments. The Province also expressed willingness to work with other parties “to support a consistent approach to health impact assessment across the province.”

Members also endorsed resolution 2015-B96, which called on the Province to expand the scope of environmental impact assessments to include “the wider community and environmental impacts associated with increased road, rail and marine traffic so that a range of mitigation options can be assessed”

In response to resolution 2015-B96, the provincial government indicated that the Environmental Assessment Office, which determines the scope of an environmental assessment, sets a different scope for each project. The Province stated that as part of the setting of scope, the Environmental Assessment Office could seek feedback from the advisory working group for the project, which includes “provincial, local, Aboriginal and federal government representatives.”

While not proposing changes to the environmental assessment process, the Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions asking the provincial government to undertake planning and assessment of independent power projects (IPPs), in order to minimize impacts on Crown land resources and users (2012-B61, 2009-B40, 2009-B137, 2008-B38, 2007-B146, 2006-A4, 2006-B145, 2003-B95, 2003-B96).

Conference decision:

B66 Panel on Management and Preservation of Old Growth Forests

Port McNeill

Whereas:

- The preservation and management of old growth forests is clearly an important issue;
- Currently, there are a number of plans to manage and preserve old growth forests that include parks, old growth management areas and areas identified as critical habitat;
- Industry continues to harvest old growth forests and many communities depend on the economy generated from forests—from harvesting and other forest uses;
- First Nations have many forestry interests and concerns in their traditional territories; and
- A balance between healthy forests and healthy communities is essential and achievable;

And whereas a broad-based advisory group could help formulate a coordinated strategy with respect to the management and preservation of old growth forests:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support the formation of an advisory committee focused on the management and preservation of old growth forests, and that this advisory group consist of First Nations groups, local government representatives from forest communities, industry, and environmental representation.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed amended resolution 2016-C27, which asked the provincial government to amend the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan and protect from logging all old-growth forest on provincial Crown land on Vancouver Island.

The Committee also notes that in 1992, members endorsed resolution LR5, which asked the Province to “take the necessary measures to ensure that the proposed protected areas are not compromised before the Protected Areas Strategy has been completed.” This resolution was brought forward in part, to protect the old growth in the area until the Protected Area Strategy had been finalized.

The Committee understands that over the past year, UBCM’s Community Economic Development Committee has been advocating for a greater role for local governments in forest policy decision-making.

The Community Economic Development Committee surveyed local governments regarding this topic, and the responses indicated that communities wish to be engaged and consulted prior to decisions being made that will affect the forests in their area. In a follow up round table session at the 2016 UBCM Convention, UBCM released the report, “Forest Policy Decision-Making: The Case for Greater Community Consultation and Engagement.” In the report, UBCM made five recommendations, one of which was to seek support for the establishment of communication protocols or local forest advisory committees. This direction appears to be consistent with the request of the sponsor in regard to old growth.

Conference decision:

Land Use

B67 Provincial Private Moorage Program

Coldstream

Whereas the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has amended the private moorage program permitting residential docks to be authorized under a “General Permission” rather than an application-driven Crown land tenure;

And whereas residential docks authorized under General Permission will not require a referral to the local government for compliance with local government requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations amend the provincial General Permission for the Use of Crown Land for Private Moorage to explicitly require that General Permission for private moorage require compliance with any local government regulation pertaining to the construction, placement and use of private moorage;

And be it further resolved that Front Counter BC reinstate its practice of referring private moorage applications to municipalities.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2008-B115, which called on the provincial government to “retain administration of water leases and licenses for all docks, to ensure control and management of its waterways and public life safety.” The resolution also requested that the Province increase its staffing resources for enforcement and compliance regarding water leases and licenses for docks.

In response to the 2008 resolution, the provincial government observed that it had consulted with local governments and First Nations during revision of the private moorage program. The Province highlighted tools that can be used to address problems with private moorage:

- agencies and local governments can designate areas with sensitive values or the potential for user conflicts, so that an application would be required, regardless of dock size;*
- where cumulative impacts are a concern, local governments may submit community moorage proposals for shared use by area residents; and*
- local government retains the ability to manage private moorage through zoning and bylaw or head lease.*

UBCM would acknowledge a January 2017 letter to local governments, in which the provincial government clarified the scope of amendments to the private moorage program. This letter is available online on the Community Economic Development policy page of the UBCM website. The letter confirms that “... changes to private moorage policy do not affect local government zoning or bylaws. Prospective dock owners must continue to adhere to all local government requirements.”

Further clarification has also been received from FLNRO staff on the new policy in response to the concerns that have been raised:

- All docks, regardless of whether they are authorized by a General Permission or other Land Act tenure (Specific Permission, Lease), remain subject to local government bylaws and zoning. This has not changed. However, there have been concerns expressed by local government, since the General Permission document no longer explicitly states this. In response the FLNRO webpage has been modified to highlight to proponents that they should contact local governments prior to construction to determine what if any local government requirements are in place. Local governments are also encouraged to work with local dock building companies to communicate their requirements.
- All new docks continue to require a notification or approval under section 11 of the Water Sustainability Act (WSA) - "works in and about a stream" (or other fresh water-body).
- In the Okanagan Region where the majority of freshwater docks are located, these s. 11 WSA applications are referred to local governments, which allow the local governments to be made aware of specific dock proposals and respond to proponents accordingly. This process is being considered by other regional offices.

For further information see:

http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/natural-resource-use/landwater-use/crown-land/private_moorage.pdf

See also resolution B68.

Conference decision:

B68 Dock & Buoy Regulations

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas local governments in the Province of BC have limited enforcement options, staff resources and cost effective legal tools to deal with the significant number of unlawfully placed docks and buoys on lakes and rivers;

And whereas the Province of BC is responsible for the management of Crown lands, including lakes and rivers, for the benefit of the public, and is responsible for the enforcement of provincial regulations pertaining to the placement of structures such as docks on lakes;

And whereas the Government of Canada, through Transport Canada, the federal *Navigable Waters Protection Act* and *Canada Shipping Act*, is responsible for the regulation and enforcement of mooring buoys on lakes:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be requested to work with UBCM to better address this multijurisdictional dock and buoy issue, by consulting with local governments to align areas of overlapping regulation (e.g. zoning and provincial dock permissions), and to increase provincial enforcement resources to deal with illegal docks on lakes;

And be it further resolved that the Province of BC and UBCM call on the Government of Canada to increase Transport Canada's resources to more effectively regulate and remove buoys on lakes and rivers in BC that have been illegally placed, are unsafe, or are undocumented or of unknown ownership.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2008-B115, which called on the provincial government to "retain administration of water leases and licenses for all docks, to ensure control and management of its waterways and public life safety." The resolution also requested that the Province increase its staffing resources for enforcement and compliance regarding water leases and licenses for docks.

In response to the 2008 resolution, the provincial government observed that it had consulted with local governments and First Nations during revision of the private moorage program. The Province highlighted tools that can be used to address problems with private moorage:

- *agencies and local governments can designate areas with sensitive values or the potential for user conflicts, so that an application would be required, regardless of dock size;*
- *where cumulative impacts are a concern, local governments may submit community moorage proposals for shared use by area residents; and*
- *local government retains the ability to manage private moorage through zoning and bylaw or head lease.*

UBCM would acknowledge a January 2017 letter to local governments, in which the provincial government clarified the scope of amendments to the private moorage program. This letter is available online on the Community Economic Development policy page of the UBCM website. The letter confirms that "... changes to private moorage policy do not affect local government zoning or bylaws. Prospective dock owners must continue to adhere to all local government requirements."

Further clarification has also been received from MFLNRO staff on the new policy in response to the concerns that have been raised:

- *All docks, regardless of whether they are authorized by a General Permission or other Land Act tenure (Specific Permission, Lease), remain subject to local government bylaws and zoning. This has not changed. However, there have been concerns expressed by local government, since the General Permission document no longer explicitly states this. In response the MFLNRO webpage has been modified to highlight to proponents that they should contact local governments prior to construction to determine what if any local government requirements are in place. Local governments are also encouraged to work with local dock building companies to communicate their requirements.*
- *All new docks continue to require a notification or approval under section 11 of the Water Sustainability Act (WSA) - "works in and about a stream" (or other fresh water-body).*
- *In the Okanagan Region where the majority of freshwater docks are located, these s. 11 WSA applications are referred to local governments, which allow the local governments to be made aware of specific dock proposals and respond to proponents accordingly. This process is being considered by other regional offices.*

For further information see:

http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/natural-resource-use/landwater-use/crown-land/private_moorage.pdf

The Province confirmed that the federal government regulates private buoys.

See also resolution B67.

Conference decision:

Community Economic Development

B69 "Buy Local" Policy for Public Institutions

North Okanagan RD

Whereas it is a stated goal of the provincial government to support buy local initiatives;

And whereas taxpayer-supported institutions with on-site food services, such as universities and hospitals, are not required to buy local:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government institute a policy whereby taxpayer-supported institutions with on-site food services be required to source a targeted portion of their food purchases from local producers.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government institute a policy whereby taxpayer-supported institutions with on-site food services be required to source a targeted portion of their food purchases from local producers, subject to the Province meeting its existing domestic and international trade agreement obligations, specifically recognizing procurement thresholds.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to require taxpayer-supported institutions with on-site food service to purchase a portion of their food from local producers.

However, UBCM notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions supporting local agriculture and food production (2011-B53, 2011-B55, 2011-B56, 2010-B47, 2010-B96, 2010-B100, 2009-B132).

The Committee is proposing an amendment to the resolution that would recognize that existing trade obligations need to be considered when making decisions to procure locally produced products.

Conference decision:

Health

B70 Funding for Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Collaborative

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative (CYMHSUC), funded and supported by Doctors of BC and the Government of British Columbia, has been working to increase timely access to integrated support and services for children, youth and families, which work contributes to improving and potentially saving the lives of children and youth struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues in British Columbia;

And whereas the CYMHSUC has grown, since 2013, to 11 provincial working groups, comprising the 64 CYMHSUC local action teams, addressing complex issues such as emergency room protocols, rural tele-health, information sharing guidelines and increased literacy for mental health and substance use in schools through training teachers and counsellors on mental health curriculum and mental health first aid;

And whereas the Government of British Columbia has not committed funding for the CYMHSUC beyond 2017:

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of British Columbia continue funding and support for the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative beyond 2017.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to provide continued funding for the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative.

However, members have consistently endorsed resolutions requesting that the provincial government expand and continue funding programs to support child and youth mental health (2012-B37, 2008-B51, 2006-B51, 2006-B153).

Resolution 2012-B37 specifically called on the provincial government to “support integrated services and work with school districts and local governments to provide and evaluate youth mental health services in a school setting.” In response to the resolution, the Province referenced “Healthy Minds, Healthy People: A Ten-Year Plan to Address Mental Health and Substance Use in British Columbia,” with the Ministry of Children and Family Development acting as the lead agency for the child and youth portion of the plan.

Conference decision:

B71 The Case for Prevention of the Opioid Crisis

Abbotsford

Whereas communities in British Columbia are in the midst of a very severe health crisis that is taking lives of mothers, fathers, sons and daughters all over the province, such that so far this year, as of April 30, 2017, 488 people have died in British Columbia from drug overdoses, with projected death toll for 2017 estimated to be 1,400 individuals, and there is every reason to believe that this death rate will continue unabated unless our communities change the dynamics propelling this crisis;

And whereas the Abbotsford Police Department has produced a report “The Opioid Crisis, A Case for Prevention: For a crisis caused by an unstoppable flow of drugs that are killing people daily, the real answer lies with finding a way to successfully stop people from even starting,” that provides recommendations for creating a structure to address the crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia, and more particularly the Minister of Health, develop a comprehensive cross-governmental prevention and intervention program and corresponding implementation plan that has a long term vision, a well-governed and well-funded sustainable structure, as well as measurable outcomes to appropriately address the crisis across the Province of British Columbia.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia, and more particularly the Minister of Health, develop a comprehensive cross-governmental prevention and intervention program and corresponding implementation plan that has a long term vision, a well-governed and well-funded sustainable structure, as well as measurable outcomes to appropriately address the drug overdose crisis across the Province of British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to develop a “comprehensive cross-governmental prevention and intervention program and corresponding implementation plan,” well-governed, sustainably funded and with measurable outcomes, specifically to address the opioid drug crisis in BC.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking improvement and expansion of services and supports for those in BC who are addressing addictions and recovery processes (most recently 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B44, 2010-B143, 2010-B145, 2008-A1, 2007-B51, 2007-B153, 2006-B7, 2006-B8, 2005-A1, 2005-B43).

The Resolutions Committee would propose an amendment to the enactment clause to make clear that the resolution calls for provincial action on a drug overdose crisis.

Conference decision:

Section B2-b

Finance

B72 Unconditional Local Government Grants

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas previously, local governments received annual unconditional grants from the Province in two payments, one at the end of March and the other at the end of June;

And whereas the 2016 grants are being paid in a single payment at the end of June, creating a cash flow hardship for small local governments that depend on the March payment to meet their operational needs:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government process unconditional grants in two payments annually to alleviate cash flow hardships.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted in 2016, but was omitted from the Resolutions Book due to an administrative error. Because of time constraints, the UBCM membership was not able to debate the resolution at the 2016 Convention, so the resolution was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for their consideration. Upon consideration of the resolution, the UBCM Executive referred the resolution to the 2017 Annual Convention.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to change its policy for disbursing unconditional grants, so that local governments would receive two payments per year, rather than one payment per year.

Conference decision:

B73 Provincial Share of Infrastructure Spending

Victoria

Whereas local governments receive 8 cents of each tax dollar collected in Canada and municipalities own 60 per cent of all Canadian infrastructure, and face an enormous infrastructure debt, yet have the least ability to raise funds to cover that debt;

And whereas in the first phase of infrastructure spending the federal government committed 50 per cent of the cost of infrastructure projects and will soon be negotiating the second phase of spending announced in the 2017 federal budget with a potential similar contribution:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to match the federal government's percentage of spending on infrastructure projects.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government match the federal government cost share on infrastructure projects.

The sponsor correctly notes that in the first phase of the infrastructure program, the federal government committed to funding 50 per cent of project costs. However, the Committee understands that in July 2017, the federal government announced Phase 2 funding details and committed to a federal 40 per cent share, with the Province required to cost-share on local government projects at a minimum of 33.33 per cent of eligible costs.

The Committee is aware that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities has advocated for an infrastructure program cost share formula of 40 per cent federal; 40 per cent provincial and 20 per cent local government.

The Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking to reduce the cost share borne by local governments for infrastructure projects (2016-B18, 2015-B22, 2014-B19, 2012-B13, 2009-B29, 2004-A7, 2000-B12).

Conference decision:

B74 Water Improvement Districts

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas water improvement districts were established as a form of local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the provincial government to provide access to grant funding for water improvement districts similar to the access provided to regional districts.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has repeatedly considered, and each time did not endorse, resolutions requesting that the provincial and federal governments allow improvement districts to access the infrastructure funding programs available to local governments (2001-B58, 1994-B41, 1986-A7).

In its comments on resolution 2001-B58, which requested that the Province allow improvement districts to access infrastructure capital grants, the Resolutions Committee stated that “eligible applicants for infrastructure programs have been local governments defined generally as municipalities and regional districts.” The Committee pointed out that “infrastructure funding is limited. If funding was extended to improvement districts the dollars available to municipalities and regional districts would be eroded”

Specific to the Federal Gas Tax Fund, the Resolutions Committee would point out that the definition of Ultimate Recipient includes; a non-municipal entity, including for profit, non-government and not-for-profit organizations, on the condition that (a) the Local Government(s) where the Eligible Project would be located, if applicable, has indicated support for the project through a formal resolution of its (their) council (s) or board(s). Provided that the project falls under an eligible project category (such as water and wastewater), and provided that the project is considered for public use and benefit, water improvement districts can be eligible. UBCM and the federal and provincial governments, with the approval of the Gas Tax Oversight Committee, have adopted a policy designed to support local government decision making with respect to a project’s eligibility.

See also resolution B77.

Conference decision:

B75 Community Works Funding – Small Communities

Sayward

Whereas many communities are wrestling with increased infrastructure costs for essential services and in finding adequate sources of funding;

And whereas small communities have very limited funding options for providing basic infrastructure for their residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province to change the base level of Community Works Funding to \$100,000 for communities under 5,000.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking for the provincial government to amend a federal funding program, specifically the Community Works Fund of the Renewed Gas Tax Agreement, to raise to \$100,000 the base level of funding for communities with a population of less than 5,000.

The Renewed Gas Tax Agreement is a tripartite agreement between the federal government, the provincial government and UBCM. Therefore, to be effective, the resolution should be directed at both the provincial and federal governments. The current Agreement identifies the opportunity to review the Agreement after the first 5 years (2018).

For the reference of the membership, the Resolutions Committee has compiled some background information about the Community Works Fund.

- The \$50,000 baseline amount is established within the gas tax framework agreement, meaning that the only way to change the baseline amount is to amend the overall gas tax framework agreement. At this time, the agreement provides an opportunity for the three parties to review the agreement after 5 years (2019).*
- The \$50,000 base funding is indexed, so it does increase over the life of the program, in accordance with the indexing measures that the federal government prescribed in the agreement.*
- Consistent with other resolutions requesting UBCM to make amendments to the gas tax framework agreement and programs, UBCM approaches involvement in the federal gas tax program as having two distinct and never intersecting roles – one is as the administrator of the agreement. The other is UBCM's role as advocate that only can occur during periods when the framework agreement is being reviewed (as established within the agreement) or during open negotiations (during the drafting of a new agreement). A caution here would be that UBCM would not expect either the federal or provincial government to amend a signed agreement at their whim.*
- Local governments under 5000 in population represent 88 of the 189 local governments that receive Community Works Fund in BC. The total dollar implication of changing the baseline amount awarded to these smaller local governments would be \$4.4 million per year, being taken away from the other 111 local governments that receive Community Works Fund.*
- In BC, recognizing the unique challenges faced by smaller local governments, both the Province and UBCM supported pooling a portion of the per capita allocation into the Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF).*

The SPF has been established within the framework agreement. The SPF addresses the issues captured in this resolution, by providing a pooled fund, available through application, that provides smaller local governments the ability to apply and receive up to \$6 million, with 100% funded through the gas tax fund.

The Resolutions Committee understands that the \$50,000 baseline is not a standard across the country, and UBCM can follow up to get a sense of what is being done in different jurisdictions.

The Committee would observe that increasing the base, as proposed by this resolution, could have a particularly negative effect on the federal gas tax funding framework in BC. It could be argued that a larger base funding amount under the Community Works Fund would decrease communities' need for the SPF, to the point where the provincial and federal governments might question the overall point of the SPF. Losing the SPF would eliminate a key source of funding for local governments: as an example, Sayward, with a population of less than 350, received an SPF grant of \$2.9 million (100% program financed project). A \$50,000 bump to the baseline Community Works Fund received by Sayward would not cover the \$2.9 million opportunity loss to Sayward if the SPF program were to be eliminated.

Conference decision:

B76 Local Government Infrastructure Project Funding

Oliver

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada have taken a leadership role by investing in local government infrastructure projects, however exclude funding programs that supports irrigation water capital infrastructure that serves the agricultural sector;

And whereas local governments across Canada responsibly manage and deliver irrigation water service to the agricultural sector through infrastructure that supports the economic health of the community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia and Government of Canada to replace restrictive funding initiatives with funding criteria that supports local government capital infrastructure project funding for irrigation water services that serves agriculture.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments to amend the criteria for infrastructure funding programs, to enable use of existing infrastructure funding programs for development or improvement of local government infrastructure for agricultural irrigation purposes.

In terms of resolutions, UBCM notes that members endorsed 1999-B77, which called on the Province to provide funding for irrigation of farm properties in the Agricultural Land Reserve, “as an integral part of its commitment to preserve farm land for future generations of British Columbians.” At the time, the provincial government expressed willingness to advocate for inclusion of water development for agriculture in the eligibility criteria for future infrastructure initiatives.

In general, UBCM would acknowledge that both federal and provincial capital funding programs have expanded eligible project categories in recent years. As an example, the Gas Tax Fund identifies 17 eligible project categories, focused on the majority of core local government services. However, providing standalone agricultural irrigation is not considered a core service provided by the majority of local governments. In circumstances where potable water and agricultural irrigation exist in a single system, improvements to the system would likely be eligible. UBCM would note that both federal and provincial programs have supported ‘twinning’, or separation of domestic and agricultural water systems, as the most cost effective way to provide potable drinking water, resulting in significant savings in overall infrastructure, operation and maintenance costs for both drinking and agricultural water systems.

Conference decision:

B77 Eligibility to Access Federal Gas Tax Funding

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas federal Gas Tax funding is available to local governments under the Community Works Fund for capital infrastructure and capacity building including water and sewer utilities but excludes not-for-profit strata councils and not-for-profit private utility systems that act as purveyors of utility services to their communities from accessing these funds;

And whereas the costs of providing water and sewer services to rural property owners are becoming increasingly prohibitive;

And whereas not-for-profit strata councils and not-for-profit private utility systems construct and maintain utility services comparable to those provided within service areas established by local governments;

And whereas, unlike their local government service area counterparts, those utility ratepayers are currently responsible for the entire costs of construction, maintenance and necessary upgrades of these community utilities:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to call on the federal government to amend the Federal Gas Tax Agreement by making not-for-profit strata councils and not-for-profit private utility systems eligible to access and utilize gas tax funding for construction and improvements to water and sewer utilities, and other capital projects that provide community benefits within the criteria otherwise set out in the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund agreement.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Not Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for amendments to the federal Gas Tax Agreement to allow “not-for-profit strata councils and not-for-profit private utility systems” to access gas tax funding for “construction and improvements to water and sewer utilities, and other capital projects that provide community benefits,” within the criteria for the Community Works Fund.

The Committee would point out that under the Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia, the definition of Ultimate Recipient includes: a non-municipal entity, including for-profit, non-government and not-for-profit organizations, on the condition that (a) the Local Government(s) where the Eligible Project would be located, if applicable, has indicated support for the project through a formal resolution of its (their) council(s) or board(s). Providing that the project falls under an eligible project category (such as water and wastewater), and providing that the project is considered for public use and benefit, strata councils and private utilities can be eligible to receive federal gas tax funding.

Further to the criteria for eligible projects and eligible recipients, the Resolutions Committee would note that UBCM, in collaboration with the federal and provincial governments, and approved by the Gas Tax Oversight Committee, has approved a policy designed to support local government decision making with respect to a project's eligibility.

See also resolution B74.

Conference decision:

Elections

B78 Local Elections Campaign Financing Act

Ashcroft

Whereas local elections are conducted under the *Local Government Act*, the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, the *School Act* and other bylaws and legislation;

And whereas effective in 2014 Elections BC administers campaign financing and advertising rules under the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*;

And whereas all candidates putting their name forward for local government elections must abide by the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* regardless of the size of the jurisdiction in which they are running and the amount of funds used in their campaign, which can be expensive, time consuming and intimidating, which could result in some potential candidates deciding not to put their name forward for local office:

Therefore be it resolved that the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* be amended to recognize that requirements to run a campaign in a community of 2,000 voters is considerably different than those required for a large centre;

And be it further resolved that changes to the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* be in place prior to the 2018 general local election.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Not Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act to reduce the stringency of the regulations for candidates in smaller communities.

The Committee would be hesitant to support a request for amendments to the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act when in fact the 2018 local elections will be first election to take place under the new legislation with the inclusion of expense limits. It may be premature to suggest amendments prior to experiencing the full legislative implementation.

The Committee would also note that when the Elections Task Force reported out in May 2010, their recommendations were framed around balancing a number of key principles such as: transparency, accountability, consistency, flexibility, accessibility, fairness and honesty. And while some of the rules for reporting may seem time consuming and expensive, they have been put in place in an effort to balance these key principles in the interest of the public, local government and the Province.

Conference decision:

Legislative

B79 First Nations & Closed Meetings

North Cowichan

Whereas section 90 of the *Community Charter* stipulates matters that may or must be considered in closed meetings;

And whereas there is no inherent authority to close meetings to the public to consider information received and held in confidence from First Nations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to consider amending section 90 of the *Community Charter* to allow local governments to close meetings to the public to consider information received and held in confidence from First Nations governments.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for amendments to the Community Charter to allow local governments to close meetings to the public in order to consider information received and held in confidence from First Nation governments.

Conference decision:

B80 Elimination of Boards of Variance

Cariboo RD

Whereas Part 14, Division 15 of the *Local Government Act* requires local governments to appoint citizens to a board of variance, and provides for its mandate and operation;

And whereas Section 536(2) of the *Local Government Act* prohibits elected officials or advisory planning commissioners from serving on the board of variance;

And whereas the board of variance is empowered to make land use decisions that could potentially overturn a decision of the duly elected municipal council or regional district board:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to repeal “Division 15 – Board of Variance” of the *Local Government Act* in its entirety.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2012-B140, which asked the provincial government to amend the Local Government Act to allow local governments to opt out of the requirement to establish a board of variance.

At the time in 2012, the UBCM Resolutions Committee expressed discomfort with the idea of local governments opting out of the requirement to establish a board of variance. The Committee emphasized the absence of previous policy direction from the UBCM membership, and the independent role played by boards of variance.

In its comments on resolution 2012-B140, the Committee noted that over the years, the membership had endorsed a number of resolutions on issues related to boards of variance, including appeal of decisions and limits to their authority (2000-B38; 1996-B59; 1996-A14). Members had also endorsed resolution 2006-B34, requesting legislative amendments to circumscribe the scope of powers of boards of variance, and to provide an adequate course of appeal for both citizens and local government councils.

The request made in the 2017 resolution goes beyond issues of scope of powers, instead proposing to eliminate boards of variance entirely.

By way of background, upon adoption of a zoning bylaw, a council or board must then establish by bylaw a board of variance (BOV). The BOV role is limited to the functions and responsibilities set out in s. 900-901 of the Local Government Act. A person may apply to the board of variance for a minor variance if they feel compliance with the bylaw would cause them a hardship. The council or board appoints members to the board of variance as per the Local Government Act. The local government is bound by the decisions of the board variance, subject to court review. Council or the board cannot direct the board in its decision making process.

Conference decision:

B81 Definition of a Parcel of Land

Castlegar

Whereas there are a number of properties in the City of Castlegar that contain more than one parcel and will attract more than one parcel tax when one is imposed using section 200 and 201 of the *Community Charter*;

And whereas the provisions of the *Community Charter* with respect to the definition of a parcel and the creation of a parcel tax assessment roll are inconsistent with the *Assessment Act* and are unfair to property owners while limiting municipalities from equitably distributing a parcel tax burden:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia considers revising the *Community Charter* to include the provision that is included in the *Assessment Act* in chapter 20, part 1, section 5:

Splitting and Grouping of Parcels

If a building or other improvement extends over more than one parcel of land, those parcels, if contiguous, may be treated by the assessor as one parcel and assessed accordingly;

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government amend the Community Charter to use the definition of “parcel” in the Assessment Act:

“If a building or other improvement extends over more than one parcel of land, those parcels, if contiguous, may be treated by the assessor as one parcel and assessed accordingly”.

Conference decision:

Transportation

B82 Whistle Cessation

Vanderhoof

Whereas rail traffic continues to increase throughout the province of British Columbia;

And whereas locomotive whistles severely infringe upon citizens' quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort and convenience:

Therefore be it resolved that Transport Canada require rail corporations provide a safe environment in which whistle sounding will be discontinued.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2014-B125, a similar resolution from the same sponsor.

In its comments on the 2014 resolution, the UBCM Resolutions Committee noted that the membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2009-B157, which called on rail corporations to provide controlled railway crossings within municipal boundaries, rather than sounding locomotive whistles.

The Committee also observed that under the Rail Safety Act, strict rules dictate when and where whistles are sounded. These rules apply at all crossings and are required for safety reasons.

Further information:

www.proximityissues.ca/asset/image/reference/brochures/en_community_brochure.pdf

Additional information on the Transport Canada website:

www.tc.gc.ca/eng/railsafety/publications-874.htm

Conference decision:

B83 Expedite Accident Clearing

**North Vancouver District
North Vancouver City**

Whereas traffic volume is increasing steadily on provincial highways and minor vehicle accidents are occurring on a frequent basis causing excessive traveler delay, significant local and regional economic loss and loss of mobility on adjacent local road networks (for example on average three accidents per week on the Iron Workers Memorial Bridge between the North Shore and Vancouver);

And whereas under provincial legislation:

- only police are authorized to issue consent to remove damaged or stalled vehicles blocking a provincial highway;
- police who attend an accident where damages are estimated over \$1,000 are required by law to conduct a time consuming accident investigation (a MV6020 form); and
- only police are authorized to fill out a MV6020 accident form:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Minister of Transportation make the following amendments to provincial legislation to facilitate more timely removal of damaged vehicles on provincial bridges, tunnels and highways thereby reducing the impact to the traveling public and movement of commercial goods:

- amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* to allow the Province to delegate authority to their maintenance contractors to authorize removal of stalled vehicles or those vehicles involved in minor accidents from blocking a provincial highway;
- amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* to increase the damage limit to \$10,000 to allow police to attend minor accidents without having to complete a MV6020 investigation and to facilitate timely removal of vehicles with minor damage; and
- expand the pilot program and move towards amending the *Motor Vehicle Act* to allow the authority having jurisdiction to extend authority to fire rescue services to complete MV6020 investigations for minor accidents.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to facilitate more timely removal of damaged vehicles from provincial bridges, tunnels, and highways.

Conference decision:

Community Safety

B84 Interface Wildfire Risk

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the process of reduction of interface wildfire risk is placing a growing burden on local governments in terms of staff time and cash contributions;

And whereas the current pace of progress will not result in meeting risk reduction targets for several decades:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of BC to prepare a summary of approaches being taken across the province to address interface wildfire risks, including identifications of all organizations (local governments, BC Timber Sales, provincial ministries, or non-governmental organizations) involved in preparing prescriptions and implementing treatments along with funding sources available to each organization.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM and the provincial government to compile:

- *an inventory of all wildfire mitigation activities in BC;*
- *a list of all organizations undertaking such activities; and*
- *a list of the funding sources available to each organization.*

However, since 2011, the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) has allowed staff and consultant costs as eligible expenditures for operational fuel treatments. In part, the intent of these eligible expenditures is to allow eligible applicants to access the forestry expertise they require to oversee fuel treatments.

The Committee understands that in January 2017, changes were made to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan funding stream to increase the maximum grant available and lessen the required community contribution. A template is now available for all CWPPs which will help local governments and First Nations to identify and prioritize future fuel management and FireSmart activities.

In addition, in April 2017, changes to the SWPI were announced. Eligible applicants may now apply for joint funding for operational treatments with the Forest Enhancement Society of BC. Funding permitting, joint funding for operational fuel treatments will be available to:

- allow applicants to access funding in excess of the annual SWPI funding maximums;
- enable operationally logical treatments with areas inside the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and outside of the WUI; and
- support treatments in regional district unincorporated areas that did not previously meet the requirements regarding service area and a community contribution of 10%—which may result in 100% funding for selected eligible projects in unincorporated areas.

Conference decision:

B85 Modification of Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes

Delta

Whereas the Inspector of Dikes is required under the *Dike Maintenance Act* to provide approval of all works on a designated dike, including the seismic performance of the dike;

And whereas the provincial Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes (June 2014) require extensive and expensive geotechnical investigations and ground improvement works;

And whereas the cost of geotechnical ground improvements to meet the Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes is very expensive in areas with river and marine sediments:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to revise the Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes to reflect predicted local ground settlement conditions with the primary goal of community flood protection.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government revise the Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes to take into account predicted local ground settlement conditions.

Conference decision:

B86 Emergency Recovery Costs

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas the cost of recovering from emergencies is a hardship experienced by many small communities and rural areas;

And whereas pursuant to the *Emergency Program Act's* Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation, the current cost-sharing percentage split for emergency recovery costs, being 80 per cent for the Province and 20 per cent for local governments, contributes to the financial component of the hardship:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province increase its share of emergency recovery costs, so that the Province is responsible for 90 per cent and local governments are responsible for 10 per cent of emergency recovery costs.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2007-B76, which called on the provincial government to amend the cost share of emergency recovery costs from 80 per cent borne by the Province and twenty per cent borne by local government, so that the Province would provide 100 per cent funding for emergency recovery costs.

The Committee would observe that the 2017 resolution makes a different request, asking the Province to bear 90 per cent of emergency recovery costs, with local government bearing ten per cent of costs.

The Resolutions Committee would also note that a review of the Emergency Program Act is currently underway. In the context of this review, UBCM pointed out to the Province that local governments may not have the capacity to assume additional responsibilities, even if the provincial government were to provide corresponding funding to local governments.

Conference decision:

B87 Sprinklers for 4-storey Wood Frame Residential Buildings Langley City

Whereas in 2016 the Province of British Columbia has suffered numerous large loss fires in 4-storey wood frame multi-residential buildings that could have been mitigated by the installation of sprinklers on balconies;

And whereas the British Columbia Building Code is based on the National Building Code with modifications specific to BC and that the National Building Code (2015) requires the installation of sprinklers on balconies of 4-storey buildings;

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister Responsible for Housing immediately issue a Ministerial Order requiring the installation of sprinklers on the balconies of all new wood frame 4-storey multi-residential buildings.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to institute a requirement for sprinklers on the balconies of new wood frame four-storey multi-residential buildings.

However, UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the provision of sprinklers as fire protection in residential buildings (2014-B79, 2006-B1, 1998-B31, 1987-B11).

The BC Government recently announced a change to the BC Building Code that will now require all newly constructed 4-storey wood frame buildings to include sprinklers on balconies. This change will take effect on July 20, 2017.

Conference decision:

B88 Funding for Drug Recognition Experts Delta

Whereas the federal government plans to legalize cannabis in 2017;

And whereas there are no established levels of impairment by cannabis for the purposes of *Motor Vehicle Act* enforcement, and no tested or approved roadside cannabis impairment testing equipment;

And whereas police officers are dependent on trained Drug Recognition Experts to properly assess a potentially drug-impaired driver:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to fund training for municipal police agencies to increase the number of certified Drug Recognition Experts in order to properly police drug-impaired driving in British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to provide funding to municipal police agencies, to train drug recognition experts to identify the signs of cannabis impairment.

The Committee would also note that Bill C-46, tabled by the federal government on April 13, 2017, authorizes the Attorney General of Canada to approve the use of oral fluid (saliva) drug screening devices by police. A positive reading will help develop reasonable grounds that an offence has been committed, at which time an officer can demand a drug evaluation by an evaluating officer or the taking of a blood sample at the police station.

See also resolution SR1.

Conference decision:

B89 Restorative Justice Training

New Westminster

Whereas restorative justice has become a valuable tool in addressing certain criminal activities, by mediating a dialogue between the victim and the offender;

And whereas this interaction creates a direct accountability, restitution and apology from the offender;

And whereas this method of redress reduces the volume of cases before the courts:

Therefore be it resolved that other orders of government mandate that restorative justice training become a compulsory component of law enforcement training.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the federal and provincial governments to make restorative justice training compulsory as part of law enforcement training.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to provide sustainable funding for restorative justice programs (2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2009-B7, 2008-B4, 2007-B3, 2006-B10, 2003-B2, 2001-B10, 2000-B7).

The Committee would observe that instituting compulsory province-wide restorative justice training for all law enforcement personnel would serve as a significant additional cost driver that would increase the costs of policing for all communities.

Conference decision:

Whereas local governments must address traffic safety challenges to ensure the well-being of our residents while balancing limited financial and RCMP resources;

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to amend provincial legislation to permit local governments to independently implement photo radar on local roads at the local government's expense.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution proposing provincial legislative amendments to permit local governments to "independently implement photo radar" in their communities.

However, members did endorse resolution 2013-B91, which asked the Province to amend legislation to permit the use of speed cameras in school and playground traffic zones, with fine revenue to be shared on a negotiated basis between local governments.

In response to the resolution, the Province pointed out that it cancelled the use of photo radar "because of a policy position that it undermined public confidence in traffic enforcement. Instead, the Province put more police on the streets to deliver targeted enforcement strategies through Integrated Road Safety Units as part of the Enhanced Road Safety program."

Conference decision:

Taxation

B91 Tax on Vacant & Derelict Residential Properties

Nelson

Whereas the Government of British Columbia and Legislative Assembly responded to a housing affordability crisis by proceeding with legislation that empowered the City of Vancouver to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties;

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 and, these derelict vacant buildings pose substantial risks in terms of public safety as well as liveability and desirability for adjoining/nearby neighbourhoods and properties:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to extend the authority to introduce a surtax on vacant and derelict residential properties to local governments across British Columbia and encourage the occupancy, maintenance and improvement of buildings to address housing affordability and public safety.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to enact legislation that would grant local governments the authority to levy a surtax on vacant and derelict residential properties. However, UBCM members have consistently supported resolutions calling for tools or incentives to support rental and affordable housing (2016-B143, 2015-B14, 2015-B48, 2014-B43).

See also resolutions A2, B14 and C1.

Conference decision:

B92 Federal GST Charges on Provincial Carbon Tax

Vernon

Whereas the Government of British Columbia instituted a “carbon tax” in 2008;

And whereas the Government of Canada imposes GST on the “carbon tax”, essentially a tax on tax;

And whereas the carbon tax and subsequently the GST on the carbon tax applies widely on carbon fuels and affects the cost of living for British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial and federal governments to eliminate the GST being charged on the provincial carbon tax.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments not to charge federal GST on the provincial carbon tax.

The Committee understands that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities recently responded to the sponsor's correspondence on the application of GST on provincial carbon tax. FCM indicated that municipalities can claim a rebate to recover 100 per cent of the GST or of the federal part of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) paid or payable on eligible purchases and expenses. Bodies defined as municipalities under the Excise Tax for this purpose include the following:

- *incorporated municipal bodies, such as cities, towns, villages, and metropolitan authorities;*
- *entities determined by the Minister of National Revenue to be a municipality, such as transit commissions and public libraries; and*
- *entities designated by the Minister of National Revenue, in relation to their delivery of municipal services, such as some non-profit social housing corporations or co-operatives.*

Conference decision:

B93 Tax-free Employer-provided Health Benefit Plans

Burnaby

Whereas employer-provided health benefits plans help fill crucial gaps in the public health system;

And whereas group health benefit plans cover nearly \$30 billion annually in health care costs for up to 22 million Canadians and their families, accounting for nearly 30 per cent of the health-related spending nationally;

And whereas group coverage offers significant cost savings and access advantages over individual insurance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the federal government, through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to maintain the tax-free status of employer-provided health benefit plans.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the federal government to “maintain the tax-free status of employer-provided health benefit plans.”

The sponsor correctly points out that the federal government is undertaking a review of federal tax credits, which comprise over \$100 billion a year in foregone federal tax revenue. One of the areas currently exempt from federal tax (outside of Québec) is employer-provided group health benefit plans.

The Resolutions Committee understands that if the federal government were to end the tax-free status of employer-provided health benefits, those benefits would then be reported on an employee’s T4 slip as a taxable income. This would affect an estimated 22 million Canadians, including UBCM and its membership, as UBCM administers a group benefit program that provides coverage to 3,500 local government employees.

Conference decision:

**B94 2017 Federal Budget – Proposed Removal of One-third Non-taxable
Expense Allowance**

View Royal

Whereas the 2017 federal budget proposes to remove the tax exemptions beginning in 2019 for the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowances paid to members of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies and to certain municipal office-holders, including mayors, councillors, directors and alternate directors;

And whereas the impact of this change is that the full amount of remuneration will now be subject to income taxes and Canada Pension Plan (CPP) contributions and, resultantly, may be considered a disincentive to the holding of public office:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the federal government to abandon its proposal to tax the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowances paid to members of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies and to certain municipal office-holders.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the federal government cease pursuing a proposal to tax the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowances paid to members of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies, and certain municipal office-holders.

See also resolution C3.

Conference decision:

Regional Districts

B95 Hazardous Properties Remediation Costs

Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional districts exercise their legislated authority to remediate properties of hazardous conditions and/or environmental contamination, the cost of which may be recovered from the property owners or added to taxes in arrears if unpaid on December 31 in the year in which the work is done;

And whereas if the taxes and debts remain unpaid, pursuant to the *Taxation (Rural Area) Act* a property may be forfeited to the Province and the Province is under no obligation to reimburse a regional district for the cost of remediating properties of hazardous conditions and/or environmental contamination:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to enact legislation or provisions that enable local governments to be reimbursed for the costs of remediating properties of hazardous conditions and/or environmental contamination that are subsequently forfeited to the Province on default of payment of the costs by the property owner.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to reimburse regional districts the costs of remediating contaminated properties, in cases where the contaminated property has subsequently been forfeited to the provincial government due to unpaid taxes.

The Committee understands that in situations where there are significant community concerns, hazardous conditions or environmental risks associated with the condition of a property, a regional district may direct a property owner(s) to remediate a property in accordance with the Community Charter or other enactments. When an owner fails to mitigate the concern or hazardous condition, a regional district may undertake the work and recover the costs from the owner. Should an owner default on payment, the outstanding amount is then transferred to the Surveyor of Taxes for collection of the debt through payment of taxes by the owner or from the proceeds of the sale of the property.

Under current legislation, when a property is forfeited to the Province, the Committee notes that all outstanding liens, notices on title and unpaid amounts become null and void pursuant to the Taxation (Rural Area) Act. This includes any outstanding costs incurred by a regional district for the remediation of hazardous conditions, which are typically expensive undertakings. In such cases, there is no alternative for a regional district but to assign those costs back to the service area participants. Changes to provincial legislation that would permit a regional district to recover remediation costs after property forfeiture would lessen the burden on the regional district taxpayer.

Conference decision:

Health

B96 Review of & Amendments to the *Hospital District Act*

Kootenay Boundary RD Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the enabling legislation of regional hospital districts in British Columbia, the *Hospital District Act*, prescribes the purpose of hospital districts which hospital district boards struggle to interpret;

And whereas in 2003 the Ministry of Health recommended that the Act be updated and in 2014 the Assistant Deputy Minister of Health stated that a review of the Act was in progress:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to review and update the *Hospital District Act* expeditiously and invite input from the regional hospital districts in British Columbia in order to clarify the mandate and role of hospital districts.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government review and update the Hospital District Act to clarify the mandate and role of hospital districts.

See also resolution B39.

Conference decision:

B97 WorkSafeBC Regulations on Asbestos

Greenwood

Whereas the recent WorkSafeBC regulation, “Safe Work Practises for Handling Asbestos,” will financially impact local governments in British Columbia since the majority of buildings are constructed pre-1990;

And whereas the provincial government downloading the costs of inspections and asbestos abatement to the owners will cause a decline in house sales pre-1990, heritage homes will be destroyed, and this will also will encourage illegal construction and increase illegal dumping on Crown Land:

Therefore be it resolved that the WorkSafeBC regulation, “Safe Work Practises for Handling Asbestos,” be postponed until a financial plan is in place to assist the owners of pre-1990 buildings.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Due to time constraints at the 2016 Annual Convention, resolution 2016-B143 was not considered and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive. The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive endorsed the resolution, which called on the provincial government to institute “mandatory licensing, certification and enforceable compliance in safely handling asbestos and other hazardous material for all demolition, renovation and environmental remediation contractors.”

UBCM awaits a response to resolution 2016-B143 from the provincial government.

Though the UBCM Executive endorsed resolution 2016-B143, the Resolutions Committee is providing no recommendation for the 2017 resolution, because it makes a new request. The 2017 resolution calls for postponement of the WorkSafeBC asbestos handling regulation until a financial plan is in place.

The Committee advises that the UBCM membership typically does not support resolutions that would provide financial benefit for an individual.

See also resolution B45.

Conference decision:

Selected Issues

B98 Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy

Kitimat

Whereas the Government of Canada funding for the Homelessness Partnering Strategy – Rural and Remote Homelessness program no longer gives priority to communities with population bases less than 25,000;

And whereas the changing focus of this program has left small communities under-serviced and unable to work with the vulnerable populations in finding adequate housing and facilitating social services for individual clients, and without this funding, small local governments are unable to fund outreach workers for these services without creating further financial pressure by downloading of provincial and federal responsibilities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the federal government to refocus the Homelessness Partnering Strategy – Rural and Remote Homelessness program funding to those programs in communities of less than 25,000 population.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the federal government amend the Homelessness Partnering Strategy – Rural and Remote Homelessness program to focus on communities of population less than 25,000.

By way of background, the Committee understands that the Rural and Remote Homelessness program provides federal funding to increase resources and services for those that have unstable housing. Prior to Budget 2016, this funding prioritized non-designated communities (i.e. those not covered under a separate 'Designated Communities funding stream') with populations of 25,000 or less. The federal government has since removed this population cap from the program criteria, and the sponsor suggests that the change forces smaller non-designated communities to compete with larger non-designated communities for the same funding—effectively rendering the program even more over-subscribed than before.

The Resolutions Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2015-B108, which requested other changes to the federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy:

- update the “Designated Communities” eligibility list to reflect homelessness challenges faced by communities not previously listed;*
- amend the funding criteria to consider a broad range of factors including community capacity and the specific needs of individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and*
- increase funding for the Homelessness Partnering Strategy to take into account new communities added to the program.*

See also resolution B52.

Conference decision:

B99 Municipal Lobbyist Registry

Vancouver

Whereas other provinces have enacted legislation that allows for municipal lobbyist registries ranging from Quebec, which requires municipal lobbyists to register in the provincial registry, to Ontario, which allows for municipalities to set up their own registries with enforcement powers;

And whereas British Columbia does not currently allow municipalities to use the provincial lobbyist registry nor does it extend the legal authorities municipalities would need to enforce lobbyist rules with a local registry:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC provide municipalities with the ability to register lobbyists, create rules for lobbyist's conduct in their interactions with elected officials and public servants, and the ability to enforce those rules.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to enable local governments to register lobbyists, and set and enforce rules of conduct for lobbyists.

Conference decision:

Land Use

B100 Microcell Transmitter Placement Consultation

Grand Forks

Whereas public consultation on the placement of cell towers is mandated;

And whereas new technology is moving away from these large towers to microcell transmitters which do not require local government or public consultation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition relevant provincial and federal governments to mandate similar public consultation requirements for the placement of microcell transmitters as per cell towers.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments to implement a requirement for consultation with the public regarding placement of microcell transmitters specifically.

UBCM would point out that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has been working for some time on behalf of local governments to address the issue of antenna siting, and in 2014, the federal government introduced new regulations for companies wishing to install radio communication antenna towers. The Joint Protocol on Antenna Siting, between FCM and the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA), reflects the 2014 regulations:

http://www.fcm.ca/Documents/reports/FCM/Antenna_System_Siting_Protocol_Template_EN.pdf

FCM confirms that Industry Canada has officially removed the exemption that had permitted antenna towers under 15 meters to be built without notification or consultation with local governments and the public. To be clear, companies must share towers where possible, consult with local governments and the public, and adhere to existing local antenna siting protocols.

It would appear that mechanisms are already in place to address the concern raised by the sponsor regarding placement of microcell transmitters. Rather than moving forward with a resolution on this issue, UBCM would encourage the sponsor to contact UBCM and FCM for assistance developing and implementing a local protocol for antenna siting.

In the context of resolutions, UBCM members endorsed resolution 2002-A6, which requested that the federal government “develop a workable, fair and meaningful process to adjudicate disputes relating to the location and siting of telecommunications towers, including effective dispute resolution mechanisms and enforceable penalty provisions.” More recently, the membership endorsed amended resolution 2012-B141, which called on the federal government to:

- *institute a requirement for consultation with local governments prior to approval and installation of telecommunications towers or antennae;*
- *develop and adopt best practices for minimizing the impacts of towers in communities; and*
- *work cooperatively with local governments to resolve issues that may arise.*

Conference decision:

B101 Policy on Breweries, Distilleries & Meaderies

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas an inequity exists between Agricultural Land Commission rules that apply to breweries, distilleries and meaderies under Policy L-21 vs. wineries and cideries under Policy L-03 which impede the economic growth, agricultural production and agri-tourism opportunities in rural communities;

And whereas Agricultural Land Commission Policy L-21 requires that at least 50% of products for breweries, distilleries and meaderies be grown on site:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Land Commission be requested to revise the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation to allow breweries, distilleries and meaderies to contract with another BC grower to meet the 50% farm product requirement.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting amendments to the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation to provide breweries, distilleries and meaderies with flexibility similar to that accorded to wineries and cideries when determining “activities designated as farm use.”

The Committee understands that in order for activities to be designated as farm use, breweries, distilleries, and meaderies operating on land in the Agricultural Land Reserve must demonstrate that at least 50 per cent of the farm products used to produce the alcohol have been grown on the farm. In the case of wineries and cideries, however, if the area of a winery or cidery within the Agricultural Land Reserve is greater than two hectares, they are permitted to supplement their own agricultural production by contracting with other BC farms to purchase agricultural product used to make the wine or cider.

Agricultural products purchased under these conditions are counted towards the 50 per cent requirement.

See also resolution C5.

Conference decision:

B102 Provincial Water Lot Leases

Delta

Whereas the BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations resumed responsibility for the administration of Crown land in the Lower Fraser River estuary from the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority on January 1, 2015;

And whereas there have been (i) significant delays in the issuance of water lot leases, (ii) restrictions placed on some permitted uses of the water lots, and (iii) restricted tenures that do not provide the long-term certainty needed for investment;

And whereas this situation has created economic uncertainty, halted some significant waterfront development proposals, and hindered local government community revitalization efforts:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to implement an expeditious tenure replacement process that provides long-term certainty for leaseholders, provides an effective mechanism for First Nations consultation, and facilitates appropriate waterfront development.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the tenure replacement process for water lot leases, and include a mechanism for consultation with First Nations.

The Committee does note that members have endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to improve its administration of Crown leases, specifically to shorten processing times (1996-A13, 1995-B47).

Conference decision:

Community Economic Development

B103 Forest Health

Williams Lake

Whereas forest health is essential to resource development and economic opportunities in our region;

And whereas British Columbia communities continue to struggle with the effects of the pine beetle epidemic that was exacerbated by restrictions imposed by park and protected area designations, and a fir and spruce beetle infestation has now taken hold as a result of inadequate measures to control beetle infestation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to take a proactive approach to the health of the forest, with treatment of diseased trees taking precedence over park or protected area designations, as well as other restrictions such as mule deer winter range or old growth designations.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to be proactive in its strategy to improve forest health across BC, particularly with regard to treatment of diseased trees and combatting beetle infestations (2015-B38, 2011-B105, 2003-A12).

Resolution 2015-B38, for example, asked the Province to implement and fund Type 4 silviculture strategies, including planting, spacing, pre-commercial thinning, fertilization, and rehabilitation of dead pine stands uneconomical to harvest, especially in areas impacted by beetle infestation.

In response to the 2015 resolution, the provincial government stated that it had updated the silviculture strategies in heavily impacted mountain pine beetle timber supply areas, and was piloting “larger landscape-level integrated silviculture strategies” in selected areas. The Province highlighted its Forest Sector Competitiveness Strategy, and reminded local governments that the Province increased funding for the Forests for Tomorrow program to \$48 million per year.

The Committee notes that while there is policy in support of forest health, delegates need to determine if they are comfortable with forest health taking precedence over all other designations as noted in the enactment clause.

See also resolution B114.

Conference decision:

UBCM 2017 Resolutions Book

Whereas local governments wish to improve economic drivers and help local and BC companies grow in our region;

And whereas a listing of all registered businesses as collected by BC Registries and Online Services would facilitate as a mechanism to understand the existing businesses and potential economic opportunities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Ministry of Technology, Innovation & Citizens' Services—the ministry responsible for BC Registries and Online Services—and request that a business registry census be provided to municipal and regional governments annually.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to provide annually to each local government a list of provincially registered businesses located within that local government's boundaries.

Conference decision:

Environment

B105 Comprehensive Reporting of Community Energy & Emissions Inventory Highlands

Whereas the Province of BC provides Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) numbers to BC local governments, but the Province omits or has inconsistent reporting of emissions from:

- Manufactured goods (embodies emissions in vehicles, building materials, and all consumer goods)
- Aviation for individuals and commercial transport
- Loss of soil carbon from agriculture
- Deforestation (loss of sequestered CO₂);

And whereas these emissions account for a significant amount of total emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to improve the CEEI to account for these significant sources and where not possible, fully acknowledge these sources of emissions when reporting to local governments.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to improve the quality and specificity of data reported as part of the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI).

However, the Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2010-B84, which requested that the Province commit to funding a CEEI update for local governments every two years.

See also resolution B106.

Conference decision:

B106 On-road Transportation Sector Required in the Community Energy & Emissions Inventory

Capital RD

Whereas the on-road transportation sector is a critical component of the Provincial Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI);

And whereas this sector has been removed from CEEI for all communities outside the lower mainland:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government include the on-road transportation sector in future Community Energy and Emissions Inventories.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to include the on-road transportation sector in future iterations of the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI).

The Committee notes, however, that members endorsed resolution 2010-B84, which asked the Province to commit to funding a CEEI update for local governments every two years. In response to the resolution, the provincial government indicated that it had committed to “producing CEEI reports every two years starting in 2010. These reports will contain at a minimum the same amount of detail as the 2007 reports, with the possibility of expanding the scope of the inventory contingent on additional funding.”

See also resolution B105.

Conference decision:

B107 Ending the Inhumane Use of Animal Traps

Nanaimo City

Whereas the Province has indicated a review of wildlife trapping regulations is underway and the use of body and leg hold traps within urban areas continues to pose an unacceptable risk of injuries to humans and pets, and the unrestricted sale of traps to unlicensed individuals continues;

And whereas since 2012, the Province has not provided the required ministerial approval for wildlife trapping bylaws submitted from the City of Vernon, City of Surrey, District of Sechelt and City of Nanaimo:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province provide ministerial approval to local government bylaws in a timely manner, until such time that the Province completes a review of the trapping regulations.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to provide timely ministerial approval for local government bylaws regarding wildlife trapping.

The Committee notes, however, that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking more stringent regulation of wildlife trapping, whether by the provincial government or by local governments (2013-B62, 2012-B124, 2011-B171). A common aim of these resolutions has been to prevent injury to humans or domesticated animals from wildlife traps.

In response to the 2013 resolution, the provincial government committed to continue working with local governments to reduce the risk to domestic animals posed by wildlife trapping. The Province referenced an in-process review of trapping regulations, as well as the development of educational programs to emphasize the importance of signage in active trapping areas.

Conference decision:

B108 Province-wide Rat Reduction Strategy

West Kelowna

Whereas in recent years, the Province of BC has seen an increase in the population and distribution of rats for which no provincial strategy exists;

And whereas rat infestations lead to damage to buildings, electrical wiring and stored food supplies and rats carry diseases that could be transmitted to humans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Ministry of Environment to develop and fund a strategy to reduce and/or control the rat population in BC.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting the provincial government to develop and fund a province-wide rat control strategy.

Conference decision:

B109 Recycle BC

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the Regional District of Central Kootenay and other regional districts have demonstrated over a long term our ability to manage an effective, efficient recycling program, which achieves significant waste diversion and meets the needs of residents;

And whereas Recycle BC, since its inception, has unilaterally attempted to dictate service levels, operational constraints and financial reimbursements (including penalty clauses) which conflict with local needs and proven practices when regional districts have entered into discussions to enter the program:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Environment direct Recycle BC to negotiate a cash transfer to regional districts (without operational constraints) to support existing programs which manage the recovery of printed and packaging materials and that if agreement cannot be reached by 31 March 2018 then the Ministry begin a mediation process to resolve the level of payments by December 31, 2018.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to direct Recycle BC to negotiate a cash transfer to regional districts to support existing recovery programs for packaging and printed materials.

Conference decision:

B110 Preventing Polystyrene Foam Pollution in the Marine Environment

Islands Trust

Whereas foam from marine infrastructure is an increasing source of pollution on British Columbia's beaches;

And whereas there is concern that plastic-associated chemicals from polystyrene and other types of rigid foam are harming the marine environment and contaminating food webs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial and federal governments to implement measures that prevent rigid foam pollution in the marine environment.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to implement measures to prevent pollution of the marine environment with rigid foam and associated chemicals.

Conference decision:

B111 Non-compostable Produce Sticker Labels

Maple Ridge

Whereas composting is available and encouraged in most communities and many backyards in Canada;

And whereas the use of plastic non-compostable identification stickers contaminates the finished compost in commercial and private compost facilities:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments (where applicable) change both domestic and import regulations related to food labeling to require compostable stickers or vegetable based ink/food safe stamps on all fruits and vegetables sold in Canada.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments to require any sticker labels on fruit and vegetable produce to be compostable, with food safe vegetable based ink stamping of produce accepted as an alternative.

Conference decision:

B112 Spill Detection Technology

Kitimat

Whereas currently accepted technologies, including SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) and MBS (Material/Mass Balance System), can fail to detect leaks between 1.5 to 3% of pipeline flow volume which could result in upwards of 100,000 litres per hour of crude oil leaking without detection on a pipeline transporting 500,000 barrels per day;

And whereas other internal industrial leak detection tools such as Smart Pig Technology have been proven to fail to locate pipeline flaws resulting in environmental damage;

And whereas external hydrocarbon sensing cable is a proven technology that can detect leaks of less than 1 litre, making it possible to locate, contain and repair leaks before they become major environmental disasters:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial and federal governments to implement regulations that ensure pipeline safety standards are to the highest available standards and include mandatory external hydrocarbon sensing technologies.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to enact pipeline safety standards that require the use of external hydrocarbon sensing technologies.

Conference decision:

B113 Environmental Assessment Funding System

Squamish

Whereas the provincial and federal environmental assessment processes are not the direct jurisdiction of local governments and therefore not subject to associated service cost recovery fees and cost of public engagement;

And whereas these environmental assessment processes can be very time consuming, expensive and onerous for local government staff, community and council:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government set up a funding system to allow for local governments to be compensated for the staff time spent including research, review, technical and working group participation, and to augment and support community engagement during the entire process;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government's Environmental Assessment Office fee schedule be revised to include a fee for local governments throughout the certification process.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to compensate local governments for staff time spent working on referrals from the provincial environmental assessment process; nor have members considered a resolution asking the Province to revise the fee schedule for the Environmental Assessment Office to pay local a government to participate in certification processes relevant to that local government.

UBCM would point out, however, that members have endorsed resolutions requesting that the provincial government undertake more thorough and frequent consultation with local governments as part of environmental assessment processes, and provide local governments with more time to respond to referrals (2009-B33, 2001-A9). Resolution 2009-B33 specifically called on the Province to amend its policies and procedures to ensure that "referral periods are established in such a manner to allow local governments, as well as other stakeholder or interest groups, that wish to comment, a fair and reasonable opportunity to do so."

In response to resolution 2009-B33, the provincial government emphasized its commitment to honour the 2007 Protocol on Principles for Sharing Environmental Responsibilities between the Province of BC and UBCM. Regarding environmental assessment referral periods in particular, the Province confirmed that:

- *The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) invites local government to participate in the intergovernmental working group set up for each proposed project;*
- *The Public Consultation Policy Regulation requires two public comment periods during the review of a proposed project between 30 and 75 days each to allow the public to provide written submissions;*
- *The length of the public comment period is determined on the basis of the complexity of the proposed project and other factors (typically between 45 and 60 days);*
- *Information relevant to the public review is posted to the EAO Internet and placed in convenient locations in the vicinity of the proposed project;*

- *Public open house meetings are held to describe the proposed project and receive the views of the public; and,*
- *The EAO considers that these measures allow for a fair and reasonable opportunity for public input.*

Conference decision:

B114 Woodland Caribou Implementation Plan Consultation

Northern Rockies RM

Whereas the Province, in compliance with the federal *Species at Risk Act*, is currently in the process of developing implementation plans for the conservation and regeneration of woodland caribou in BC;

And whereas such plans, by restricting the harvesting of timber in specified areas can have a significant negative impact on forest industry investment operations, and local economies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government immediately commit to meaningful consultation with local governments potentially affected by woodland caribou implementation plans, such consultation to involve thorough investigation and consideration of socio-economic impacts.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2011-B93, which called for “meaningful and respectful” federal consultation with local government and the agricultural community, regarding recovery planning under the Species at Risk Act. The 2011 resolution sought to find a balance between conservation needs and agricultural production.

In response to the resolution, the federal government acknowledged the concerns of local governments and the agricultural community. The federal government pointed out that as part of the process of implementing conservation strategies, it had undertaken a range of consultation with provincial and local government, and agricultural stakeholders.

UBCM would also note that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling for strong provincial and federal legislation to support conservation of species at risk and promote biodiversity (2011-B41, 2010-B35, 2008-B87, 2004-B80).

See also resolution B103.

Conference decision:

B115 Task Force for Watershed Management

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the forest industry is critical to the success of the economy of British Columbia;

And whereas communities that rely on surface water for drinking and irrigation are concerned about the effect of wildfire, tree harvesting and landslides in all consumptive water sources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to form a task force comprised of representatives that include tenure holders, wildfire specialists, biologists, hydrologists, and citizen representatives to consult with local governments to determine their concerns on consumptive watershed management.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to establish a task force of representatives from tenure holders, wildfire specialists, scientists, and the citizenry, that would consult with local governments to determine their concerns on consumptive watershed management.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds (most recently 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

Conference decision:

B116 Resale of Electricity for Electric Vehicle Charging

Metro Vancouver

Whereas the BC Climate Leadership Plan has a stated goal of supporting vehicle charging development for zero emission vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and lack of access to electric vehicle (EV) charging, especially in stratified dwellings, is an impediment to EV uptake;

And whereas exclusions from the definition of a 'public utility' under the BC *Utilities Commission Act* include a person providing a service or commodity to tenants, but are silent regarding strata corporations and its resident members;

And whereas processes for exemptions from provisions of the BC *Utilities Commission Act* discourage small-scale for-profit resale of electricity for the purpose of electric vehicle charging:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia amend the *Utilities Commission Act*, before the end of 2018, to specifically exclude from the definition of a 'public utility' a strata corporation providing services to its members, and exclude from the definition of a 'public utility' a small-scale reseller of electricity at profit for the purpose of electric vehicle charging in public and private settings; and, in both of the aforementioned cases, exempt the reporting requirements currently set out in Section 71 of the Act.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the Utilities Commission Act to exempt from the definition of "public utility" and associated reporting requirements:

- *a strata corporation providing electricity and electric vehicle charging facilities as a service to its members; or*
- *a small scale for-profit reseller of electricity for the purpose of charging electric vehicles.*

See also resolution B132.

Conference decision:

Section B – Part 3-a

Resolutions Proposing New Policy

Included in Section B – Part 3-a are resolutions numbered:

B117 – B120

After consideration of Section B2-b resolutions, a spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion:

I move that the resolutions in Section B – Part 3-a be considered as a block.

If the motion is endorsed by delegates, then the resolutions in Section B – Part 3-a will be considered as a block.

These resolutions will not be debated individually unless there is a motion introduced to specifically consider such a resolution; for example:

I move that resolution B(x) be removed from the block and be considered separately for debate.

Such a motion would be introduced as an amendment to the general motion stated above. A delegate may request to remove a resolution from the block and consider it separately for debate, only if they wish to speak in opposition or propose an amendment to the resolution. [UBCM Bylaws s. 23(d)]

If the motion to remove a resolution from the block is approved, the resolution would be considered individually, after the vote on the block been decided.

Finally, once all motions regarding the block have been heard, the spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the motion:

Shall the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section B – Part 3-a be adopted?

If the motion is approved by delegates, then the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section B – Part 3-a resolutions will be endorsed as a block.

Section B3-a

Community Safety

B117 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits Funding

Squamish

Whereas sexual assault evidence collection (SAEC) kits are currently funded through the Ministry of Health, with SAEC kits considered evidence that is from a committed crime;

And whereas survivors of sexual assault need medical forensic examinations readily available on demand and should not be expected to travel further than 50km to facilitate equitable access to justice and associated resources:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government move funding from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Justice and fund comprehensive, 24/7 access to services and staffing needed (sexual assault nurse examiners) and to provide SAEC kits in communities lacking in forensic services.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government fund comprehensive, 24/7 access to services and staffing for medical forensic examinations, and provide sexual assault evidence collection kits in communities where forensic services are not available.

However, members endorsed resolution 2015-B80, which called for a national intergovernmental task force to determine the steps needed to “erase the “rape culture” that is pervasive in schools, universities, workplaces and elsewhere across Canada,” as well as “improve the reporting, arrest and conviction rates across Canada.”

Conference decision:

Finance

B118 Rural Dividend Fund Program

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia’s Rural Dividend Fund Program has an application requirement that applicants must provide a review engagement letter for projects over \$10,001 in funding or audited financial statements for projects over \$100,001 in funding;

And whereas these requirements for a professional review of financial statements can be at a significant cost to non-profit agencies and create a barrier for these agencies to make application to the Rural Dividend Fund thereby reducing the opportunity for non-profit organizations to leverage their capacity to strengthen the economy of rural communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province to determine other means of investigating the financial strength of non-profit organizations that are key partners and valuable contributors to sustainable rural community economies.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government determine other means of investigating the financial strength of non-profit organizations that are key partners and valuable contributors to sustainable rural community economies.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the Rural Dividend Fund Program by developing an alternative to review engagement or audited financial statements as a means of investigating the financial strength of non-profit organizations that apply to the program.

The Resolutions Committee would point out that the Rural Dividend Fund Program is a provincial government initiative, not a UBCM initiative. UBCM was not involved in the development of the program, nor is UBCM involved in the administration and delivery of the program. The Committee would propose an amendment to define the Rural Dividend clearly as a provincial government program.

Conference decision:

Selected Issues

B119 Equal Access to Public Education

Hudson's Hope

Whereas the provincial government was involved in an initiative to seek input on rural education in fall/winter 2016-2017;

And whereas school district funding is inadequate for some districts to provide busing to all rural and remote students:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM executive have discussions with Ministry of Education to make clear definitions of rural and remote, identifying the significant difference between lower mainland rural and remoteness with northern rural and remoteness;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the BC Government and the Ministry of Education to provide all required funding to bus eligible students to and from school, because all rural and remote students must have equal access to public education.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Education consult with affected stakeholders to make clear definitions of rural and remote, identifying the significant difference between lower mainland rural and remoteness with northern rural and remoteness;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Ministry of Education to provide all required funding to bus eligible students to and from school, because all rural and remote students must have equal access to public education.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to define more clearly the concepts of rural and remote in the context of K-12 education, taking into account differences between northern and southern regions of BC. Nor have members considered a resolution asking the Province to provide "all required funding to bus eligible students to and from school."

Resolution 2016-B132, however, asked the provincial government to “reconsider the issue of school bus transportation funding and impacts to school divisions and rural and remote areas.” Due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B132 was not debated at the UBCM Annual Convention and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for consideration.

Upon consideration, the UBCM Executive determined that no action was required, since in August 2016, the provincial government had announced a \$14.7 million Student Transportation Fund that could be accessed by school districts around the province, to assist with the cost of transporting students to and from school. In October 2016, the Province confirmed that every school district in BC had applied and been approved to receive financial support from the Student Transportation Fund.

The Committee would note that UBCM was invited to make appointments to a Ministry of Education Transportation Committee that will be looking at issues such as ride times, student walk limits, joint planning with school districts and transit providers, student safety, route management, etc. Recognizing that our membership has endorsed resolutions on these specific issues, UBCM agreed to participate and has made two appointments: Director Karen Goodings, Peace River RD and Councillor Mary Beil, Parksville.

The Committee is proposing an amendment to the first enactment, which more clearly directs the Ministry to undertake consultations with affected stakeholders around the definitions of rural and remote; and a slight amendment to the second enactment to direct the request to the Ministry of Education.

See also resolution B47.

Conference decision:

B120 Long Term Rental Accommodation

Radium Hot Springs

Whereas there is a shortage of long term rental accommodation in British Columbia;

And whereas there are elements of the *Residential Tenancy Act*, including limits on allowable rent increases and controls on tenancy agreements, that are a disincentive to the development of new long term rental accommodation housing stock;

And whereas existing homeowners are reluctant to enter the long term rental accommodation market due to the widespread protections afforded tenants under the *Residential Tenancy Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Minister Responsible for Housing to undertake a review of the *Residential Tenancy Act* to identify potential changes to help alleviate the issue.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Minister Responsible for Housing to review the Residential Tenancy Act to identify and address elements of the Act that discourage development of new long term rental accommodation housing stock and discourage existing homeowners from offering long term rental accommodation.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution specifically calling on the provincial government to review and amend the Residential Tenancy Act with the goal of encouraging existing homeowners to provide long term rental accommodation, and provide incentive for development of new long term rental accommodation housing stock.

However, the Committee notes that members have endorsed resolutions seeking review and standardization of the Residential Tenancy Act to provide clarity and certainty to both landlords and tenants (2016-B121, 2014-B51). Resolution 2014-B51 in particular urged the Province to “address gaps within the legislation which adversely impact both landlords and tenants.”

In response to the 2014 resolution, the provincial government stated that it did not intend to make changes to the Residential Tenancy Act, and instead encouraged landlords and tenants to use the dispute resolution services of the Residential Tenancy Branch.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions supporting incentives for development and retention of rental housing stock (2015-B48, 2014-B43, 2012-B143).

The request made in the enactment clause of the 2017 is vague, specifically the use of the phrase “the issue.” The Resolutions Committee would propose an amendment to state more clearly the issues that a review of the Residential Tenancy Act might address.

See also resolutions B53 and B126.

Conference decision:

Section B3-b

Selected Issues

B121 Family Day

Quesnel

Whereas the Family Day holiday is observed in British Columbia on the second Monday in February, while the Family Day holiday is observed on the third Monday in February in Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan, along with Louis Riel Day in Manitoba, Heritage Day in Nova Scotia and Islander Day in Prince Edward Island;

And whereas aligning the BC Family Day holiday with other provinces would allow families to more conveniently share the holiday with family from other provinces;

And whereas from a commerce and business perspective, aligning the BC Family Day holiday with other provinces and with President's Day in the USA would allow our province to remain "open for business" on a day when national and international commerce, business, and markets are open;

And whereas weather on the later February week end is generally expected to be more favourable for highway travel as compared to a week earlier:

Therefore be it resolved that the government of the Province of British Columbia be encouraged to engage in a public consultation process with a view to answering widespread calls to align the date of the BC Family Day holiday with the other provinces in Canada by moving the date of the BC Family Day holiday from the second Monday to the third Monday in February.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Due to time constraints, the UBCM membership was not able to consider resolution 2016-B139 at the 2016 Convention, and the resolution was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive. Subsequently, the Executive received correspondence from Sun Peaks and Whistler advising that the decision to observe Family Day in BC on a different Monday than other provinces was made to provide for BC families to access resorts and venues on a day not shared with other out of province tourists.

The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive referred the resolution back to the sponsor, to address questions arising about the need for broader consultation with the public prior to setting the date, and the effects on business operations.

As of 2016, UBCM members had not previously considered a resolution requesting the provincial government to move the annual Family Day holiday to the third Monday in February. Due to the lack of policy direction on this matter, the Committee is offering no recommendation.

Conference decision:

B122 Rights of Service Dog Teams

Maple Ridge

Whereas, as a result of the BC *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* which was enacted in January 2016, people who are blind, visually impaired, deaf and require a guide dog to safely navigate, are being harassed, repeatedly asked for identification, subjected to government red tape, and denied access to public space without meaningful recourse or sanctions to deter discriminatory acts:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government amend the BC *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* to:

3. Reduce the barriers that limit enforcement of the law and impose stiffer penalties against those who refuse access to guide dog teams;
4. Change the BC *Guide Dog and Service Dog Act* to include guide dogs that are already certified by the International Guide Dog Federation; and
5. Impose restrictions as to who can ask to see identification and under what circumstances.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the Guide Dog and Service Dog Act to clarify the rights of people using guide dogs while making enforcement of the Act more straightforward.

Conference decision:

B123 Ending Discriminatory Insurance Coverage

Maple Ridge

Whereas insurance companies continue to discriminate against individuals who currently receive or have a history of psychiatric treatment by excluding insurance claims related to psychiatric disorders;

And whereas the Canadian Psychiatric Association advocates for the right to obtain insurance without prejudice as justified by Section 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* which prohibits discrimination based on a “mental or physical disability”:

Therefore be it resolved that medical insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, automobile insurance, and insurance for protection or replacement of possessions be made available to individuals currently experiencing, or with prior history of, a psychiatric disorder on “the same terms and conditions that prevail with any other illness” as recommended by The Canadian Psychiatric Association.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the insurance industry to cease discriminating against people who experience or have a prior history of psychiatric disorder, and make available to such individuals all types of insurance “on the same terms and conditions that prevail with any other illness.”

Conference decision:

B124 Handling of Motions to Vary the Agenda

Port Hardy

Whereas Section 14(c) of the UBCM Bylaws provides that at the Annual Convention, a voting delegate may put forward from off the floor any motion for discussion—such as a resolution not in the Resolutions Book, or a Resolutions Book Section C resolution, not recommended to be admitted for discussion—and if the support of three-fifths (60 per cent) of the voting delegates present is given, such a motion may be admitted for discussion;

And whereas UBCM practice is to vary the agenda to undertake immediate discussion of the motion; however, this practice:

- disrupts the agenda and the planned order of discussion of resolutions printed in the Resolutions Book; and
- does not allow voting delegates to prepare or plan to be present for discussion of the motion from off the floor:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM membership request a change of practice, so that upon admission for debate of a motion from off the floor:

- discussion of the motion from off the floor does not commence immediately, but is instead scheduled to take place at a later time during the Annual Convention; and
- UBCM provides notification to voting delegates about the motion from off the floor and the time it is scheduled for discussion, so that voting delegates may prepare for and attend discussion of the motion.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting a change to the handling of motions to vary the agenda at the UBCM Annual Convention, and the scheduling of motions admitted for debate from off the floor.

The Committee would clarify that if the resolution were to be endorsed, the new procedures would take effect in 2018.

Conference decision:

B125	Location of UBCM Annual Convention	Central Kootenay RD
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Whereas holding the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) annual conference in Whistler is cost prohibitive for many small municipalities and other participants;

And whereas the additional environmental impact of driving to Whistler from Vancouver for participants who fly is contrary to reducing carbon emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM conferences be held in municipalities limited to the Metro Vancouver Regional District or the Capital Regional District or similar venues.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that UBCM restrict the location of the Annual Convention to Metro Vancouver or the Capital Regional District.

The Committee would point out that, based on the logistical and practical needs of planning and coordinating a large provincial conference, the UBCM Executive applies an established set of criteria, requirements, and standards to determine whether a community has accommodation, meeting facilities, and other infrastructure sufficient to support the UBCM Annual Convention. The number of communities in BC that meet the criteria to host the UBCM Annual Convention is small and is diminishing; however, at present, Whistler is one of the few communities that meets the criteria. If endorsed, this resolution would deliberately exclude the Resort Municipality of Whistler from applying to host the UBCM Annual Convention, despite the fact that Whistler meets the criteria set by UBCM to be a host community.

The Committee would also observe that coordination for any particular instance of the UBCM Annual Convention begins several years in advance of the specific year in which a Convention takes place. This means that UBCM must sign contracts to reserve venues, hotel blocks, facilities, and associated infrastructure and services. UBCM has already committed to contracts for the 2018 Annual Convention to be held in Whistler.

Conference decision:

Whereas the practice of renovictions, by which some landlords evict their tenants under the guise of performing major renovations and then significantly increase the rent of those units, is on the rise in our province;

And whereas this practice is very disruptive to those impacted, including the elderly, low-income families, and new immigrants, and contributes to housing unaffordability and homelessness;

And whereas municipalities are limited in their ability to address this issue and many tenants are unaware of their rights or are reluctant to exercise them:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to undertake a broad review of the *Residential Tenancy Act* including, but not limited to, amending the *Residential Tenancy Act* to:

- allow renters the right of first refusal to return to their units at a rent that is no more than what the landlord could lawfully have charged, including allowable annual increases, if there had been no interruption in the tenancy;
- eliminate or amend fixed-term tenancy agreements to prevent significant rent increases upon renewal; and
- permit one tenant or applicant to represent and take collective action on behalf of all tenants in a building.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2016-B121, which called for provincial amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act to standardize tenant assistance, particularly “tenancy dissolution and/or relocation as a result of building demolition.”

In response to resolution 2016-B121, the provincial government summarized selected provisions of the Residential Tenancy Act, and indicated that it did not plan to amend the Residential Tenancy Act.

The Committee also notes that due to time constraints, resolution 2016-B137 was not debated at Convention but was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for consideration. The UBCM Executive amended the resolution, so that it called on the Province to “address the problem of “renovictions” in an effort to maintain affordable rental stock,” as well as “identify ways to encourage and incent building owners to re-invest in existing rental stock instead of downloading these costs fully onto existing tenants.”

The UBCM Executive endorsed resolution 2016-B137 as amended, and UBCM awaits a response from the provincial government.

The Resolutions Committee would observe that the original wording of resolution 2016-B137 was similar to the enactment clause of this 2017 resolution. The prescriptive nature of the wording gave the UBCM Executive pause, since a foundational tenet of general policy adopted by UBCM members is local choice; the right and responsibility of a local government to determine and implement the solutions best suited to its community.

See also resolutions B53 and B120.

Conference decision:

B127 National School Food Program**Vancouver**

Whereas 1.7 million Canadian households, including almost 500,000 individuals in BC alone, experience food insecurity, and the current patchwork of school food programming reaches only a small percentage of our over 5 million students, with Canada remaining one of the only Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development nations without a national school food program;

And whereas the Coalition for Healthy School Food is working at a national level to advocate for the creation of a cost-shared Universal Healthy School Food Program that will enable all students in Canada to have access to healthy meals at school, serving culturally appropriate, local, sustainable food to the fullest extent possible:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities advocate for a Universal Healthy School Food Program to provincial and federal governments.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to BC School Trustees Association**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to establish a cost-shared national school food program.

However, the Committee notes that members have endorsed resolutions seeking to improve food security for all British Columbians, particularly low-income individuals (2013-B56, 2010-B51).

The Committee would observe that local government holds no jurisdiction over school district policy or operations. The sponsor has not indicated whether school districts in BC have requested or expressed support for a national school food program. Because of this gap, the Resolutions Committee would propose referral of this resolution to the BC School Trustees Association, to ensure that the perspectives of school districts are included in the discourse on this issue.

Conference decision:

B128 Exam Requirements for Owner Builder Certification Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Province of BC through the *Homeowner Protection Act* establishes the requirements for property owners to be authorized as owner builders by BC Housing to build and occupy a new home for their personal use;

And whereas due to recent amendments to the Act, BC Housing requires that owner builders write and pass an Owner Builder Authorization Exam prior to authorization under the legislation and has not produced a study guide or hosted educational sessions to allow property owners to prepare for the required examination which has resulted in an extremely high failure rate for applicants:

Therefore be it resolved that in support of the ability for property owners to reasonably receive authorization as owner builders, UBCM urge the Province to prepare study materials and host education sessions designed to assist applicants through the required examination process.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government provide study materials and educational opportunities for applicants who wish to undertake the Owner Builder Authorization Exam under the Homeowner Protection Act.

Conference decision:

B129 Abolition of Daylight Savings Time Grand Forks

Whereas research has shown the practice of changing to Pacific Daylight Savings Time each spring can have a negative impact on people's health and cognitive awareness;

And whereas there have been petitions and calls for the abolition of Daylight Savings Time:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to consult with the people of BC with a view to abolishing Daylight Savings Time.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2016-B140, which asked the provincial government to discontinue the annual time change in BC.

Further, UBCM members considered but did not endorse resolutions 1999-B98 and 1993-A23, both of which requested that the Province adopt daylight savings time year-round for areas of BC within the Pacific time zone.

Conference decision:

Finance

B130 Bill C-15 Federal Banking “Bail-in” Legislation

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Canada Economic Plan (2014) and Bill C-15 (2016) enact legislation for a bail-in regime for “domestic – systemically important” banks (DSIBs) providing power to the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation to convert prescribed debt of a non-viable bank into common shares (bail-in);

And whereas local governments in British Columbia accumulate large financial reserves through taxation to hold for future infrastructure development both directly with banks and through the Municipal Finance Authority investment program, the loss of which through a bail-in program would widely harm all local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government take measures to reduce the risk of local government reserves being used for bail-in conversion, either by promoting changes to federal legislation to specifically exclude local government reserves from bail-in or by promoting legislation such as Glass-Steagall rules; or if unable to do this, by creation of a secure repository for reserve funds, and/or by providing advice to local governments to avoid bail-in risk.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution regarding local government exposure to risk from reserve funds being used for bail-in conversion.

Due to the technical nature of this resolution, UBCM consulted with the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA) on this matter. The Resolutions Committee understands that MFA is fully aware of this issue and is keenly monitoring this legislation and the supporting regulations.

The new bail-in strategy emerged as a result of the 2007-08 global financial crisis. It is intended to protect taxpayers by ensuring that losses are borne by investors and creditors of a failed bank and not taxpayers.

The regime will allow bank regulators to force conversion of a bank debt security into equity under certain circumstances when the regulator feels the bank is in trouble financially.

Similar bail-in legislation has already been adopted or has been proposed in all G-20 countries. Canada has already passed bail-in legislation and is working on supporting regulations. It is unlikely they will reverse course at this time.

Conference decision:

Environment

B131 Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking

North Saanich

Whereas seventy per cent of Canadians support a national moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas until it is scientifically proven to be safe;

And whereas research has proved that in recent years fracking operations have caused a number of earthquakes of magnitude 4.0 or larger in British Columbia and Alberta;

And whereas more study is needed regarding the effects on public health, wildlife, and ecosystems of several hundred chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process;

And whereas several of Canada's provinces and territories do not permit fracking due primarily to strong public opposition regarding groundwater contamination from fracking chemicals, serious risks to public health, and aquifer depletions from usage of millions of litres of water in the fracking process;

And whereas Supreme Court decisions have affirmed the Crown's obligation to consult meaningfully on proposed energy projects which could impact British Columbia's First Nations' treaty rights and traditional ways of life, and these consultations have been incomplete or at times absent:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to place a moratorium on any additional fracking wells while initiating a steady phase-out of hydraulic fracturing in British Columbia and promoting conversion to alternative green energy development.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to "place a moratorium on any additional fracking wells while initiating a steady phase-out of hydraulic fracturing" in BC, and promoting conversion to alternative green energy development.

Conference decision:

B132 Electric Vehicle Charging in Strata Buildings

Metro Vancouver

Whereas the BC Climate Leadership Plan has a stated goal of supporting vehicle charging development for zero emission vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and lack of access to electric vehicle (EV) charging is an impediment to EV uptake;

And whereas a significant and growing proportion of British Columbia residents live in multifamily dwellings, most of which are stratified;

And whereas requirements for approval by a strata corporation under the BC *Strata Property Act* for alteration of common property represent a significant barrier to installing and accessing means of charging in stratified buildings:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia amend the BC *Strata Property Act*, before the end of 2018, such that strata councils and strata corporations must accommodate reasonable requests from residents, for the purpose of electric vehicle charging, to access existing or install new powered outlets and/or electric vehicle charging infrastructure, where the assignment of associated costs are to be determined by the strata council and/or the strata corporation.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for provincial amendments to the Strata Property Act to require that strata councils and strata corporations accommodate “reasonable requests from residents, for the purpose of electric vehicle charging, to access existing or install new powered outlets or electric vehicle charging infrastructure,” with assignment of associated costs to be determined by the strata council or corporation.

See also resolution B116.

Conference decision:

Health

B133 BC Ambulance Services

Cache Creek

Whereas the BC Ambulance Service provides emergency response in rural areas to those who experience serious trauma accidents or life threatening medical emergencies;

And whereas most rural ambulance stations are staffed with paramedics trained to the emergency medical responder or primary care paramedic levels;

And whereas most of the better trained advanced care paramedics and critical care paramedics are stationed in larger urban centers whose residents benefit from tertiary care facilities within relative proximity compared to rural residents' health facilities:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government require the BC Ambulance Service to staff rural ambulance stations with much needed advanced care or critical care paramedics whose skills and training are necessary for life support where tertiary care is often hours away rather than minutes away as it is in urban centers.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to require the BC Ambulance Service to staff rural ambulance stations with personnel who have completed advanced care or critical care training, rather than the more basic emergency medical responder or primary care training.

Conference decision:

B134 Comparable Standby Wages for BC Ambulance Service

Hudson's Hope

Whereas many remote and rural municipalities experience a shortage of qualified ambulance staff and this puts these municipalities in danger of not having the service when they need it the most;

And whereas many rural ambulance stations only provide on-call coverage with no guaranteed shifts for staff and the on-call rate of \$2 per hour is not a sufficient rate for paramedics to make the income needed to be self-sufficient:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the BC government to work with the provincial bargaining body and BC Ambulance Service in the next round of provincial collective agreement bargaining to ensure that BC Ambulance Service staff have on-call rates of pay comparable with other health science professionals, e.g. lab technologists, radiation technologists, and nurses.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Due to time constraints, resolution 2009-B68 was not debated at the UBCM Annual Convention and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive for consideration. Resolution 2009-B68 asked the provincial government and BC Ambulance Service to increase the stand-by and on-call pay rates and honorarium for volunteer or part-time ambulance staff paramedics in rural and remote communities. The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive determined that no action was required.

In its comments on resolution 2009-B68, the UBCM Resolutions Committee acknowledged that recruitment and retention of volunteer ambulance attendants was long standing issue, made more complex by differences in pay rates depending on where ambulance attendants are based in BC. The Committee referenced labour negotiations under way at the time between the Province and ambulance attendants, and because of the negotiations, declined to comment further on the rate of pay of volunteer ambulance attendants.

Conference decision:

B135 BC Ambulance Service

North Coast RD

Whereas the BC Ambulance Service is an integral part of the provincial health care system;

And whereas BC Ambulance dispatch services are not provided locally to rural communities in BC;

And whereas there are logistical challenges in rural challenges that may be best managed locally:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial Minister of Health to require the BC Ambulance Service to amend its dispatch model to allow for local responders to determine how best to manage a response to an emergency or other calls for service.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the dispatch model of the BC Ambulance Service, to allow local responders to determine how to manage response to an emergency or other call for service.

Conference decision:

B136 Helicopter Emergency Medical Services

Terrace

Whereas the resource sector is the corner stone of the economies of most rural communities and modern health care is crucial to attracting new investment, a workforce, and securing quality of life for rural residents;

And whereas the BC Forest Safety Ombudsman's report on Helicopter Emergency Medical Services has identified that rural communities are negatively affected by an inadequate emergency transportation system:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to adopt the BC Forest Safety Ombudsman recommendations on "Helicopter Emergency Medical Services" including mandating a legislated one-hour timeline for every resident of the province to have access to Trauma 3 Level of care.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to adopt recommendations from the BC Forest Safety Ombudsman regarding helicopter emergency medical services, including a legislated one-hour timeline for every BC resident to be able to access a Trauma 3 level of care.

However, UBCM members endorsed resolutions 2013-B44, 2007-B157 and 1998-B98, all calling for improvements to air medical access and air ambulance services for all British Columbians.

In response to resolution 2013-B44, BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) stated that 24-hour air ambulance services are available from bases in Prince George, Prince Rupert, Kamloops, Kelowna, and Vancouver; and that it would use private air carriers, Alberta Health Services, Government of the Yukon, Royal Canadian Air Force, and Canadian Coast Guard aircraft as necessary. BCAS emphasized that the air ambulance model “best able to provide timely, specialized care for patients in northern BC and ... isolated communities is via fixed-wing aircraft,” and referenced the Early Fixed-Wing Activation Program it adopted in 2012.

Conference decision:

**B137 Protocols to Respond to Student Drug Overdose on Secondary Maple Ridge
School Grounds**

Whereas Provincial Health Officer Dr. Perry Kendall declared the first public provincial health emergency in Canada on April 14th 2016 in response to the unprecedented rise in illicit drug overdoses across the province;

And whereas there are no protocols for naloxone, a lifesaving medication that temporarily reverses the effects of an opioid overdose, available in schools to support teachers and staff in the event of student overdoses while on school property:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Health, Minister of Education and Minister of Children and Family Development jointly create provincial standards for middle and secondary schools province wide to address drug use and potential incidents of overdose in BC schools including protocols for training and administration of Naloxone (Narcan).

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to BC School Trustees Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to develop standards and protocols for teachers and staff to address student drug use and potential incidents of overdose on the property of middle and secondary schools, including training to administer Naloxone (Narcan).

The Committee would observe that local government holds no jurisdiction over school district policy or operations. Furthermore, the sponsor has not indicated whether any school district or school trustee in BC has raised the question of overdose prevention and response in BC middle or secondary schools. In the apparent absence of direction from school districts or trustees, the Resolutions Committee would hesitate to support development of drug policy and protocols that could so clearly impact school district policy and operations across the province.

Conference decision:

Community Safety

B138 Agricultural Dams

Cariboo RD

Whereas agricultural dams are significant resources for water storage for food producers in certain regions of British Columbia, and climate change with temperature increases and hydrological shifts will make these water sources even more important in future;

And whereas the Dam Safety Regulation specifies requirements for owners to hire engineers to inspect and develop plans to maintain these dams based on the level of risk;

And whereas these requirements are complex, onerous, and prohibitively expensive to dam owners, and the level of risk depends in part on development downstream which is beyond the control of the dam owner;

And whereas agricultural dams provide shared values to society, including recreational values, ecological values as they provide habitat for fish and wildlife, and water sources for forest firefighting:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province to work with agricultural dam owners to assist them in meeting the requirements of the Dam Safety Regulation in order that these water storage resources are safely preserved for food production and other values into the future;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province to fairly apportion the cost of inspecting and maintaining agricultural dams in a manner that takes into account other shared values, and the level of development downstream from the dams.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to assist owners of agricultural dams to meet the requirements of the Dam Safety Regulation; nor have members asked the Province to apportion the cost of inspecting and maintaining agricultural dams “in a manner that takes into account other shared values, and the level of development downstream from the dams.”

Conference decision:

Land Use

B139 Single Wide Mobile Homes as Second Dwellings on Agricultural Properties

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation has established the standards for a second dwelling on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land and the Agricultural Land Commission’s (ALC) Policies L-08 and L-18 specify that manufactured homes must normally conform to the CSA Z240 series standards unless a property owner makes a non-farm application to the Commission;

And whereas construction of factory built, movable dwellings has progressed significantly with technology and the CSA Standard is not flexible enough to accommodate the needs of farmers to provide accommodation on their properties without an application;

And whereas these new movable dwellings incorporate innovative energy-efficient, green building technology and can be sited to reinforce the farmland protection objectives of the ALC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Agriculture amend the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation to provide more certainty for types of manufactured homes that are permitted as residential uses and request that the Agricultural Land Commission amend their policies to allow for the siting of other types of factory built, movable dwellings outside of the CSA Z240 series standards.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting amendments to the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation to provide flexibility regarding second dwellings on land in the Agricultural Land Reserve, specifically the requirement for the dwelling to meet CSA Standard Z240 for a double wide mobile home.

The Committee has reviewed the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation, as well as Agricultural Land Commission policies L-08 and L-18. The Committee acknowledges that the policies cite the CSA Z240 series standards for manufactured homes. It is unclear to the Committee, however, whether the referenced policies are wholly prescriptive; and by extension, whether a property owner who wishes to site as a second dwelling a manufactured home that does not comply with the CSA Z240 series standards must automatically make a non-farm application to the Agricultural Land Commission.

Conference decision:

Section C

Section C contains resolutions that are similar to others in the same year. Resolutions may also be placed in Section C if they relate to larger UBCM policy initiatives already underway, such as policy papers, working groups, or intergovernmental consultation processes; or if the resolutions are regionally focused or require more work to be understandable.

Resolutions placed in Section C are not recommended to be admitted for debate.

Part 1 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to policy papers and/or special sessions at Convention:

[No resolutions have been placed in this section.]

Part 2 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to other resolutions within the Resolutions Book:

C1 – C6

Part 3 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to Area Associations or sponsors for fine-tuning or due to being of a regional nature:

C7 – C8

Section C2

C1 Extension of Taxation Authority for Vacant & Derelict Buildings

Victoria

Whereas the Government of British Columbia and Legislative Assembly responded to a housing affordability crisis in July 2016 by proceeding with legislation that empowered the City of Vancouver to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties;

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, noting that 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 and derelict residential properties to local governments across British Columbia, and encourage the occupancy, maintenance, and improvement of buildings to address housing affordability and public safety.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution B91.

C2 Legalization & Regulation of Cannabis

North Vancouver City

Whereas the Government of Canada is moving towards the legalization and regulation of cannabis, as outlined in the final report of the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation, dated November 30, 2016, entitled, "A Framework for the Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis in Canada;"

And whereas the introduction of this new affluent industry will have significant cost implications for municipalities in terms of licensing, inspections and enforcement;

And whereas the burden of implementation could unfairly fall on municipalities to fund:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia to include local and First Nation governments in the tax regime recommended in the Final Report of the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation, dated November 30, 2016, entitled, "A Framework for the Legalization and Regulation of Cannabis in Canada," to equitably distribute revenues from the legalization and regulation of cannabis.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution SR1.

C3 Federal Budget Impact on Tax Exemptions

Capital RD

Whereas proposed measures announced during the 2017 Federal Budget would remove the tax exemptions for the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowances paid to members of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies and to certain municipal office-holders;

And whereas no consultation with elected officials was conducted prior to the announcement;

And whereas impacts to public service compensation could discourage youth from seeking elected office:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to lobby the federal government and reverse this direction.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution B94.

C4 Provincial Funding Levels for Libraries

Ladysmith

Whereas the Vancouver Island Regional Library is the fifth largest library system in British Columbia, serving over 430,000 people on Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii and the Central Coast (Bella Coola) through 39 branch libraries, an e-Library and books by mail service;

And whereas the Vancouver Island Regional Library's focus has dramatically changed as our society has changed through technological advances in order to remain relevant, while the level of provincial funding has decreased from 21 per cent of total revenue in 1986 to five per cent of total revenue in 2016, leaving its member municipalities and regional districts to bear the increases through increased contributions while their capacity to continue to do so is severely limited:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to restore funding for the public library system to a level of 21 per cent of the core annual budget required to operate the library system in an efficient, effective and equitable manner for the local government taxpayer.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution B60.

C5 Regulation of Small On-farm Breweries & Meaderies

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas changes made to the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) Regulation in April 2015 require that on-farm breweries and meaderies crops produce a quantity of 50% of crops on the agricultural lands upon which the on-farm brewery or meadery is located;

And whereas the existing ALC regulation detrimentally affects the viability and sustainability of agricultural operations for smaller on-farm breweries and meaderies, pose a detriment to an ever-growing agri-tourism industry, take away the ability for those in the brewery and meadery business to successfully run their operations, and further discourages farming in British Columbia;

And whereas the existing ALC regulation 2(2.3) regulation differs from that of wineries where the production of crops may be located on lands where the winery is located OR upon other lands in the area and may be located upon lands that are 2 ha in size or larger:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Agriculture make an immediate change to update Agricultural Land Commission Regulation 2(2.3) to read:

A brewery, distillery or meadery, and ancillary uses, are designated as farm uses for the purposes of the Act if:

- a) at least 50% of any of the farm products used to make the beer, spirits or mead produced each year is grown on the farm on which that brewery, distillery or meadery is located, OR
- b) the farm on which the brewery, distillery or meadery is located is more than 2 ha in area and at least 50% of any of the farm products used to make the beer, spirits or mead produced each year is grown:
 - i. on the farm, OR
 - ii. both on the farm and on another farm or processor using British Columbia ingredients located in British Columbia that provides any farm product to the brewery, distillery or meadery under a contract having a term of at least 3 years, AND,
- c) any permanent structures used to produce beer, spirits or mead must not exceed the lesser of 10% of total parcel size or 1000 square metres, including all ancillary structures or areas such as parking, water reclamation, tasting and public areas and storage.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution B101.

C6 Regional Hospital District Capital Infrastructure Funding Formula Terrace

Whereas a primary purpose of a regional hospital district under the *Hospital District Act* is to establish, acquire, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, operate and maintain hospitals and hospital facilities;

And whereas the current practice is that long-term capital infrastructure projects are financed based on a cost-sharing formula of 60% the Province and 40% the regional hospital districts, which is often not achievable for rural hospital districts:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government formally establish a reduced expected rate for rural regional hospital districts below the current standard of 40% as their contribution to capital infrastructure projects.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution B39.

Section C3

C7 Creating a Fair Market Approach to Lease Rates for Marinas

Nanaimo City

Whereas under the *Canada Marine Act* the federally governed port authority is required to set the lease rate structure for water lots at market value and Nanaimo Marina owners contest that the Nanaimo Port Authority lease rates structure does not represent a fair market approach;

And whereas the Nanaimo Marina owners recommend a fair market model based on business owners' income:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for a lease fee model that is based on a fair market approach for all port authorities.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer Back to Sponsor**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking that all federal port authorities use a lease fee model based on a fair market approach.

The Committee has recommended referring this resolution back to the sponsor due to the regional nature of the issue. The sponsor appears to be proposing a course of action for all port authorities based on their own local experience. The Committee is concerned about the implications of this type of request on other port authorities.

It is also evident from the background information that there is conflicting information about how the lease rate structure is established. The sponsor suggests that the lease rate structure does not represent a fair market approach, while the Nanaimo Port Authority has indicated that an independent third party appraiser determines the fair market value of the Port's lands and water lots and the fair market rental value of properties leased.

C8 UBCM Resolutions

Quesnel

Whereas local governments invest considerable time and effort in researching, preparing and submitting proper (early) resolutions, through their respective councils, boards and area associations to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities;

And whereas the necessity for late resolutions is recognized, they often result in time constraints that in turn preempt early resolutions from debate and becoming no longer the property of the membership as they are referred to Union of British Columbia Municipalities executive for decision:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM enable all early resolutions to remain the property of the membership at convention until they are duly debated and disposed of.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer Back to Sponsor**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking that all resolutions received before the deadline remain "the property of the membership at convention" until duly debated and disposed of by the membership.

For any resolution not printed in the Resolutions Book, the UBCM membership is the body that decides whether or not to admit the resolution for debate at Convention. This includes late resolutions as well as resolutions from off the floor. The requirement to admit such a resolution for debate is support from a sixty per cent majority of the voting delegates present. The UBCM membership holds the authority to determine whether debate can be completed at Convention on all resolutions received before the June 30 submission deadline.

The sponsor's proposal raises a number of practical challenges for Convention organizers. Instances will arise when the time frame allotted in the Convention agenda to debate resolutions, expires. Should then the entire Convention agenda be changed on an ad-hoc basis to finish debate of all resolutions? Should the Convention policy session be allowed to run late on the final day of Convention? There are end times for room rental at the convention centre, as well as travel plans made by Convention attendees who begin to make their way home.

When asked to provide clarification, the sponsor suggested that more time should be allocated to resolutions debate, earlier in the convention to ensure that all resolutions are treated equally. The sponsor also proposed a time limit for debate of each resolution, such that if debate on a particular resolution reached the time limit, debate would pause, the resolution would be bumped automatically to the end of the queue, and debate on the resolution could continue once all other resolutions had been considered at Convention.

The Resolutions Committee is unsure how the sponsor's suggestions address the practical considerations outlined above regarding Convention agenda, scheduling, and room rental. Because of this uncertainty, the Committee would recommend referral back to the sponsor for further development and refinement of the resolution.

