

# 2018 UBCM Resolutions





## **Resolutions to be Considered at the 2018 UBCM Convention**

### **Whistler Conference Centre Whistler, BC**

The resolutions sessions are presently scheduled for:

**Wednesday, September 12**

**10:40 am**

**Principal Policy Session**

Section ER resolution

Section SR resolutions

Section A resolutions

Section B resolutions as time allows

**Thursday, September 13**

**8:55 am**

**Policy Session continues**

Section B resolutions as time allows

**Friday, September 14**

**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 2018 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 conventions, and reminds members that Area Association endorsement lends weight to a resolution when it is later considered at UBCM.

## Key Issues

Members submitted 205 resolutions by the deadline; over 50 additional resolutions than received in 2017. Such an increase reflects active participation at the Area Association conventions and a desire to raise issues prior to the upcoming local government elections.

In 2018, members are proposing a broad variety of resolutions that reflect local government contexts and concerns, and respond to provincial and federal initiatives and legislation. Topping the subject areas for discussion are a variety of environmental and community safety issues. Some specific areas of member concern include: cannabis tax revenue sharing, the employer health tax and the speculation tax.

## 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 the large number of member-submitted resolutions for 2018.

## Order of Debate

As in years past, Section A resolutions feature priority issues and will be debated on Wednesday at Convention. The intent is to highlight key areas of concern around the province. In 2018, delegates will also be considering an Extraordinary Resolution (ER1) to amend the UBCM bylaws regarding the consideration of off-the-floor resolutions. As well, the Executive will be putting forward two Special Resolutions regarding cannabis tax revenue sharing (SR1) and Greyhound bus service withdrawal (SR2).

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.

## 2018 UBCM Resolutions Committee

Mayor Sharon Gaetz, Chair  
Chair Alison Sayers, Vice Chair  
Councillor Phil Brienese  
Councillor Brian Frenkel  
Mayor Gerry Taft

## Organization of Resolutions in the Resolutions Book

Section	Subsection	Description	Handling
<b>SR</b>		UBCM Executive resolutions on priority issues.	Considered individually.
<b>ER</b>		Extraordinary resolutions—to amend the UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the <i>UBCM Act</i> .	Considered individually.
<b>A</b>		Member-submitted resolutions on priority issues.	Considered individually.
<b>B1</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolutions that support established UBCM policy.</li> <li>Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.</li> </ul>	Considered as a block.
<b>B2</b>	<b>a</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed.</li> <li>Within local government jurisdiction, or affecting local government.</li> <li>Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.</li> </ul>	Considered as a block.
	<b>b</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed.</li> <li>Within local government jurisdiction, or affecting local government.</li> <li>Recommendation: Not Endorse No Recommendation No Action Required Referral</li> </ul>	Considered individually.
<b>B3</b>	<b>a</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed.</li> <li>Outside local government jurisdiction.</li> <li>Recommendation: Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.</li> </ul>	Considered as a block.
	<b>b</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New issues, or issues considered previously but not endorsed.</li> <li>Outside local government jurisdiction.</li> <li>Recommendation: Not Endorse No Recommendation No Action Required Referral</li> </ul>	Considered individually.
<b>C</b>		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. These may include product stewardship, recycling, solid waste management, water and air quality, and streamside protection.

## **Land Use**

Resolutions regarding planning issues such as 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. Resolutions addressing housing and Indigenous issues are also found here.

# 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, regional districts and First Nations 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, regional districts and First Nations 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, regional districts and First Nations 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(e)]

### **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(a)]



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(b)i]

22. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from the sponsoring local government to introduce the resolution. [Bylaw s. 23(b)ii]

23. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution. [Bylaw s. 23(b)ii]

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

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 majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. [Bylaw s. 23(d)]

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. 19-25).

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 Resolution Committee’s 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 are classified as “Emergency” and therefore appropriate for Plenary only if the topic is such that it 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. Copies of the Resolutions Committee’s Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline shall be produced by UBCM with sufficient copies for distribution to the Convention.

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. 19-25).

### **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 ER

ER1	Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws Regarding 'Off the Floor' Resolutions	UBCM Executive	92
-----	---	----------------	----

## Section SR

SR1	On cannabis tax revenue sharing	UBCM Executive	93
SR2	On the loss of Greyhound Bus service	UBCM Executive	93

## Section A

### Taxation

A1	Employer Health Tax Impact on Local Governments	LMLGA Executive	95
----	---	-----------------	----

### Environment

A2	Protecting Local Waterways & Wild Fish Species	Victoria	95
----	--	----------	----

### Selected Issues

A3	Modify Speculation Tax: Local Government Vacancy Levy	Oak Bay	96
A4	Short-Term Vacation Rental Listing Platforms' Responsibility in Compliance	Nelson	96

## Section B1

### Legislative

B1	Review Requirements for Public Notification	Central Saanich	100
B2	Notice by Mail	Nanaimo RD	100
B3	Review of Board of Variance Process	Victoria	101
B4	Modernization of <i>Local Government Act</i>	Sunshine Coast RD	101

### Community Safety

B5	Provincial Funding Highway Rescue	Valemount, Fraser-Fort George RD	102
B6	Search and Rescue Funding	Bulkley-Nechako RD	103
B7	Potential Hazard Identification for Emergency Response Personnel - Medical Cannabis Production in Residential Properties	Thompson-Nicola RD	103
B8	Alert Ready Emergency Alert System	New Westminster	104
B9	Funding for Restorative Justice Programs in British Columbia	Fort St. John	104
B10	Collaborative Public Awareness Campaign for the FireSmart Program	Squamish-Lillooet RD	105

### Transportation

B11	Highway and Road Line Painting	Thompson-Nicola RD	105
B12	Commitment to Road Safety	Vernon	106
B13	CN Rail Emergency Response Capacity	Bulkley-Nechako RD	106

B14	Passenger Rail Service from North Vancouver to Prince George	Lillooet	107
B15	Active Transportation Strategy	North Vancouver District	108
B16	Transportation of Patients in Rural Areas	Central Kootenay RD	108

## **Taxation**

B17	Elimination of the One Third Tax Free Federal Allotment	LMLGA Executive	109
-----	---	-----------------	-----

## **Finance**

B18	Collection of Unpaid Bylaw Fines	Whistler	109
B19	Enhanced Municipal Bylaw Fine Collection Procedures	Burnaby	110
B20	Provincial Funding for Volunteer Fire Departments	Thompson-Nicola RD	110
B21	Parkland DCC Reserve Expenditure Expansion	West Kelowna	111
B22	Interface Wildfire Funding	Thompson-Nicola RD	112
B23	Development of Ongoing Provincial Funding Programs for First Nations Reconciliation and Relationship Building Efforts	Squamish-Lillooet RD	112
B24	Underfunding of Public Libraries	Burns Lake	113

## **Assessment**

B25	Brownfield Site Assessment Value	McBride	114
-----	----------------------------------	---------	-----

## **Environment**

B26	Extended Producer Responsibility Program – Drywall (Gypsum)	North Okanagan RD	114
B27	Recycle BC Stewardship Plan Update	Columbia Shuswap RD	115
B28	EPR for Agriculture Plastics	NCLGA Executive	115
B29	Uniform Business Regulations for Disposable Plastic Packaging	Victoria	116
B30	BC Hydro LED Street Light Conversion	Powell River	116
B31	Provincial Funding for Energy Retrofits of Buildings	Vancouver	117
B32	Energy Efficiency Retrofits	LMLGA Executive	118
B33	Dike Upgrade Strategies to Address Climate Change and Seismic Standards	Delta	118
B34	Implementation of <i>Water Sustainability Act</i>	Central Kootenay RD	119
B35	Change to Class E Regulations to Allow Farm Gate Sales	Columbia Shuswap RD	119
B36	BC Conservation Services	Princeton	120
B37	Restoring Provincial Coordination of Planning and Funding of Flood Management Infrastructure in the Lower Fraser River and South Coast	Vancouver	120
B38	Herring Recovery Plan & Moratorium	Powell River	121
B39	Private Sewer Utilities	North Okanagan RD	121
B40	Professional Reliance	Quesnel	122

## **Land Use**

B41	<i>Private Managed Forest Land Act</i> Amendment	Powell River	122
B42	Large Scale Harvesting on Private Land	Central Kootenay RD	123
B43	Expansion of Community Forest Program	Bulkley-Nechako RD	123

B44	Resourcing Collaborative Planning on Provincial Crown Land	Columbia Shuswap RD	124
B45	Increased Visits to Provincial Recreation Areas	Squamish-Lillooet RD	125
<b>Community Economic Development</b>			
B46	Log Export Policy	Alberni-Clayoquot RD	125
B47	Fibre Optic Infrastructure Funding	Keremeos	126
B48	Exception to the Prohibition Against Assistance to Broadband Service Providers	Lillooet	126
B49	Landscape Level Planning	Vanderhoof	127
<b>Health</b>			
B50	Regional Hospital District Capital Funding Formula	Kitimat-Stikine RD	128
B51	Increasing the Number of Family Practitioners in BC	Maple Ridge	128
B52	Funding for Mental Health and Addictions Services on Riverview Lands	LMLGA Executive	129
B53	Senior Funding	NCLGA Executive	129
B54	Cannabis and Harmonizing Smoking Regulations	New Westminster	130
<b>Selected Issues</b>			
B55	Seniors' Housing	Vanderhoof	131
B56	Affordable Rental Housing and Co-operative Housing	Vanderhoof	131
B57	Cellular Coverage for Rural Communities	Port Clements	132
B58	Supporting Innovation in Home Heating Systems	Maple Ridge	133
<b>Section B2-a</b>			
<b>Legislative</b>			
B59	Broadcasting Personal Information without Consent	qathet RD	136
<b>Community Safety</b>			
B60	Request for Additional Crown Counsel Lawyers	Grand Forks	136
<b>Elections</b>			
B61	By-Election Not Required by Regional Districts in Election Years	Cariboo RD	137
<b>Transportation</b>			
B62	Creating a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Rural Places, Small Municipalities and Remote Communities	NCLGA Executive	138
B63	Transportation Services	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	138
<b>Finance</b>			
B64	Gas Tax Funding for Volunteer Fire Departments	NCLGA Executive	139
<b>Environment</b>			
B65	Federal Review of Geoduck Aquaculture	Islands Trust	139
B66	Protecting Coastal Communities & Waterways from Oil Spills	Victoria, Powell River	140
B67	Watershed Governance Model	Sunshine Coast RD	141
UBCM 2018 Resolutions Book			83

B68	Packaging and Printed Paper Recycling Regulation Amendment	Thompson-Nicola RD	141
B69	Residential Recycling Services in Small Communities	Kitimat-Stikine RD, New Hazelton	142
B70	Venting Index in BC	Elkford	142
<b>Land Use</b>			
B71	Moratorium on ALR Lands for Cannabis	Central Saanich	143
B72	Backcountry Tourism	Pemberton	144
<b>Community Economic Development</b>			
B73	Sustainability of West Coast Fisheries	Campbell River	144
<b>Selected Issues</b>			
B74	Common Asset Management Policy	Courtenay	145
B75	Meat Processing Review	NCLGA Executive	146
B76	Electricity Affordability Program	Terrace	146
<b>Section B2-b</b>			
<b>Legislative</b>			
B77	<i>Community Charter</i> Definition of Parcel 18-11 Interior Lot Lines	Castlegar	148
B78	Verification of Submissions During Public Hearing Process	Squamish	148
B79	Rural Needs Act	Nelson	149
B80	Strata Utility Billing Legislative Change	Courtenay	149
B81	Autonomy and Authority of Local Jurisdictions with Respect to Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Activities	Langley Township	150
B82	Full Disclosure of Financial Interests by Local Elected Officials	Vancouver	151
B83	Elected Official Disqualification	Terrace	151
B84	Disqualification from Holding Elected Office	Pitt Meadows	152
<b>Community Safety</b>			
B85	Need for Improved Snow and Ice Removal Services in Rural Areas	Columbia Shuswap RD	153
B86	Seismic Early Warning System	Powell River	154
B87	Local Police Services – Amendments to Service	Vernon	154
B88	Provincial Policing	Peace River RD	155
B89	Request for Increased Court Access	Grand Forks	156
B90	Restorative Justice	Vernon	156
B91	Amend Criminal Justice Branch Charge Assessment Guidelines	Grand Forks	157
B92	Cannabis Legislation Enforcement	Mackenzie	157
B93	Medical Cannabis Production	Sunshine Coast RD	158
B94	Priority Funding of Flood Prevention Capital Projects	Stewart	159
B95	Emergency Management Incident Commander	Lumby	160
B96	Wildfire Mitigation Practices	Williams Lake	161
B97	Wildfire Related Issues	Quesnel	161

B98	Wildfire Crime	Quesnel	162
B99	Wildfire Firefighting Inventory	NCLGA Executive	163
B100	FireSmart Incentives	Williams Lake	163

## Transportation

B101	Rail Proximity Issues	LMLGA Executive	164
B102	Updating the <i>BC Motor Vehicle Act</i> to Improve Safety for All Road Users	New Westminster	165
B103	Reducing Excessive Driving Speeds in Designated BC Road Safety Corridors, For All Drivers, All The Time	Lions Bay	165

## Taxation

B104	Alternate Tax Sale Redemption Date	Lake Cowichan	166
B105	Agricultural Land Reserve – Protective Taxation Reform	Burnaby	166

## Finance

B106	Provincial Financial Support During a State of Emergency	Cariboo RD	167
B107	Downloading of Wildfire Mitigation Costs and Responsibility	Burns Lake	168
B108	International Biodiversity Targets Commitment	Pemberton	168
B109	Amendments to Rural Dividend Fund Process	Cariboo RD	169
B110	Municipal Uplift Grant Program	Telkwa	169
B111	Grant Funding	Quesnel	170
B112	Community Gaming Grant Funded by eGaming Revenues	Lillooet	170
B113	A Call To Divestment – Aligning City Investments With The Future	Port Moody	171

## Assessment

B114	New Municipal Tax Classes	West Vancouver	172
B115	Supporting Independent Small Businesses Through Provincial Assessment and Tax Reform	Vancouver	172

## Environment

B116	Southern Mountain Caribou	Peace River RD	173
B117	Intentional Feeding of Wildlife – Amendment to the <i>Wildlife Act</i>	East Kootenay RD	174
B118	Protection of Native West Coast Salmon	Sooke	174
B119	Upgrade Flood Infrastructure to Consider Fish and Access to Fish Habitat	LMLGA Executive	175
B120	Mine and Quarry Siting Restrictions	Cowichan Valley RD	175
B121	Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking	North Saanich	176
B122	West Coast Marine Spill Response Guarantee	Port Alberni	176
B123	Streamlined Process for Sediment Management – Flood Mitigation	Chetwynd, Peace River RD	177
B124	Reclaimed Water Use	Peace River RD	177
B125	Water Conservation in New Buildings	LMLGA Executive	178

B126	Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy	Vancouver	178
B127	RecycleBC	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	179
B128	Climate Accountability for Fossil Fuel Companies	Victoria	179
B129	Strengthen Low Carbon Fuel Requirement	Richmond	180
B130	Call for the Expansion of Provincial EV Incentives	Port Moody	180
B131	Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate	Richmond	181
<b>Land Use</b>			
B132	Crown Lands for Cannabis Production	Nelson	181
B133	Removal of Restrictive Covenants	Squamish	182
B134	Proposed Amendment to Provincial <i>Mines Act</i> and Other Relevant Articles of Legislation	Kamloops	182
B135	Recreational Boating Access Infrastructure	North Saanich	183
<b>Community Economic Development</b>			
B136	Update of Regional Growth Strategy Legislation	Capital RD	184
B137	Northern Resource Corridor Plan	Northern Rockies RD	184
B138	BC Commercial Fisheries	Prince Rupert	185
<b>Regional Districts</b>			
B139	Business Licensing	North Okanagan RD	186
<b>Health</b>			
B140	Ambulance Services	Chetwynd	186
B141	Mutual Aid Agreements Between Regional/Local Fire Departments and BC Emergency Health Services	Lumby	187
B142	Supporting a Comprehensive Public Health Response to the Ongoing Opioid Crisis in British Columbia	Vancouver	188
B143	Review of BC's Fee for Service Model	Maple Ridge	188
B144	Parity in Hospital Districts Capital Contribution	Cariboo RD	189
B145	Community Health Centres	New Westminster	189
B146	Dental Care and Floridation of Public Water Sources	Squamish-Lillooet RD	190
<b>Selected Issues</b>			
B147	Daylight Savings Time	Hudson's Hope	191
B148	Remuneration for Local Government Elected Officials	Coquitlam	191
B149	Need for Equitable Recognition and Support for Urban Indigenous Communities in Policy, Programs, Funding and Consultation	Vancouver	192
B150	Financing Reconciliation: Solutions for Local Communities	Central Coast RD	192
B151	Changes to the <i>Strata Property Act</i>	New Westminster	193
B152	Rural Living Allowance	Fraser Lake	194
B153	Unaddressed Admail	Whistler	194
B154	Disposition of Derelict School Buildings	Lake Cowichan	195
B155	Community Social Planning	Cumberland	196



B156	Consumer Protection for Public Institutions When Purchasing Software	Burnaby	196
B157	Cyber Security Program & Funding	Penticton	197
B158	Rainbow Crosswalks	Vancouver	198
B159	Compensation for Damages Resulting from Voltage Variations	Central Kootenay RD	198
B160	Business Retention Heritage Program	Port Moody	199
B161	MLA Attendance at Area Association Conventions	Central Kootenay RD, AKBLG Executive	199

## Section B3-a

### Health

B162	Compulsory Labelling of Genetically Modified and Genetically Engineered Foods	Maple Ridge	202
------	---	-------------	-----

### Selected Issues

B163	Continuation of Income Subsidy Benefits	Cumberland	202
------	---	------------	-----

## Section B3-b

### Community Safety

B164	Gender-based Violence Strategy for Youth	Victoria	204
B165	Safety Regulations for Trampoline Parks	Richmond	204

### Finance

B166	Public Geoscience for Investment and Decisions	Fort St. John	205
------	--	---------------	-----

### Environment

B167	Fresh Water Hazard Markers or Buoys	Fraser Lake	205
------	-------------------------------------	-------------	-----

### Health

B168	Cannabis Advertising	Langley Township	206
B169	Medicines for Life-threatening Conditions	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	206
B170	Public Reporting of Opioid Prescription Rates	Delta	207

### Selected Issues

B171	Ending Discrimination in Tenancies	Maple Ridge	207
------	------------------------------------	-------------	-----

## Section C2

C1	Road Rescue Funding	Bulkley-Nechako RD	210
C2	Elimination of Transportation Service in Northern BC	McBride	210
C3	Modernizing the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>	Victoria	210
C4	Active Transportation Infrastructure	Courtenay	211
C5	Cycling Infrastructure Funding	Sunshine Coast RD	211
C6	Transportation Equity	Vernon	211
C7	Active Transportation Corridors & Greenway Plans – Highway Projects	Columbia Shuswap RD	212

C8	Incorporation of Active Transportation Corridors in all Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Current & Future Highways Projects	Chase	212
C9	Communities on the Move	Kent	213
C10	Implementation of the Cannabis Act	Pemberton	213
C11	Speculation Tax & Local Government Consultation	East Kootenay RD	213
C12	Real Estate Speculation Tax	LMLGA Executive	214
C13	Impact on Municipalities From New Housing Speculation Tax	Capital RD	214
C14	Speculation Tax	Nanaimo RD	215
C15	Proposed Employer Health Tax	Fort St. John	215
C16	Payroll Tax	Vernon	215
C17	New Employer Health Tax	AVICC Executive	216
C18	Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing	Tahsis	216
C19	Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing	Nelson	216
C20	Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing with Local Governments	Terrace	217
C21	2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada	Squamish-Lillooet RD	217
C22	Local Improvement Charges	Powell River	218
C23	A Call to Energy Efficiency - Pushing for the Province's Blessing to Help Homeowners Retrofit for the Future	Port Moody	218
C24	Legalization of Cannabis – Protecting Agricultural Land for Food Production	Delta	218
C25	Community Forest Expansions	Mackenzie	219
C26	Expanding the Definition of Utility to Include Telecommunications	Squamish-Lillooet RD	219
C27	Telco Company Legislation	Squamish	220
C28	<i>Local Government Act</i> Modernization	Cowichan Valley RD	220
C29	Proposed British Columbia Speculation Tax	Langford	220
C30	MLA Attendance at Area Association Meetings	NCLGA Executive	221

# Sponsor Index of Resolutions

Alberni-Clayoquot RD	B46	Lillooet	B14, B48, B112
AKBLG Executive	B161	Lions Bay	B103
AVICC Executive	C17	LMLGA Executive	A1, B17, B32, B52, B101 B119, B125, C12
Bulkley-Nechako RD	B6, B13, B43, C1	Lumby	B95, B141
Burnaby	B19, B105, B156	Mackenzie	B92, C25
Burns Lake	B24, B107	Maple Ridge	B51, B58, B143, B162, B171
Campbell River	B73	McBride	B25, C2
Capital RD	B136, C13	Nanaimo RD	B2, C14
Cariboo RD	B61, B106, B109, B144	Nelson	A4, B79, B132, C19
Castlegar	B77	New Hazelton	B69
Central Coast RD	B150	New Westminster	B8, B54, B102, B145, B151
Central Kootenay RD	B16, B34, B42, B159, B161	NCLGA Executive	B28, B53, B62, B64, B75, B99
Central Saanich	B1, B71	North Okanagan RD	B26, B39, B139
Chase	C8	North Saanich	B121, B135
Chetwynd	B123, B140	North Vancouver District	B15
Columbia Shuswap RD	B27, B35, B44, B85, C7	Northern Rockies RM	B137
Coquitlam	B148	Oak Bay	A3
Courtenay	B74, B80, C4	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	B63, B127, B169
Cowichan Valley RD	B120, C28	Peace River RD	B88, B116, B123, B124
Cumberland	B155, B163	Pemberton	B72, B108, C10
Delta	B33, B170, C24	Penticton	B157
East Kootenay RD	B117, C11	Pitt Meadows	B84
Elkford	B70	Port Alberni	B122
Fort St. John	B9, B166, C15	Port Clements	B57
Fraser Lake	B152, B167	Port Moody	B113, B130, B160, C23
Fraser-Fort George RD	B5	Powell River	B30, B38, B41, B66, B86, C22
Grand Forks	B60, B89, B91	Prince Rupert	B138
Hudson's Hope	B147	Princeton	B36
Island's Trust	B65	qathet RD	B59
Kamloops	B134	Quesnel	B40, B97, B98, B111
Kent	C9	Richmond	B129, B131, B165
Keremeos	B47	Sooke	B118
Kitimat-Stikine RD	B50, B69	Squamish	B78, B133, C27
Lake Cowichan	B104, B154	Squamish-Lillooet RD	B10, B23, B45 B146, C21, C26
Langford	C29	Stewart	B94
Langley Township	B81, B168		
UBCM 2018 Resolutions Book			89

Sunshine Coast RD	B4, B67, B93, C5	Vancouver	B31, B37, B82, B115, B126 B142, B149, B158
Tahsis	C18	Vanderhoof	B49, B55, B56
Telkwa	B110	Vernon	B12, B87, B90, C6, C16
Thompson-Nicola RD	B7, B11, B20, B22, B68	Victoria	A2, B3, B29, B66, B128, B164, C3
Terrace	B76, B83, C20	West Kelowna	B21
UBCM Executive	ER1, SR1, SR2	West Vancouver	B114
Valemount	B5	Whistler	B18, B153
		Williams Lake	B96, B100

## 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

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### ER1      **Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws Regarding ‘Off the Floor’ Resolutions**

**UBCM Executive**

Whereas s.14(c) of the UBCM Bylaws provides for any delegate to put forward any motion which if duly seconded and receives a three-fifths majority of delegates support, will be admitted to the floor;

And whereas delegates have expressed concern that endorsement of such a motion can result in varying the conference agenda to provide for immediate consideration of the “off the floor” resolution, thereby disrupting the order of resolutions consideration:

Therefore be it resolved that s. 14(c) of the UBCM Bylaws be amended as follows (bold text) to provide for consideration of “off the floor” resolutions on the Friday morning of Convention, immediately after consideration of the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline:

#### 14. SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT CONVENTIONS:

(c) It shall be competent for any delegate at an Annual Convention, or at a Special Convention if a majority of the members are represented, to 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 it shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put. At the discretion of the Chair any such motion shall be submitted in writing and copies may be required to be provided to all delegates present before consideration thereof. **If such a motion is in regards to a new resolution introduced “off the floor”, defined as a resolution not printed in the Resolutions Book or Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, consideration shall take place on the Friday of Convention immediately following consideration of the Resolutions Committee Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.**

And be it further resolved that the proposed amendments take effect for the 2019 UBCM Convention.

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*      **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee has heard from members that it is unfair that a member, at any time during a resolutions session, can bring forward a motion to vary the agenda and allow consideration of an off floor resolution, if 60 per cent support is received and that that resolution is considered immediately.*

*While the Committee is not wanting to remove the ability of the member to bring forward these “off the floor” resolutions, it is wanting to move the consideration and debate of these resolutions at a designated time on Friday morning following the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.*

*The wording of the proposed bylaw amendment is designed to clearly make the distinction between a motion off the floor and a resolution off the floor. As noted the motion is to vary the agenda to allow consideration of a matter. However, the intent of the bylaw amendment is to allow consideration of the resolution, if the motion to vary the agenda is approved, and to set the time for debate of the resolution. This ensures that debate will occur at a time when all other resolutions that have been duly submitted by the deadline, or deemed “emergency” under the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, have been considered by the membership.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.

**SR1** – will address cannabis tax revenue sharing and be published in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline. See also resolutions C10, C18, C19 and C20.

**SR2** – will address the loss of Greyhound bus service and be published in the Report on Resolution Received After the Deadline. See also resolution C2.

## **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

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### Taxation

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#### A1 Employer Health Tax Impact on Local Governments

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the proposed new Employer Health Tax to fund medical services for British Columbians will require organizations with a payroll greater than \$1.5 million—including many local governments—to pay the highest tax rate at 1.95 per cent of their total payroll;

And whereas for many local governments, the amount of remittance required under an Employer Health Tax rate of 1.95 per cent of total payroll will be double the amount of the premiums that the local government as an employer paid previously for MSP;

And whereas the provincial government has provided selected tax breaks to the private sector, effectively offsetting the additional costs of the new Employer Health Tax:

Therefore be it resolved that, in the absence of tax breaks that have been provided to the private sector, the provincial government design the transition to the Employer Health Tax to be cost-neutral for local governments.

*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 resolutions requesting that the provincial government ensure the Employer Health Tax is cost-neutral for local governments.*

*Earlier this year, UBCM surveyed local government financial officers to assess the impact of the employer health tax (EHT) on local government. The report was released on May 4th.*

*See also resolutions C15, C16 and C17.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### Environment

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#### A2 Protecting Local Waterways & Wild Fish Species

Victoria

Whereas British Columbia's coastal communities rely on healthy waterways and healthy marine ecosystems including fisheries for economic, social and ecological wellbeing and where the proliferation of open-net fish farms with non-native fish species threatens local waterways and wild fish species, undermining the economic, social and ecological wellbeing of local communities;

And whereas many open-net fish farms have been established in Indigenous territories in the absence of adequate consultation with Indigenous governments, undermining the shared objective of reconciliation and respectful relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia consult First Nations governments, local governments, conservation organizations and industry on a transition plan to closed-containment aquaculture, including a just transition for affected workers.

*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 endorsed resolution 2009-B127, which asked the Province and federal government to establish a closed system aquaculture innovation fund, and that a plan be implemented to transition open net-cage salmon farms to closed containment system aquaculture.*

*In its response to 2009-B127, the Province noted that its position toward closed containment was “consistent with the recommendation of the Pacific Salmon Forum, which called for a detailed assessment of containment technology prior to any substantive investment of public funds in commercial trials. It is reasonable to take these initial steps to ensure government, as well as industry, focus investments strategically and provide the best possible chance of developing viable and sustainable systems, including the development of a closed system aquaculture innovation fund.” The Province also noted that funding had been provided to undertake comprehensive technical reviews of closed containment technology.*

*The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2006-B123, which sought federal funding to thoroughly research the environmental and economic benefits of closed containment fish farming.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Selected Issues**

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### **A3      Modify Speculation Tax: Local Government Vacancy Levy**

**Oak Bay**

Whereas vacant residential properties are not in the best interests of BC communities;

And whereas local governments are best placed to determine the nature and extent of the adverse impacts of vacant residential properties and to administer exemptions based on local needs;

And whereas a levy administered and retained by local government on vacant residential properties can be a way to encourage the availability of more rental accommodations;

And whereas revenues from such a levy on vacant residential properties would assist a local government directly or through regional pooling to create and encourage non-market housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to modify the approach in the current proposed Speculation Tax to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties and to require local governments that choose to impose such a levy to invest the revenues in non-market housing.

*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 resolution 2017-B91, which requests the authority for local governments across BC to introduce a surtax on vacant and derelict residential properties to address affordability and safety.*

*The Committee also notes that local choice is a foundational tenet of general policy adopted by UBCM members.*

*In addition, membership has endorsed resolution 2017-A2, which supports the introduction of measures to discourage speculation, rapid-resale of properties, commodity investment and other market distortions that contribute towards housing price escalation.*

*See also resolutions C11, C12, C13, C14 and C29.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **A4      Short-Term Vacation Rental Listing Platforms' Responsibility in Compliance**

**Nelson**

Whereas the Province announced in February 2018 that it struck an agreement with Airbnb whereby the latter will collect both provincial sales tax (PST) and the municipal and regional district tax (MRDT) on short-term guest stays in British Columbia and in April 2018, a second agreement was announced between Airbnb and the City of Vancouver whereby Airbnb will not accept listings in that city that do not hold a business license;

And whereas most local governments are achieving only minimal compliance with their short-term rental regulations, particularly when compared to the compliance of conventional accommodators, and those local governments that do have high compliance must charge exceptionally high license fees in order to cover compliance-check costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province negotiate a province-wide agreement with Airbnb and other regionally-active short-term rental platforms to assist local governments with compliance checks, whereby the short-term rental platforms agree to require their hosts to provide proof of a valid business license in order to advertise using their service.

*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 considered a resolution requesting the Province to enter into a province-wide agreement with Airbnb and other short-term rental platforms to require hosts to provide proof of a valid municipal business license.*

*However, UBCM's housing strategy included a recommendation that the Province should investigate, in consultation with local governments, options for regulating short-term rentals with the goals of:*

- enforceability,*
- retaining local government choice, and*
- providing local governments with more clarity, and regulatory power where needed*

*UBCM's housing strategy also put forward the model recommended in this resolution ('platform accountability') as one option for the Province to consider, because it places the onus on short-term rental platforms such as Airbnb for enforcement, alleviating the burden on local governments.*

*Membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B20, requesting that the Province amend legislation so that all residential properties used for short-term overnight accommodation be eligible to be split-classified to enable property taxation that reflects the dual residential and commercial use of properties used for short-term rental.*

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 – B58

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

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## Legislative

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### B1 Review Requirements for Public Notification

Central Saanich

Whereas the primary purpose for provincial legislation requiring public notification should be to help municipalities notify residents based on what the metrics demonstrates and based on getting the best value for limited money;

And whereas printed newspapers are no longer the only or most effective means of giving public notice and yet the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* specifically require that all public notices be published in a print newspaper;

And whereas with a new provincial government and new technologies this resolution is aimed at better notifying residents while ensuring money spent on notification is effective:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to review the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* and consider modernizing the language so that newspapers, social media, web sites and other forms of online advertising are all given an equal footing for local governments to consider how to best inform their residents.

*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 endorsed resolution 2017-B1 which requested the Province 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.*

*Prior to 2017, UBCM members endorsed resolution 2016-B1 which requested that the Province amend the Local Government Act and Community Charter to replace the mandatory requirement to advertise in newspapers with the requirement for local governments to adopt a public notice policy based on local criteria that would enable local governments to choose their own manner of providing public notice tailored to best serve their communities.*

*As well resolution 2015-B88 was endorsed which requested that the Province amend the Local Government Act and the Community Charter to allow statutorily required public notices to be published using a variety of media channels, including but not limited to: newspapers, social media, web sites and online advertising, as long as reasonably equivalent or better reach than that of solely using printed newspapers can be demonstrated.*

*In response to the 2015 resolution, the provincial government referenced section 94(7) of the Community Charter, which “provides the option for a local government to broaden the types of media used to publish a notice—that is, a local government must still publish the notice in a newspaper, but may in addition, publish the notice in another way... .” The Province also noted that Community Charter section 94(4) provides that in communities without a local newspaper, “a community could set alternative means to satisfy the statutory requirement to publish a notice.”*

*Conference decision:* \_\_\_\_\_

### B2 Notice by Mail

Nanaimo RD

Whereas Section 220 of the *Local Government Act* requires that notice of a special board meeting must be mailed to each director at least 5 days before the date of the meeting, and the *Interpretation Act* specifies that such mail must be delivered by Canada Post;

And whereas this requirement, which applies to regional districts and not municipalities, creates unnecessary time delays for holding special board meetings and is not in keeping with technological advances of recent years:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be urged to amend the legislation to permit such notices to be provided by other means, including electronic mediums.

*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 endorsed resolution 2013-B1 which requested that the provincial government enact legislation that allows local governments to electronically mail statutorily prescribed notices and other communications and documents.*

*In its response, the Province advised that while it has made amendments to permit the electronic delivery of property tax notices, "expanding electronic delivery of statutorily prescribed notices would require further consideration and consultation by government."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B3 Review of Board of Variance Process**

**Victoria**

Whereas the *Local Government Act* requires local governments to appoint boards of variance that are empowered to consider minor variances where a person alleges that complying with a bylaw respecting the siting, size or dimensions of a building would cause them hardship;

And whereas deliberations of local boards of variance provide minimal opportunities for public comment on the requested variances, and provide no role for comment from the elected council of a municipality or the board of a regional district in unincorporated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government review the current provisions in the *Local Government Act* relating to boards of variance and consider amendments to ensure that the interests of public accountability, transparency, and local democracy are upheld.

*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 referred resolution 2017-B80 to the UBCM Executive. Resolution 2017-B80 called for elimination of boards of variance. Upon consideration of the resolution, the Executive did not endorse the resolution, based on existing UBCM policy regarding boards of variance.*

*Members 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.*

*The Committee would note that members have endorsed a number of resolutions relating to boards of variance including appeal of decisions and limits to their authority (2000-B38, 1996-A14, 1996-B59). Members 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.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B4 Modernization of Local Government Act**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

Whereas a review of the *Local Government Act* was intended to be undertaken after the *Community Charter* came in to force in 2004;

And whereas, while a review of election financing rules and a statute revision that updates style and language have taken place, a comprehensive review of the *Local Government Act* has not been done:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to initiate a comprehensive review of the *Local Government Act* to ensure it meets modern needs and addresses the issue of equity between municipalities and regional districts (e.g. scope of regulatory authority, requirements for service establishment, etc.).

*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 a similar resolution 2015-B1, which asked that UBCM strongly encourage the Province to act upon its commitment to modernize and harmonize the legislation governing regional districts.*

*Prior to 2015 members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking to clarify the authorities assigned to, and improve the relationship between, regional districts and municipalities (2014-B68, 2007-A4, 2007-LR9, 2006-B47). The Committee understands that the Province amended the Local Government Act in 2012 and in 2014, with the underlying goal of improvements to regional district governance.*

*See also resolution C28.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Community Safety

### B5 Provincial Funding Highway Rescue

**Valemount,  
Fraser-Fort George RD**

Whereas highway rescue services should be consistent throughout the Province of British Columbia, available on all provincial highways and funded in full by the provincial government;

And whereas highway rescue services are available on some highways, but:

1. Funded through local taxation if the incident location is within the local rescue service area boundary; and
2. Funded in part by Emergency Management BC if the incident location is outside of the local rescue service area boundary;

And whereas the Province is responsible for maintaining all provincial highways in the Province of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government assume the responsibility of ensuring that highway rescue services are provided in a consistent manner on all provincial highways and are fully funded by the Province.

*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 endorsed a resolution that specifically requests the Province fully fund and provide highway road rescue services in a “consistent manner.”*

*However, the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide funding for road rescue and vehicle extrication (2015-B17, 2014-B15, 2013-B8, 2011-B4, 2010-B6, 2009-B28, 2009-B69, 2009-B88, 2007-B10). Resolution 2015-B17 requested that the Province fund road rescue services throughout British Columbia. In response, the provincial government noted support, through reimbursed response rates, that is provided to road rescue responders who provide services outside their jurisdiction, as well as provisions in the Emergency Program Act that provide WorkSafeBC coverage and exemption from civil liability for road rescue organizations.*

*Additionally, resolution 2017-B83 was referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration. The resolution requests amendments to provincial legislation to allow for more timely removal of damaged vehicles on provincial highways, bridges and tunnels.*

*See also resolution C1.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_



**B6 Search and Rescue Funding****Bulkley-Nechako RD**

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

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

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

*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 seeking consistent, adequate and predictable funding for search and rescue services (2015-B2, 2013- B5, 2009-B11, 2009-B69, 2008-B10, 2006-B17). Endorsed resolution 2015-B2 sought a provincial search and rescue fund to be implemented as soon as possible.*

*In response, Emergency Management BC noted that in 2016 the Province provided \$10 million to help the BC Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA) with training, administrative support and equipment renewals. The Province was also working with the BCSARA to research alternate search and rescue service funding models.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B7 Potential Hazard Identification for Emergency Response  
Personnel – Medical Cannabis Production in Residential Properties****Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas Health Canada requires a person to register under the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation to allow for the production of cannabis for their own medical purposes within residential properties;

And whereas the residential property and the production operation may not be compliant with electrical, fire, health, safety and/or building regulations creating a potential risk to personnel responding to an emergency call from that location;

And whereas due to federal privacy legislation, Health Canada does not have a process in place to notify a local government when an application has been approved for the production of cannabis for medical purposes in a residential location:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that Health Canada notify each local government where applications have been approved to allow local governments to protect the safety of emergency response personnel by identifying the location and potential hazards and risks associated with medical cannabis growth within their jurisdictions.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions that request that local governments be notified regarding the location of federally approved personal medical cannabis production operations (2014-B7, 2013-B9, 2012-B111).*

*Resolution 2014-B7 called on Health Canada to provide the addresses of all licensed grow operations (licensed under the Marihuana Medical Access Regulations (MMAR)) to allow for local safety inspections. In response, Health Canada noted that it would remain in charge of compliance and monitoring, and would respond to any local government requests for information on home production sites. Due to the recent repeal of the MMAR, Health*

*Canada no longer held the authority to conduct inspections under the MMAR, and most individuals were no longer permitted to grow their own medical cannabis.*

*Since that time, the Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (MMPR), which replaced the MMAR and disallowed personal production, were also repealed, in favour of the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation (AMPR), which once again permit limited personal production of medical cannabis. With the legalization of non-medical cannabis taking priority with federal and provincial orders of government, there is currently no scheduled review of Canada's laws pertaining to medical cannabis, and in particular personal production regulations.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B8 Alert Ready Emergency Alert System**

**New Westminster**

Whereas the emergency Alert Ready system used in the province of British Columbia provides warnings related to major disasters of a potential life threatening nature such as Tsunamis and Earthquakes;

And whereas local governments would benefit greatly if this system could provide rapid local access for major local emergencies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM works with the Province of British Columbia to provide access to the Alert Ready (emergency alert) system to local governments in order to allow them to broadcast critical and potentially life threatening alerts to residents of their respective communities using the framework of the Alert Ready System.

*Not presented to 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 that requests the Province provide local governments access to the Alert Ready Emergency Alert System.*

*However, UBCM members did endorse resolution 2013-A3, which requested that UBCM and FCM urge provincial and federal governments to establish a new emergency and hazard mass notification system, as well as a federal/provincial/local government funded program to help local governments establish their own emergency and hazard mass notification systems. In response, the Province hinted that the federal government, in partnership with provinces and territories, was working on the development of a national public alert system.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B9 Funding for Restorative Justice Programs in British Columbia**

**Fort St. John**

Whereas restorative justice is an alternative to the formal court process for certain criminal offences that enhances victim satisfaction while also encouraging offenders to take responsibility for their actions and provide direct restitution to repair the harm they have caused;

And whereas the success rates of restorative justice processes are higher than that of traditional criminal justice that result in significant cost savings while providing a valuable service to the Province of British Columbia but receive minimal, ongoing funding from the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to implement a stable, long-term funding source for Restorative Justice Programs.

*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 requesting that the provincial government provide a sustainable funding source for restorative justice programs (2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2010-B2, 2009-B7, 2008-B4, 2007-B3).*

*In response to endorsed resolution 2016-B8, requesting funding for restorative justice programs equivalent to what is provided to victims assistance programs, the provincial government made note of the full range of restorative justice programs it provides, as well as funding it has made available through the Community Accountability Program and Civil Forfeiture and Crime Reduction Fund.*

*UBCM continues to monitor provincial developments related to restorative justice funding. In the past, the Province and federal government have encouraged local governments to establish restorative justice programs; some would prefer to retain more local autonomy over their restorative justice programs while many have placed a higher priority on receiving sustainable federal and provincial funding.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B10 Collaborative Public Awareness Campaign for the FireSmart Program**

**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas the FireSmart program is a valued initiative that helps British Columbia residents understand how wildfires can threaten structures, properties and communities and provides information on reducing wildfire hazards on private properties;

And whereas the Provincial Government could further build upon the success of the FireSmart program by developing a broad-based public awareness campaign that draws on the interests of various organizations to build community support:

Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Government collaborate with private and public organizations (such as local governments, insurance companies, broadcasters, first responders, etc.) to develop and implement an innovative, all-platform public awareness campaign that:

- encourages a shift in attitude towards accepting personal responsibility in reducing wildfire hazards on their own properties; and
- provides clear information about the FireSmart program, including the preventative steps residents are encouraged to consider carrying out on their own properties.

*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 previously endorsed resolution 2010- B59 calling for the Province to initiate FireSmart Canada Community program.*

*The Committee would note that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development recently formed a BC FireSmart Committee with representation from seven agencies, including UBCM, to advance strategies of public education and engagement in wildfire resiliency planning and practices.*

*It is also notable that the recommendations of the 2017 Flood and Wildfire Review includes a call for increased partnerships and participation in FireSmart education, and greater communication and awareness of the personal responsibilities associated with living in fire-dependent ecosystems (recommendation #46).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Transportation

**B11 Highway and Road Line Painting**

**Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas highway markings are necessary for the safety of pedestrians, drivers and their passengers by indicating obstacles and crossings, to help keep traffic on the correct side of the road and to convey important passing lane and other navigational information and that the paints now being used wears off so quickly that the lines have vanished within a few months after application:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to increase the safety of pedestrians and drivers/passengers using our highways and roads by ensuring that a more durable paint be used or that a second coat of paint be applied each year.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed 2017-B11, which asked the Province to change the guidelines to increase the frequency and visibility of shoulder and centre line painting on all provincial roads.*

*As well, members endorsed B10 in 2016 that asked the Province to improve the durability and reflectivity standards of road marking paint so it will endure effectively through the entire winter driving season to improve road safety, particularly for BC's northern and interior drivers and passengers; and that the Province accelerate the annual road and highway marking repainting program, with improved durable and reflective paint to make BC's roads and highways safer sooner.*

*Prior to the 2016 resolution, members also endorsed 2014-B53, which called on the Province to review the effectiveness of the products used for line markings on highways.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B12 Commitment to Road Safety**

**Vernon**

Whereas the design and rules of the road should ensure that all British Columbians can arrive at their destination safely and recognizing that traffic fatalities and serious injuries are preventable;

And whereas the Province of BC has the goal of having the safest roads in North America by 2020:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and those in wheelchairs and mobility devices as outlined in the Communities on the Move Declaration.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

***Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and those in wheelchairs and mobility devices. as outlined in the Communities on the Move Declaration.***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions on improving road safety (2017-B90, 2016-B10, 2015-B10, 2015-B12, 2012-B63, 2009-B64, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B102), including those focused on vulnerable road users (2015-B103, 2013-B91), and calling for continued funding for road safety (2007-B80).*

*The Committee would however recommend removal of the reference to the Communities on the Move Declaration in the enactment clause as the full scope of the declaration is not known and the Committee would prefer to recommend endorsing those actions specifically identified.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B13 CN Rail Emergency Response Capacity**

**Bulkley-Nechako RD**

Whereas the amount and frequency of dangerous goods being transported by CN Rail through all areas of the province is increasing;

And whereas the capacity to respond to a dangerous goods incident in many populated areas of the province is not adequate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of BC to initiate a process with CN Rail to develop a dangerous goods incident emergency response strategy in close consultation with the Province of BC and local governments to ensure adequate response capacity in all areas of the Province.

*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 endorsed similar resolutions requesting the development of a dangerous goods incident emergency response strategy to ensure there is adequate response capacity in all areas of the province.*

*The Committee notes that members endorsed 2015-B13 which asked the “federal government to develop a comprehensive national strategy for the rail transportation of dangerous and hazardous goods with all relevant parties; additional funding for first responders; and a reporting structure to allow first responders and key municipal officials with information about dangerous and hazardous goods moving through their community.” As well in 2014-B55 requested the “federal government to legislate rail carriers to carry out the Transportation Safety Board's recommendations and provide local governments with:*

- timely information regarding the frequency of Class III tank cars travelling through communities carrying hazardous materials;*
- emergency response plans, including estimated response times from emergency response bases to communities; and*
- personnel and stockpiles of emergency equipment situated as to ensure adequate and timely responses to railcar emergencies.”*

*Prior to that members endorsed resolution 2006-LR2 which asked that “UBCM and FCM petition the federal and provincial governments to recognize local governments within environmental emergency response protocols as active participants, where there is meaningful consultation with local governments and compensation for any local resources utilized during the response and restoration period.”*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B14 Passenger Rail Service from North Vancouver to Prince George**

**Lillooet**

Whereas the loss of BC Rail service in 2002 was economically devastating to many communities in the BC Interior and the current reduction of Greyhound Bus service further reduces transportation options to these communities;

And whereas remaining transportation options, such as personal vehicles and airlines are unaffordable for many of the most vulnerable members of these communities;

And whereas Council for the District of Lillooet believes that public rail transportation will improve public safety, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance economic development opportunities throughout the former BC Rail corridor:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be encouraged to work in partnership with VIA Rail to fund and conduct a feasibility study for VIA Rail passenger rail service between North Vancouver and Prince George, BC.

*Not presented to 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 asked for the Province and VIA Rail to work together on a feasibility study for passenger rail service between North Vancouver and Prince George.*

*However, members did endorse a similar resolution 2016-B117, which asked the Province to consider reinstituting passenger rail service between North Vancouver and Prince George.*

*Prior to the 2016 resolution, members also endorsed 2003-B62 which in part asked the Province “to formulate a long-term rail transportation strategy that includes the reintroduction of passenger service” in response to the loss of BC Rail service in 2002.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B15 Active Transportation Strategy**

## **North Vancouver District**

Whereas to respond to the complex and evolving needs of British Columbians and diversify the economy, local government across BC have developed forward-thinking: transportation plans, the development of community centres, age-friendly community plans, and Integrated Community Sustainability Plans.

And whereas a provincial active transportation strategy - fully supported by dedicated staff and increased investments in provincial funding for municipal/regional active transportation projects - would accelerate implementation of existing community plans, and enhance the liveability and competitiveness of BC communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish a provincial active transportation strategy, with dedicated staff and increased investments in local active transportation.

*Not presented to 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 specifically asked for a provincial active transportation strategy, with dedicated staff and increased investments in local active transportation. However, the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that address specific elements included within a provincial active transportation strategy related to funding for bike lanes, construction of new bike lanes, investment in cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2013-B99, 2012-B63, 2010-B16, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B140)*

*Members have also endorsed resolution 2016-B57, requesting that regional governments have the option of participating in the planning and development of regional walking and cycling networks and infrastructure within Ministry road rights-of-way. Resolution 2013-B66 was endorsed requesting that permit conditions for construction and maintenance do not create a deterrent to local governments wishing to expand active transportation networks.*

*The Committee notes that there are a number of resolutions submitted this year related to active transportation, some specifically referencing the Communities on the Move report. The Committee notes that all of these resolutions have been placed in category C recognizing that their specific asks related to active transportation could be captured within the broad scope of this resolution.*

*See also resolutions C4, C5, C6, C7, C8 and C9.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B16 Transportation of Patients in Rural Areas**

## **Central Kootenay RD**

Whereas medical services in southern rural British Columbia have been regionalized, requiring travel times of 3 to 9 hours for patients seeking scheduled critical care or specialist attention or requiring transport home after being transported to the hospital by BC Ambulance;

And whereas weather conditions, lack of air service and the cancellation or reduction of regular Greyhound Bus Service has made travel impossible for those residents without private transportation and support networks, causing a reduction to the economic and social development of rural areas in southern rural BC:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure work with BC Transit, local hospital boards, citizen and local government transit committee and private business to find solutions for transportation of critically ill patients awaiting surgery.

*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 has previously endorsed resolution 2014- B9 and resolution 2012-B38 which asked the provincial government to provide appropriate transportation for residents traveling from rural and remote areas to urban centers for medical care.*

*In response to resolution 2014-B9, the Province referenced their Health Connections program, which offers low-cost ground transport; the BC Family Residence Program, which can include enhanced travel assistance; and the Travel Assistance Program. The Province also noted that Hope Air provides air transportation for patients who cannot afford to fly; that some federal programs may cover some travel fees for their clients; and that some private plans may assist with the cost of patient transportation.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Taxation**

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### **B17 Elimination of the One Third Tax Free Federal Allotment**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas proposed measures announced during the 2017 Federal Budget would, beginning in 2019, remove the tax exemption for the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowance paid to members of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies and to certain municipal office holders, including mayors and councillors;

And whereas no consultation with elected officials was conducted prior to the announcement and the impact of this change is that the full amount of remuneration will now be subject to income taxes at both the provincial and federal level of government and may be considered a disincentive to the holding of public office;

And whereas current remuneration levels for elected officials reflect existing income tax provisions, changes to those provisions are likely to result in changes to remuneration, transferring the cost of this change to property tax payers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the federal government to reverse this direction and keep the current 1/3 non-accountable expense allowance.

*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 previously endorsed resolution 2017- B94, which urged the federal government to abandon its proposal to tax the 1/3 non-accountable expense allowances of provincial and territorial legislative assemblies and to certain municipal office-holders.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Finance**

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### **B18 Collection of Unpaid Bylaw Fines**

**Whistler**

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

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

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

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

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

*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 endorsed 2007-B81 urging the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC to approve the collection of bylaw fines in the same manner as fines imposed by violation tickets under provincial statutes.*

*Prior to that UBCM members also endorsed resolutions requesting that unpaid bylaw vehicle-related offences be collected by ICBC and that local government be given the authority to add unpaid fines for property-related offences to the property tax roll (2003-A3, 2000-B17, 1998-B38, 1995-B76, 1994-B12, 1993-B43, 1989-B42). The need for a better collection system for bylaw fines has been identified as an ongoing concern by local government.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B19 Enhanced Municipal Bylaw Fine Collection Procedures**

**Burnaby**

Whereas the current mechanisms for collecting municipal fines, though improved, still do not provide adequate provision for the collection of unpaid fines;

And whereas existing effective collection mechanisms for unpaid property taxes, and current permitted 'special fees' are in place;

And whereas the available fine collection mechanisms available are time consuming, costly and onerous for local governments to undertake.

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the legislation to allow the addition of unpaid municipal fines related to a specific property to the permitted 'special fees [... that...] may be collected as property taxes', including through eventual tax sale property auction;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to streamline the current court online filing system for municipal fines, and investigate other efficiencies and mechanisms for collection, including any necessary corresponding legislative changes.

*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 endorsed 2007-B81 urging the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC to approve the collection of bylaw fines in the same manner as fines imposed by violation tickets under provincial statutes.*

*Prior to that UBCM members also endorsed resolutions requesting that unpaid bylaw vehicle-related offences be collected by ICBC and that local government be given the authority to add unpaid fines for property-related offences to the property tax roll (2003-A3, 2000-B17, 1998-B38, 1995-B76, 1994-B12, 1993-B43, 1989-B42). The need for a better collection system for bylaw fines has been identified as an ongoing concern by local government.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B20 Provincial Funding for Volunteer Fire Departments**

**Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas volunteer fire departments provide emergency firefighting response services to communities throughout British Columbia while struggling to meet the increasing costs driven by expanded regulations and compliance requirements, increasing demand for services and changes in the legal environment;



And whereas the Province of BC does not contribute directly to the delivery of fire services by local volunteer fire departments making service delivery very challenging for small fire departments and communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia set up a program to provide ongoing funding to all volunteer fire departments to assist in the annual operating costs associated with purchase and maintenance of capital infrastructure and equipment, training, and administration of the fire service.

*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 endorsed a resolution requesting the Province establish a program to provide ongoing funding to volunteer fire departments.*

*UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions that seek sources of funding for first responder equipment and services (2017-B61, 2015-B3, 2014-B15, 2012-B10, 2010-B6, 2009-B63).*

*Endorsed resolution 2017-B61 requested the provincial government establish grants for emergency vehicles and equipment, and make them available to local governments at a cost share of no less than 50-50. In response, the provincial government discussed current funding opportunities available to local governments, as well as the newly created Community Emergency Preparedness Fund.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B21 Parkland DCC Reserve Expenditure Expansion**

**West Kelowna**

Whereas the *Local Government Act* legislates the manner in which local governments may collect, hold and use development cost charges (DCCs) for the capital costs of parkland;

And whereas the *Local Government Act* permits the use of DCC money for landscaping on parkland, allowing for the construction of playing fields including such items as levelling ground, planting grass and other plant material, the legislation does not contemplate different forms of playing field surfaces such as manufactured surfaces and artificial turf which promotes water conservation, is environmentally friendly, and requires less maintenance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to broaden the allowable uses of development cost charge reserve funds to include alternate recreation and field surfaces.

*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 endorsed resolution 2010-B23 which called on the provincial government to amend Section 935.3(b)(ii) of the Local Government Act (now Part 14-Division 19) to include synthetic turf fields. The UBCM membership also endorsed 2016-SR1 whereby it was resolved that UBCM continue to work collaboratively through the Province's Development Finance Review Committee to seek changes to the existing development finance system that will address the present challenges facing local governments*

*In response to 2010-B23, the provincial government identified that development cost charges (DCCs) are based on the principle of 'user pay' – the cost of the infrastructure should be paid by those who utilize and benefit from it. The Province stated that upgrading these facilities beyond basic improvements provides a benefit to the wider community, and should be shared by all property owners. In response to 2016-SR1, it was stated that the Province will continue to work collaboratively on issues of development finance with local governments and the broader development community.*

*The UBCM Resolutions Committee notes that there are new and emerging challenges in providing services needed to accommodate development and growth. Alternative and/or innovative ways to address the development-related demands on infrastructure and service requirements should and are now being considered. As an example, water conservation infrastructure has recently been considered as a DCC capital expense in lieu of traditional drinking water DCC infrastructure to increase development related demand. Similarly, improvements like artificial turf (and*

lights) can have the same outcome as the creation of an additional park by increasing the usability (more hours per day and longer season) while having the further benefits of reduced operation, maintenance and water conservation.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B22 Interface Wildfire Funding**

**Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas rural volunteer fire departments in BC provide safety for their communities and also save the Province millions of dollars through their courageous efforts in fighting wildfires;

And whereas many of these fire departments are self-funded brigades that operate without financial support from any level of government due to an insufficient tax base;

And whereas the flood and fire report *Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in BC* recognizes the need for a strategy to support these fire departments and brigades in the valuable role they play in fighting wildfires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia provide funding to rural and First Nations fire brigades and fire departments for emergency training, equipment and response capacity with respect to urban interface wildfires.

*Not presented to 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 endorsed a resolution specifically requesting the provincial government provide funding to rural and First Nations fire departments to provide training and equipment, and help improve response capacity.*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has recently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding for the purpose of wildfire prevention (2014- A1, 2012-B114, 2008-B59, 2007-B75). Endorsed resolution 2014-A1 requested the Province increased its funding commitment towards the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative program. In response, the provincial government noted the funding it had already contributed, as well as other FireSmart initiatives available to communities and residents.*

*In December 2017, former MLA George Abbott and hereditary Chief Maureen Chapman were appointed to undertake a thorough review of the 2017 flood and wildfire season. Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia outlines the findings of the review, and includes 108 recommendations to improve disaster response. Included is a recommendation that "BC provide ongoing funding to volunteer fire departments to assist with wildland urban interface response" (recommendation #35).*

*Additionally, UBCM administers the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative, a suite of funding programs managed through the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Working Group. Since 2004, the initiative has supported communities to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface. This initiative will soon transition to a new Community Resiliency Investment Program, which will be informed by the recommendations of the recent BC Flood and Wildfire Review and other after-action reviews.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B23 Development of Ongoing Provincial Funding Programs for First Nations Reconciliation and Relationship Building Efforts**

**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas current provincial programs offer some financial assistance to advance reconciliation and relationship building efforts, they generally support "one off" events as opposed to more systemic and sustained engagement efforts;

And whereas funding under such provincial programs is far less than the actual cost of convening multi- party collaborative processes, resulting in the contribution of funding by local governments;

And whereas funding under such provincial programs is not stable, on-going funding and results in large amounts of staff time to apply for these programs:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia develop stable, ongoing funding programs with systemic, inclusive, and collaborative approaches to assist with First Nations reconciliation and relationship building efforts.

*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 for the province to develop stable, ongoing funding programs to assist with First Nations reconciliation and relationship building efforts.*

*Membership has however endorsed resolutions to support local government–First Nation dialogue in specific contexts:*

- resolutions calling for inclusion of local governments within Strategic Engagement Agreements between the province and First Nations groups (2012-B32, 2009-B143); and*
- funding for Treaty Advisory Committees (2011-A7).*

*The Committee would also note that since 1999, both the Province and federal governments have provided funding in most years for the Community to Community Forum program administered by UBCM. This program supports the convening of meetings between First Nations and local governments to discuss common goals and opportunities for joint action.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B24 Underfunding of Public Libraries**

**Burns Lake**

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are underfunded to meet the evolving needs of their communities;

And whereas public libraries provide necessary access to knowledge and learning to all members of their communities, including those most marginalized:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia restore funding levels to the pre-2009 rates;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia commit to forming a Task Force to work with Public Library Associations to ensure that funding formulas do not allow urbanization to threaten Public Library Association sustainability.

*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 endorsed resolution 2011-B27 which requested the Province restore funding for BC libraries and reading centres to the levels that were achieved as part of the strategic plan prior to 2009. However, members have not specifically asked for the creation of a Task Force to work with Public Library Associations to ensure that funding formulas do not allow urbanization to threaten Public Library sustainability.*

*The Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to maintain and increase its funding for public libraries (2017-B60, 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 2017-B60 in particular asked the Province to restore funding for libraries “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.”*

*In response to resolution 2017-B60, the provincial government advised, "The Ministry is currently engaged with the library community to deliver its vision and strategic plan: Inspiring Libraries, Connecting Communities (released November 2016). In year one of this three-year plan, we focused on improving access to digital resources and building the capacity of libraries to deliver enhanced public library services and programs.*

*The Ministry recognizes the cost of delivering library services has increased with changing technology and other demands. As such, the public library funding framework is being examined within the context of the vision and strategic plan."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assessment

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### **B25 Brownfield Site Assessment Value**

**McBride**

Whereas local governments, particularly in rural and remote areas, are experiencing a growing number of brownfield sites well situated along their transportation of municipal services corridors which provides zero municipal property tax revenues to municipalities;

And whereas when the brownfield sites require contamination remediation, BC Assessment assess the brownfield sites, usually in the business class with a one dollar value to the land, resulting in zero tax revenues to the municipality;

And whereas these brownfield sites are not carrying their fair share of the tax burden for the community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to amend the *Assessment Act* to provide municipalities with the authorization to assess brownfield site properties in a "separate" class that creates greater motivation by the owners, generally corporate, to mitigate the environmental hazards and redevelop these unsightly properties.

*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 endorsed resolution 2016-B104 which called upon the provincial government to create a new tax class for brownfield sites so that local governments can tax these sites accordingly.*

*The Committee would observe that prior to 2016 other resolutions related to brownfield sites have previously focused on either expediting the remediation of contaminated properties (2013-B33, 2012- B26, 2011-B99, 2008-B33, 2007-B29, 2007-B70, 2001-B76) or fine-tuning the criteria applied by BC Assessment when assessing contaminated properties (2013-B26, 2011-B37, 2005-B21, 1996-ER5).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Environment

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### **B26 Extended Producer Responsibility Program – Drywall (Gypsum)**

**North Okanagan RD**

Whereas the Regional District of North Okanagan has diverted over 1500 tonnes of drywall (gypsum) material per year over the last twelve years;

And whereas recycling companies will no longer accept waste drywall (gypsum) due to Work Safe BC concerns with asbestos content, causing significant operational issues at Recycling and Disposal Facilities;

And whereas the British Columbia Recycling Regulation requires producers to be responsible for end of life of their products:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy amend the British Columbia Recycling Regulation to include drywall (gypsum), under a new schedule called Construction and Demolition Materials.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously considered and endorsed an amendment to the Recycling Regulation to include drywall and gypsum board (2017-B25).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B27 Recycle BC Stewardship Plan Update**

**Columbia Shuswap RD**

Whereas Recycle BC is currently conducting a review of its stewardship program, and appears that the following section from the Recycle BC's March 2018 Packaging and Paper Product Extended Producer Responsibility Plan (Plan) will have serious impacts on many local governments in establishing new curbside collection recycling programs:

### **4.3.2 New Curbside Programs:**

Local governments in communities that did not have PPP curbside collection programs by May 2014, when the program was launched, are eligible to join the Recycle BC program as contractors collectors if the employment a PPP curbside collection program, provided each of the following criteria is met.

Packaging and Paper Product Extended Producer Responsibility Plan:

- A curbside garbage collection program was in place by May 2014;
- The community represents an incorporated municipality; and
- The community has a minimum population of 5,000 residents;

And whereas the impact of the proposed changes to the above section will leave numerous communities and electoral areas within British Columbia ineligible to receive any Recycle BC incentives to administer new curbside collection programs in the future, leaving new curbside collection programs initiated to increase diversion of packaging and printed paper to be funded solely by the taxpayer:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC immediately act to improve legislation in order to hold the stewardship agencies accountable for the total cost associated with the delivery of the depot program and, specifically, the Minister of Environment address the proposed changes in the Plan and acknowledge the tax funded subsidies in the Plan to ensure that all British Columbians have access to Recycle BC services through a fully funded producer responsibility stewardship model.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions calling for a fully funded program with service levels that meets the needs of local government (2012-B28, 2012-B125, 2014-A6).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B28 EPR for Agriculture Plastics**

**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas agriculture plastic is currently disposed of as solid waste in landfills, or by burning and burying on site, resulting in decreased landfill capacity or air and environmental pollution;

And whereas local governments are working to reduce waste to landfills, and producers of agriculture plastic should be responsible for its' disposal:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province establish a regionally based Extended Producer Responsibility Stewardship program for agricultural plastics.

*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 previously endorsed resolutions calling for the inclusion of agricultural plastics into extended producer responsibility programs. Resolutions 2012-B30, 2008-B84, 2007-LR13 all called for agricultural plastics to be included within a product stewardship program.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B29 Uniform Business Regulations for Disposable Plastic Packaging**

**Victoria**

Whereas uniform regulations of businesses provide predictability, certainty and efficiency for consumers and business operators;

And whereas unrestricted use of disposable plastic packaging is inconsistent with values of British Columbia residents and imposes costs on local governments in British Columbia, prompting communities to examine options for business regulations limiting disposable plastic packaging in order to contain costs and manage solid waste streams responsibly:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia work with local governments and retailers to introduce uniform, province-wide business regulations in relation to disposable plastic packaging, to substantially reduce the volume of disposable plastic packaging in local solid waste streams.

*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 provincial regulations to reduce the volume of disposable plastic packaging in waste streams (2008-B31, 2006-B29, 1990-A14, 1987-B69).*

*Resolution 2008-B31 in particular called on the provincial government to develop strategies to reduce unnecessary packaging of all products in British Columbia. In response to the 2008 resolution, the Province pointed out that the Recycling Regulation regulates industry-led product stewardship and “makes producers and consumers responsible for the lifecycle management of end-of-life products.” The Province also indicated that it was consulting with industry and the BC Product Stewardship Council to “collaborate and consider solutions to packaging reduction and recycling.”*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B30 BC Hydro LED Street Light Conversion**

**Powell River**

Whereas high pressure sodium (HPS) streetlights are a major energy burden to municipalities and contribute significantly to green house gas emissions and light pollution;

And whereas BC Hydro owns the majority (approximately 75 per cent) of all municipal streetlights:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to direct BC Hydro to begin an LED streetlight conversion project to programmable LED streetlights in all local governments.

*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 endorsed resolution 2014-B96, which called on the Province to make changes to BC Hydro to switch all BC Hydro owned streetlights to LED lights.*

*In response to this resolution, the Province indicated that BC Hydro was reviewing their street lighting rates; and conducting a pilot of LED technology to better under the potential energy and maintenance savings.*

*According to the BC Hydro website, the one year pilot project began in April 2016 and involved 168 LED streetlights in Richmond. It was noted that BC Hydro was evaluating the project, and that the soonest implementation of LEDs would be early 2018.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B31 Provincial Funding for Energy Retrofits of Buildings**

**Vancouver**

Whereas the BC NDP's Energy and Jobs Plan for BC includes the following priorities:

Retrofitting public buildings: "a serious long-term commitment to energy efficiency in all our public buildings (that) will save money, will reduce overall demand for energy, and create good-paying jobs and apprenticeships in every community in British Columbia";

Retrofitting homes and businesses: "helping families and businesses replace wasteful equipment, seal leaks and install proper insulation...(to) reduce individual Hydro bills, free up our existing generation capacity, and reduce climate changing emissions"; and

Investing in clean energy: "British Columbia has tremendous opportunity to produce renewable energy and export renewable energy technology. By providing investment and leadership, the Province of British Columbia can support our technology sector and foster the good-paying research, engineering and trades jobs of the future.";

And whereas the sooner the Province of British Columbia moves on investing in energy conservation and renewable energy production the better, as both are crucial to meeting not only provincial but also local governments' climate goals;

And whereas Greenhouse Gas (GhG) emissions from inefficient buildings are high, for example 56 percent of all GhG emissions in the City of Vancouver, but the lack of funding for building retrofits is a major barrier for building owners;

And whereas Manitoba Hydro provides a good example of how to fund energy retrofits through its on-bill financing program whereby loans for energy retrofits are provided to building owners with loan payments matching prior energy bills;

And whereas energy retrofit programs such as Manitoba Hydro's energy retrofit program have created many new skilled jobs in rural, First Nations and urban communities, and resulted in lower energy bills which contribute to more affordable housing;

And whereas the provincial government investment and leadership in renewable energy technologies would help create jobs in BC communities and also help ensure that low-carbon and zero-carbon building components and technologies are available so that builders and local governments can meet the building code requirements in the BC Step Energy Code and Vancouver Building bylaw:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to move quickly to retrofit public buildings, including schools, for energy efficiency;

And be it further resolved that the Province implement a program such as the Manitoba Hydro's energy retrofit incentives, rebates, loans program, and other funding mechanisms, to help homeowners and businesses finance energy retrofits on their buildings, including non-profit, co-op and purpose-built rental housing;

And be it further resolved that the Province invest in renewable energy technology development and production that would create jobs throughout BC and help local governments and builders meet building code requirements that are moving towards zero-carbon buildings.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

**Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to move quickly to retrofit public buildings, including schools, for energy efficiency;**

**And be it further resolved that the Province implement a program ~~such as Manitoba Hydro's energy retrofit incentives~~, that includes energy retrofit incentives, rebates, loans program, and other funding mechanisms, to help homeowners and businesses finance energy retrofits on their buildings, including non-profit, co-op and purpose-built rental housing;**

**And be it further resolved that the Province invest in renewable energy technology development and production that would create jobs throughout BC and help local governments and builders meet building code requirements that are moving towards zero-carbon buildings.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not endorsed any resolutions specifically calling for a Manitoba Hydro energy retrofit program.

However, membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings (B64-2014, B28-2014, B25-2012). The membership has also supported calls for investment in renewable energy technology development (B81-2013, B101-2010).

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B32 Energy Efficiency Retrofits**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act* sets aggressive legislated targets for reducing greenhouse gases; under the Act, BC's GHG emissions are to be reduced by at least 80 percent below 2007 levels by 2050;

And whereas reducing energy use in existing homes is an integral part of meeting the GHG reduction target but there are financial barriers for homeowners to participate in energy efficiency retrofit programs;

And whereas, local improvement charges in British Columbia do not include the provision of cost recovery for energy efficiency retrofits on private property:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia enact legislation to allow the cost recovery of locally financed green energy technologies and energy efficiency retrofits on private properties through local improvement charges.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

**Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B23, which called for legislation to allow the cost recovery of local government financed green energies and technologies through improvement changes.

See also resolutions C22 and C23.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B33 Dike Upgrade Strategies to Address Climate Change and Seismic Standards**

**Delta**

Whereas the provincial Flood Hazard Management Land Use Guidelines, which require that dike improvements meet strict seismic standards while also making allowance for future sea-level rise, took effect in January 2018;

And whereas there are properties both on and outside the dike that have historically been used for industrial, commercial and residential purposes;

And whereas dike corridor upgrade strategies will have significant impacts on properties located along dikes;



And whereas a 2012 provincial government study estimated that future dike upgrades in Delta alone would cost more than \$1.2 billion:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to clarify the roles and responsibilities of local governments in relation to dike upgrades and climate change; develop and implement a new comprehensive funding program for major capital works to improve the level of flood protection for the entire Lower Fraser River system; and provide long-term funding to support municipal dike corridor upgrade strategies.

*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 endorsed numerous resolutions calling for provincial funding for flood protection infrastructure (2015-A7, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2011-B79, 2010-B8).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B34 Implementation of *Water Sustainability Act***

### **Central Kootenay RD**

Whereas the Province of BC enacted a *Water Sustainability Act* modernization in 2016 which has provisions for setting Water Objectives and creating Water Sustainability Plans;

And whereas Local Governments, Improvement Districts, Water Use Communities, Community Watersheds and unorganized Water User Groups have an interest in the protection and governance of watersheds and aquifers that provide drinking water, irrigation and fisheries resources and have further interest in enabling sustainable real estate development as the effects of climate change become increasingly more evident:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development work with UBCM and water governance specialists to establish regulations, implement Water Objectives, and designate areas for Water Sustainability Plans, where necessary to ease the tensions arising due to competition between domestic and agricultural water use, source protection, resource extraction and wildfire mitigation.

*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 has endorsed numerous resolutions supporting improved watershed protection and management, and the incorporation of the voice of local governments into water management processes (2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2014-B88).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B35 Change to Class E Regulations to Allow Farm Gate Sales**

### **Columbia Shuswap RD**

Whereas for the benefit of producers and consumers and in the promotion of a prosperous agricultural industry, it is vital for farmers in British Columbia to be able to operate their farms to establish a living income and for citizens of British Columbia to have the ability to purchase heritage meats through farm gate sales;

And whereas current licensing regulations require that rural farmers living within 2 hours of an abattoir must take their livestock to a facility for slaughter, where the existing abattoirs do not have capacity to meet the service demands:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Agriculture be requested to make an immediate change to the Class E licensing requirements to give farmers the ability to slaughter their livestock on farm premises and to offer and promote farm gate sales.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed resolutions supporting farm gate sales and changes to licensing requirements to facilitate more farm gate sales (2016-B39, 2013-B38).*

*The Province recently conducted a survey on Class D and E licenses that allow on-farm slaughter. The report, Class D and E License Consultation: Summary of Survey Responses, was released in June 2018.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B36 BC Conservation Services**

**Princeton**

Whereas the provincial government is responsible for managing conservation service, with underfunding having a negative impact on the ability of the BC Conservation Officer Service to meet the needs of the communities served;

And whereas the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service has not been able to adequately address public safety, focus on natural resource law enforcement, off road vehicle enforcement, illegal dumping, human wildlife conflicts prevention, or respond to wildlife human conflict:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be required to provide adequate funding, offices and staffing to fully support the BC Conservation Officer Service to be more active and proactive in effectively managing conservation services.

*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 asking the provincial government to adequately fund and staff the BC Conservation Office Service (2017-B29, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2012-B21, 2012-B22).*

*The sponsor submitted a similar resolution in 2017, which was endorsed by the membership. Resolution 2017-B29 asked the government to adequately fund and staff the BC Conservation Service to provide public education and partnerships with local communities, deliver awareness training to the RCMP and municipal forces and review their risk assessment models and call centre response criteria.*

*In response to this resolution, the Province advised that they are committed to hiring additional conservation officers.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B37 Restoring Provincial Coordination of Planning and Funding of Flood Management Infrastructure in the Lower Fraser River and South Coast**

**Vancouver**

Whereas along the lower Fraser River and south coast of British Columbia, regional planning and funding of flood management infrastructure has become poorly coordinated and underfunded since the provincial government devolved much of its role in flood protection in the mid-2000s;

And whereas sea level rise, freshet events, and seismic standards will require significant upgrades to flood protection in the city of Vancouver and elsewhere along the lower Fraser River and south coast:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government works with local governments along the lower Fraser River and south coast to restore the provincial government's role in coordinating regional flood protection and the provision of long-term sustainable funding to enable resilient flood management planning and infrastructure efforts.

*Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed similar resolutions calling for provincial funding for flood management, as well as support for an integrated regional approach to flood management (2015-B7, 2013-A2).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B38 Herring Recovery Plan & Moratorium**

**Powell River**

Whereas Fisheries and Oceans Canada, despite being mandated to use the precautionary principle when making decisions affecting fish populations, continues to open commercial herring fisheries in BC while populations are severely depleted from historic levels and ecosystem requirements are poorly understood;

And whereas a previous moratorium on the commercial fishing of herring in the late 1960s resulted in significant recovery of herring populations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to direct the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to develop a west coast herring recovery plan through a process involving First Nations, independent scientists, naturalists, other levels of government and relevant non-government organizations;

And be it further resolved that a moratorium on all commercial fishing of herring in British Columbia be instituted immediately until populations recover to the level decided upon by the herring recovery plan.

*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 endorsed resolution 2016-B127, which made a very similar request of the federal government. Specifically it requested a west coast herring recovery plan involving a range of stakeholders and a moratorium on commercial fishing of herring in BC, pending establishment of a recovery plan.*

*UBCM did not receive a response to the 2016 resolution from the federal government.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B39 Private Sewer Utilities**

**North Okanagan RD**

Whereas private water systems are governed under the *Water Utility Act*, which ensures that the public interest is protected from a monopoly that has no competition in the area of service it provides;

And whereas the *Water Utility Act* provides for the appointment of a Comptroller of Water Rights with the authority that the rates charged to customers of water systems are not excessive, but reasonably allow only for operating costs, a contribution for capital replacement and upgrade, and a provision for management fees;

And whereas no similar regulations exist to ensure the same level of transparency, responsibility and protection for private sewer utilities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province establish legislation to govern private sewer utilities to ensure that the same level of accountability found in the *Water Utility Act* is afforded to customers of private sewer utilities.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed similar resolutions related to the regulation of private sewer utilities (2007-B28, 2005-B119, 2002-B50).*

*The enactment clause in resolution 2007-B28 is the same as the 2018 resolution.*

*In response to the 2007 resolution, the Province indicated that they are not considering the regulation of private sewer utilities, but may revisit the issue if research indicates a need for regulation.*

*The Province has also noted (in response to the 2005 resolution) that under the Local Government Act, a regional district has the authority to prohibit the installation of sewage works provided by other parties (either a private utility or a municipality). The Province views local governments as best suited to provide sewer system services.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B40 Professional Reliance**

**Quesnel**

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

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

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

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

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

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

*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 endorsed a similar resolution regarding the need for government oversight of professional associations and qualified professionals. Endorsed resolution 2016-B108 called on the Province to assess the effectiveness of current professional reliance regimes in order to reduce potential for conflicts of interest, ensure appropriate checks and balances, improve environmental performance and restore government approval authority where necessary.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Land Use**

#### **B41 Private Managed Forest Land Act Amendment**

**Powell River**

Whereas Section 21 of the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* is an unacceptable restriction on the authority of local governments to regulate activities on private managed forest land (PMFL);

And whereas local governments and communities would benefit significantly from PMFL owners sharing their management commitment, operations maps, harvesting plans and supporting assessments and long-term disposition or development intentions for their land;

And whereas PMFL regulations are not equivalent to forestry regulations that apply to Crown forest land: Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province to amend the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*

and Regulations to provide local government more authority to regulate activities on PMFL; require the owners of PMFL to undertake annual consultation and sharing of management commitments, operations maps, harvesting plans and supporting assessments and long-term disposition or development intentions for land within municipal

boundaries; and amend the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and Regulations to standards that are equivalent to Crown forest land regulations.

*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 endorsed resolutions 2011-B50 and 2008-B34, both of which sought to revise the Private Managed Forest Land Act and related regulations to improve forestry practices on private managed forest lands to a standard equivalent or better than Crown forest land regulations.*

*In response to the most recent endorsed resolution 2011-B50 the Province advised that “based on the monitoring results received to date, government is satisfied that current standards are ensuring that the objectives for key environmental values as set out in the Private Managed Forest Land Act are being met. Government and the Council will continue to monitor results and look for ways to improve practices when necessary.”*

*Further, members endorsed resolution 2010-B26, which asked the Province to amend the PMFL Act to ensure riparian area protection; and resolution 2005-B27, which asked the Province to establish a transparent and open mechanism for regular inspection and monitoring of forestry operations on private lands where such operations occur in community watersheds.*

*The Committee advises that members considered, but did not endorse resolution 2007-B149, asking for local government authority to apply their noise bylaws to private managed forest land.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B42 Large Scale Harvesting on Private Land**

#### **Central Kootenay RD**

Whereas many areas of rural BC have significant holdings of forested private land which are not constrained by the requirement to plan for impacts of forest harvesting including those related to terrain, hydrological and slope stability;

And whereas these forested private land holdings, if harvested, may affect municipal infrastructure, crown land, adjacent private property, and water sources:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development develop and implement tree removal regulations for the planning and harvesting of trees on forested private land where there is a harvesting of an area greater than 4 hectares in order to protect the adjacent property, infrastructure or natural resources from incremental damage caused due to the large scale harvesting of trees.

*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 has consistently endorsed resolutions asking the Province to regulate private land logging in the same manner as crown land and to ensure that local governments are consulted in advance of harvesting to prevent damage to watersheds and other infrastructure (2011-B50, 2010-B26, 2009-B41, 2008-B34, 2006-B102, 2005-B27, 1997-B61, 1994-B82, 1991-B16).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B43 Expansion of Community Forest Program**

#### **Bulkley-Nechako RD**

Whereas there is a critical need to plan for wildfire and take action to reduce the risk to residents, and the Report and Findings of the BC Flood and Wildfire Review recommended that the Government of British Columbia expand the community forest program to communities where interest and capacity exist;

And whereas community forests have the mandate, the ability, and the interest to manage the threat of wildfire to create more resilient communities and forests and half of the existing community forests are held by First Nations

or a partnership between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. The expansion of the community forest program has great potential to lead to more such partnerships:

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of British Columbia be petitioned to expand the community forest program by increasing both the number and size of community forests to help achieve wildfire protection, promote rural development, and strengthen relationships between Indigenous and non- Indigenous 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 endorsed 2013-B116 specifically asking the Province “to amend existing forest tenure arrangements to enable the creation of Community Forest Management Zones for Wildfire Hazard Reduction in order to accelerate wildfire hazard reduction in forests surrounding BC communities; diversify and increase local forest-based economic and employment opportunities; and support the establishment of a viable bioenergy sector for rural BC communities and the province as a whole.”*

*The Committee notes that members have consistently supported the establishment and expansion of community forests (2017-B36, 2010-B104, 2010-B105, 1998-B19).*

*See also resolution C25.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B44      Resourcing Collaborative Planning on Provincial Crown Land      Columbia Shuswap RD**

Whereas cumulative development pressures and conflicts on provincial Crown land continue to escalate in a context of outdated land use management plans, most of which have not been updated for approximately 15 or more years;

And whereas the provincial government has recently stated its intent to modernize land-use planning and sustainable management of BC ecosystems in collaboration with stakeholders:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development be urged to take a leadership role and immediately provide sufficient funding and resources to enable effective, community-based, collaborative land use planning for Crown land which includes First Nations, local governments, provincial government agencies, industry sectors, interest groups, and local residents.

*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 requests for community-based, collaborative land use planning.*

*Recently, UBCM members have asked the Province to provide resources to complete LRMPs for the entire province (2003-B24). The membership has also sought better consultation and engagement with the Province and industry on activities that affect the land base (i.e. forestry, mining, IPP projects and aquaculture) and have the potential to impact community watersheds (2017-B31, 2017-B114, 2014-B88, 2013-B80, 2010-B94, 2009-B138, 2008-B38, 2003-B88).*

*Earlier in 1992, members endorsed B48 requesting the Province “to develop a comprehensive land use plan to manage all provincial lands, with this planning to allow public involvement at the local, regional and provincial levels.” In 1992, the Province responded noting the establishment of the Commission on Resources and Environment (CORE) process; which later led to the development of the Land and Resource Management Planning LRMP) process.*

*In 1989 member endorsed A12 that requested the Province “to develop a comprehensive land use strategy for the province of British Columbia involving a review of Crown and private lands in order to protect energy, forestry, tourism, water quality and community watersheds, and other sustainable values, and that for lands within a local*

*government's boundaries, the local government be involved in developing the land use strategy." The Province at that time referred the matter to the Roundtable on Environment and the Economy.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B45 Increased Visits to Provincial Recreation Areas**

#### **Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas, as a result of the success of recent provincial tourism marketing strategies, there has been an unprecedented increase in the number of visits to local provincial parks and recreation sites ("Provincial Recreation Assets"), including Joffre Lakes Provincial Park and Strawberry Point Recreation Site in Electoral Area C of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) and Porteau Cove Provincial Park in Electoral Area D of the SLRD;

And whereas the increased number of visits is straining the current infrastructure of the Provincial Recreation Assets, both in terms of the capacity of:

- visits/traffic that can be accommodated on a daily/other basis; and
- current levels of staffing, maintenance and enforcement to manage the increased visits;

And whereas the increased number of visits is also impacting wildlife and contributing to a heightened wildfire risk:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province:

- commensurate with the increased number of visits being driven by provincial tourism marketing strategies, provide additional funding to increase staffing, maintenance and enforcement operations in respect of existing Provincial Recreation Assets; and
- investigate the development and addition of new recreation assets to the existing inventory of Provincial Recreation Assets (such that the increased number of visits may be spread over a larger inventory of Provincial Recreation Assets).

*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 endorsed 2011-B49 which asked the provincial government to provide appropriate budgets and staff to fully support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks and related facilities and services, year-round where appropriate, thereby supporting the tourism industry and the quality of life of all British Columbians. The resolution also requested that provincial parks be recognized as the sole responsibility of the Province and not download responsibilities to local governments.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Community Economic Development**

#### **B46 Log Export Policy**

#### **Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

Whereas billions of dollars of forest industry investment sits idle or is under-utilized in the Province of British Columbia, particularly on Vancouver Island;

And whereas \$805 million of unprocessed logs were exported from British Columbia in 2017, compared to \$278 million exported in 2008, forgoing the opportunity to add value to and create local jobs in this province's forestry sector:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province enact policy that prohibits raw log export from British Columbia without provincial wood processing needs and capacity being evaluated and met.

*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 endorsed resolution 2015-B36, which asked the Province to “re-examine the Log Export Policy and the impact this policy has on the coastal forest industry, and that the provincial government investigate options for modifying the Log Export Policy in light of the increased coastal log exports over the last several years.”*

*In its response, the Province responded in part:*

*“The provincial government would prefer for all logs to remain in BC for domestic use; however, permitting limited log exports is a critical component of the coastal forest sector’s economic health. All logs are offered for domestic sale first but may be exported when there are no domestic bidders, often at premium prices [...].*

*After a comprehensive policy review, we revised the fee-in-lieu for log exports in March 2013 to a sliding scale that recognizes the difference between the export price and domestic price for a log. In 2014, log exports on the coast were about 31 per cent of the total harvest, resulting in approximately \$30 million in log export fees. Province-wide, the volume of public timber exported as logs constitutes less than ten percent of the annual harvest of public timber.”*

*Prior to 2015, members endorsed resolution 2012-B33, which opposed “any measures that would increase the export of raw logs from British Columbia.” Further, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions opposing expansion of (raw) log exports (2007-B44, 2007-B45, 2007-B179, 2003-B27, 2001-B31, 1999-LR10, 1992-B33).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B47 Fibre Optic Infrastructure Funding**

**Keremeos**

Whereas many small and rural communities lack the financial resources to invest in the infrastructure to provide fibre optics;

And whereas fibre optic infrastructure is increasingly necessary to provide advanced technology in community-sustaining sectors such as business development, health, education, government, and emergency response management:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to provide funding programs that enable small and rural communities to invest in fibre optic infrastructure.

*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 supported resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to ensure the availability of broadband internet service for all communities in BC (2013-B61, 2011-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35, 2002-B23).*

*Members also endorsed resolution 2005-B160, which called on the federal government to cease plans for termination of the Community Access Program (CAP) and its ongoing support for public internet access and training through library and community networks. And in 2012, B49 was endorsed calling for the reinstatement of federal funding to CAP.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B48 Exception to the Prohibition Against Assistance to Broadband Service Providers**

**Lillooet**

Whereas a purpose of the *Community Charter* is to provide municipalities and their councils with the authority and discretion to address existing and future community needs and the flexibility to determine the public interest and to respond to the different needs and changing circumstances of their communities;



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

And whereas there may not be a viable business case for a commercial or business undertaking to provide high speed broadband service to a community; and in particular, to rural communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be encouraged to amend the *Community Charter* to create an exception to the general prohibition against assistance to permit municipalities to operate the service of providing capital financing for services provided by a broadband service provider.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

***Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be encouraged to amend the Community Charter and the Local Government Act to create an exception to the general prohibition against assistance to permit municipalities and regional districts to operate the service of providing capital financing for services provided by a broadband service provider.***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution 2010- B72 which asked UBCM to "petition the provincial government to amend Section 797.1(3) of the Local Government Act by adding broadband as a service for which capital financing can be provided."*

*In its response the Province indicated it was awaiting a more detailed proposal from the CAOs and Chairs Forum but that it was willing to engage in further discussions.*

*In 2017, B37 was endorsed referencing the request but asking to amend "Section 275 of the Local Government Act by adding broadband as a service for which capital financing can be provided." Ministry staff have advised that they are willing to consider the request.*

*The Committee notes that members have also endorsed a number of resolutions calling on the federal government, provincial government, and industry to ensure that every community in BC has access to broadband service, in order to develop economic growth opportunities (2013-B61, 2011-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35).*

*The Committee is proposing amendments to ensure that both municipalities and regional districts are captured within the request.*

*See also resolutions C26 and C27.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B49 Landscape Level Planning**

**Vanderhoof**

Whereas the resource extraction activities in and around communities within the Nechako Watershed take place under a lack of landscape level planning;

And whereas these poorly planned resource extraction activities contribute significantly to the provincial economy, but generate wealth at the expense of environmental and economic sustainability:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province move quickly to landscape level planning and provide the oversight required to ensure a balanced approach to resource extraction and land management across 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 has endorsed 2012-B109 asked the Province to create Integrated Landscape Planning Guidelines and that all companies harvesting timber in BC consider future*

wildfire impacts while planning for harvesting, and that the Province make changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act to require landscape planning.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Health

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### **B50 Regional Hospital District Capital Funding Formula**

**Kitimat-Stikine RD**

Whereas regional hospital districts were created under the *Hospital District Act* to raise a “local share” of capital costs for hospital equipment and buildings through property taxation;

And whereas the Province is moving towards making other provincial services such as transportation totally a provincial responsibility;

And whereas the current standard practice for capital infrastructure projects is a cost sharing formula of 40 per cent for regional hospital districts and 60 per cent for the Province, resulting in unsustainable continuous increases to local property taxation levies for regional hospital districts:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government review the method of using property tax revenue for funding health care infrastructure projects and formally reduce the expectation placed on regional hospital districts.

*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 endorsed resolutions on this issue, 2017-B39 and 2016-B114.*

*In response to resolution 2017-B39, the Province acknowledged that some RHDs have requested a review of the Hospital District Act in order to clarify a number of issues, including funding.*

*The Province then advised that “if the Ministry receives direction that there is an opportunity to amend this Act, then consultations with RHDs and a review of the historic cost-sharing model for capital funding will be part of the amendment process”.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B51 Increasing the Number of Family Practitioners in BC**

**Maple Ridge**

Whereas there is a lack of access to family practitioners in communities throughout British Columbia, exacerbated by barriers to licensing for International Medical Graduate (IMG) physicians and limited opportunities for medical school graduates to complete their required residencies;

And whereas the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia regulates the practice of medicine under the authority of provincial government legislation:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be urged to work with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC to increase the number of family practitioners in British Columbia by expediting the licensing process for qualified IMG physicians and creating more residency opportunities for medical school graduates.

*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 endorsed resolutions 2014-B132, 2012-B91 and 2009-B148, which called on the provincial government to provide greater opportunities for Canadian internationally-trained medical graduates (IMGs) to undertake postgraduate training and establish practices in BC.*

*In response to Resolution 2014-B132, the Ministry of Health noted the following policy changes that would address the issue:*

- *The Medical Council of Canada recently agreed to allow IMGs to write the Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination in their penultimate year, 20 months prior to graduation from medical school;*
- *The Medical Council of Canada agreed to administer the National Assessment Collaboration Objective Structured Clinical Exam (NAC OSCE) twice a year in BC starting in 2013 with a spring and fall sitting. This doubles the number of IMGs from 70 to 140 who can take the NAC OSCE and apply to Canadian Residents Matching Service in their final year of medical school; The IMG-BC clinical assessment was reduced from 12 to 8 weeks with a focus on family medicine, the number of positions were increased from 35 to 60, and the assessment is now offered five times a year; and,*
- *The number of IMG family medicine residency positions at UBC has been increasing since 2011 with eight new positions each year over five years to an expected 40 new entry-level positions in 2016 for a total of 58 IMG positions. These residency positions are distributed to multiple training sites in BC health authorities.*

*UBCM also participates on the Provincial Divisions of Family Practice's Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee, which addresses the issue of recruitment and retention of IMGs and Canadians studying abroad.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B52 Funding for Mental Health and Addictions Services on Riverview Lands**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas the lack of adequate treatment and housing resources for British Columbians living with mental illness and addictions places severe financial and social burdens on local communities, contributes to homelessness, and prevents many British Columbians from accessing the support they need to heal, secure safe and stable housing, and participate fully in community life;

And whereas the Riverview lands in Coquitlam are well positioned to once again serve as a centre for mental health and addictions services in the Metro Vancouver region, given adequate funding from senior governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urged to commit significant additional funds for mental health and addictions services on the Riverview lands.

*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 endorsed resolution 2013-B121, which asked the provincial government to undertake all necessary action, including funding, to reinstate Riverview as a patient-centred, wrap around care, modern centre of excellence for mental health care and support.*

*In response to this resolution, the Ministry of Health advised that they had committed a total of \$138 million in capital funding to building or expanding tertiary care mental health facilities in communities around BC as part of the Riverview Redevelopment Project.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B53 Senior Funding**

**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas seniors health and well-being are a primary concern to all levels of government; and for older adults to remain at home for longer, to remain socially connected and independent in their communities, Health Promotion and Prevention initiatives based on physical activity, social connectedness and independence offered by the Community Based Seniors' Services (CBSS) Sector which are key components of the service delivery continuum;

And whereas seniors aging in place is best for the health of seniors; their friends and families; for the communities that they are in; and for the control of health care costs;

And whereas crucial community-based services include physical activity and recreation, information and referral, nutritional supports, consistent medical care, education and creative arts, seniors centres, and initiatives such that support seniors aging in place;

And whereas stronger collaboration of all levels of government and Health Authorities is required to be better aligned and integrated with the CBSS Sector;

And whereas municipalities lack the financial resources to address the physical and social needs of the growing senior population:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the federal and provincial governments to provide consistent funding, easier access to grants, and support the development of programs for all seniors in BC and non- profits that support aging in place; and municipalities that lack the tax base to be effective.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

***Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the federal and provincial governments to provide consistent funding, and support for the development of programs for all seniors in BC. and non-profits that support aging in place; and municipalities that lack the tax base to be effective.***

*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 (2017-B51, 2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2007-B152, 2006-B162).*

*The most recent resolution, 2017-B51, requested that the provincial government 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.*

*In response this resolution, the Province referenced its Age-friendly Communities grant program for local governments in BC to develop policies or plans or program that enable seniors to age in place, and facilitate the creation of age-friendly communities. The Province also noted that the government has announced a total of \$548 million over 3 years to the Ministry of Health in Budget 2018 to improve care for seniors including investments in home and community care, residential care, and assisted living. As well, the Province, in partnership with the federal government is investing \$275 million over four years toward improving home care and home support, to enable seniors to live independently in the comfort and familiarity of their own homes, and remain connected to their communities for as long as possible.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B54                    Cannabis and Harmonizing Smoking Regulations**

**New Westminster**

Whereas the provincial government through the *Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act* regulates public consumption of tobacco and vapour products throughout the province and will, through the proposed Cannabis Control and Licensing Act regulate the public consumption of cannabis throughout the province;

And whereas many local governments have bylaws regulating smoking in public places that extend prohibited areas beyond the prescribed distance, and are being afforded the same opportunity to extend provincial regulations in the proposed Cannabis Control and Licensing Act;

And whereas many of these bylaws are not consistent with each other throughout the province;

And whereas smoking regulations that change across multiple jurisdictions are confusing for the public and make voluntary compliance challenging;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Provincial Government of British Columbia to extend the prescribed distance from a doorway, window, or air intake in which a person must not smoke tobacco, hold lighted tobacco, use an e-cigarette or hold an activated e-cigarette from 6 meters to 7.5 meters and prohibit smoking in all public

parks by amending the Tobacco and Vapour Control Regulations and by ensuring the corresponding distances prescribed in the Cannabis Control and Licensing Regulations are the same.

*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 endorsed resolution 2011-B64 which asked the provincial government to increase the distance that smokers must be from windows, doors or intakes to 7.5m.*

*In response to this resolution, the Province advised they will give regulatory changes serious consideration.*

*In September 2016, the Province amended the Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act and regulation to increase the buffer zone around doorways, open window and air intakes to 6 meters.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Selected Issues

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### B55 Seniors' Housing

Vanderhoof

Whereas the lack of appropriate affordable seniors' housing, in resource based communities in BC makes it extremely difficult for seniors to age at home or access to intermediate senior housing;

And whereas access to safe, affordable and appropriate Senior's housing helps to create vibrant, sustainable communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to work with community partners to develop solutions for the lack of seniors' housing and to provide the necessary long-term funding to support the construction of a full range of affordable seniors' housing choices in resource based communities in British Columbia.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

***Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to work with community partners to develop solutions for the lack of seniors' housing and to provide the necessary long-term funding to support the construction of a full range of affordable seniors' housing choices in resource based communities in British Columbia.***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2014-B45 that requested long term funding to support the construction of a full range of affordable seniors' housing choices across BC.*

*Membership has also consistently supported resolutions calling for affordable housing more broadly (including 2017-A2), accessible housing (2010-B52, 2008-B158) and age friendly communities (2007- B152). In addition, UBCM recently released an affordable housing strategy, A Home for Everyone: A Housing Strategy for British Columbians, recommending a range of supports for affordable housing for British Columbians including seniors.*

*The Resolutions Committee is proposing an amendment to ensure that this request applies to communities across the province.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### B56 Affordable Rental Housing and Co-operative Housing

Vanderhoof

Whereas the lack of affordable housing and co-operative housing in resource based communities is having a detrimental effect on the local economies and the quality of life for many British Columbians;

And whereas affordable housing and co-operative housing are essential to support vibrant and healthy communities, attract and retain skilled workers to our communities and affects the footprints into resource based communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to increase the number of new affordable housing units and new co-operative housing units constructed in British Columbia and allocate funding for all communities to plan in advance of funding announcements.

*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 for the province to increase the supply of affordable housing (2017-A2, 2017-B17, 2014-B43).*

*Membership has also endorsed resolution 2014-B44 calling for rental assistance for housing cooperatives. In addition, UBCM recently released an affordable housing strategy, A Home for Everyone: A Housing Strategy for British Columbians, containing recommendations that call for greater supports for rental housing.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B57 Cellular Coverage for Rural Communities**

**Port Clements**

Whereas there was a resolution passed at UBCM in 2004 to cover the Highway 16 corridor with cell phone service, when 59 per cent of Canadians had cell phones; and

And whereas 14 years later, while 86 per cent of Canadians have cell phones, Port Clements and other rural areas along Highway 16 still suffer from the impacts of having no cell phone service, emphasized for Port Clements residents by the stress and demands of the January 2018 earthquake and subsequent tsunami evacuation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure that the increasingly essential infrastructure of cell phone coverage is made available to highway corridors in rural BC as soon as possible and without any further delay.

*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 amended resolution 2004-B9 to remove the specific reference to highway 16 recognizing there are other areas of the province that lack cell service. The final wording of endorsed resolution 2004-B9 was that "UBCM lobby the Province to ensure that cell phone coverage is available to the travelling public along the entire BC highway system."*

*In its response 2004-B9 the Province "agreed that the provision of cellular telephone service is an increasingly important service that effects economic development, tourism and safety. This issue is complicated by the fact that there are a number of suppliers of cellular service in British Columbia as telecommunications in Canada is a federal government responsibility and there are no regulations requiring cellular service in any region of the country. The provincial government will continue to urge telecommunications vendors to expand their services, particularly in remote regions of the province."*

*Prior to the 2004 resolution the membership endorsed resolution 2003-B35, which called upon the UBCM "to lobby and work to ensure that every community in northern BC has access to the latest telecommunication technology such as broadband and cellular phone service, in order to develop economic growth opportunities."*

*Members have consistently endorsed other resolutions seeking both cellular service and internet connectivity for rural and remote areas of the province (2012-B45, 2011-B72, 2010-B50, 2009-B57, 2008-B54, 2007-B57, 2006-B54, 2005-B5).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

Whereas electric baseboard heating is widely used as a more environmentally friendly option to heat homes;

And whereas the cost of heating homes with electric baseboards is higher than other commonly used energy sources such as natural gas:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal government be encouraged to support the development of alternative home heating products that are more affordable to consumers, yet sensitive to environmental sustainability targets.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2009-B166 that requested the Province to provide incentives to encourage new construction to be pre-plumbed and pre-wired for future solar panels or other alternative energy installations. In its response the Province responded in part that it was looking to “introduce regulations under the BC Building Code that would allow local governments to adopt solar-ready requirements for single family homes.”*

*Prior to that the UBCM membership also endorsed resolution 2004-B10, which requested provincial and federal government sales tax refund policies for machinery and equipment for municipal energy conservation and/or alternative energy generation projects.*

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:

B59 – B76

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

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### Legislative

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#### **B59 Broadcasting Personal Information without Consent**

**qathet RD**

Whereas a presentation by Bradley Weldon from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) was given at the annual CEO/CAO Forum on March 20, 2018 and dealt with application of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) regarding a public body disclosing personal information inside or outside of Canada through broadcasting transmissions without the person's consent in the context of public hearings/meetings and webcasting;

And whereas the only operational solutions suggested were arduous and seemingly against all tenets of open and transparent public meetings and the advice given was to seek amendments to current legislation authorizing disclosure on the internet:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to explore the need for amendments to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) regarding the potential export of video personal information inside or outside of Canada.

*Endorsed by 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 specifically sought amendments to the FOIPPA regarding the potential export of video personal information inside or outside of Canada. However, members have supported FOIPPA amendments that would see the Province reimburse local governments for the actual costs of complying with the Act or alternatively, allow local governments to fully recover all costs from applicants under this legislation (2008-B25, 1996- A1).*

*The Committee notes that the Province is undertaking a review of FOIPPA to advance Minister Sim's Mandate Letter deliverable to: "improve access to information rules to provide greater public accountability; and improve response and processing times for freedom of information requests. These discussions may also touch on other related matters, including privacy and proactive disclosure." UBCM was asked to comment on the review.*

*While the sponsor has identified one issue, UBCM also undertook to survey members to identify other concerns / issues with the legislation including: timelines and capacity to respond; proactive disclosure and open data; costs and fees; access and storage; compliance and deterrents; and mandatory breaches of information. Member feedback was incorporated into a submission /presentation to Minister Sims on June 18, 2018.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### Community Safety

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#### **B60 Request for Additional Crown Counsel Lawyers**

**Grand Forks**

Whereas property crime rates have increased throughout the province, and the more borderline criminal cases are not going to trial because Crown Counsel resources are stretched too thin;

And whereas it is the Crown Counsel who lays charges and prosecutes in criminal matters:

Therefore be it resolved the provincial government increase the number of Crown Counsel lawyers to adequate levels to keep better pace with the growing criminal caseload.

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

*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 increase the number of Crown Counsel lawyers.*

*However, the membership endorsed 2011-B9, requesting the Province increase judicial resources. In response, the Ministry of Attorney General noted its recent human resource additions as well as its goal to provide a high level of judicial resources within budget constraints.*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that while property crime rates increased 0.9 per cent between 2015 and 2016 (according to the most recent BC provincial crime statistics report), the property crime clearance rate also improved by 1.4 per cent.*

*In response to a request for clarification around the term "adequate levels," the sponsor has noted that the desired outcome is a 5-6 per cent increase in Crown Counsel lawyers, consistent with a 2016 provincial review (Championing Positive Change: Findings of the Review of the BC Prosecution Service) that found, in 2015/16, the number of reports to Crown Counsel had increased by 5.4 per cent from the previous year, while the number of accused persons named in those reports had increased by 5.7 per cent from the previous year.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Elections**

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### **B61 By-Election Not Required by Regional Districts in Election Years**

**Cariboo RD**

Whereas under the *Local Government Act*, municipalities are not required to conduct a by-election if a vacancy occurs after January 1st in a general election year;

And whereas under the *Local Government Act*, regional districts are required to conduct a by-election unless a vacancy occurs after June 1st in a general election year, which is expensive and unnecessary for such a short period of time:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to enable regional districts to decide whether they wish to conduct a by-election if a vacancy occurs after January 1st in a general election year.

*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 specifically considered the request to amend the Local Government Act to enable regional districts to decide whether they wish to conduct a by-election if a vacancy occurs after January 1st in an election year.*

*However, this issue did arise as part of the deliberations of the UBCM's Ad-Hoc Committee on Alternate 'unelected' Electoral Area Directors. As a result, the Committee put forward the following specific recommendation to address this matter: Align regional districts with councils in regards to filling vacancies so that a by-election is not necessary if the vacancy occurs in the year of a general local election.*

*The UBCM Executive endorsed all of the Ad-Hoc Committee's recommendations at their May 2018 meeting. The report and these recommendations have been conveyed to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Endorsement of this resolution would reinforce the request of the Ad-Hoc Committee by showing member support for this amendment.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Transportation

### **B62                      Creating a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Rural Places,                      NCLGA Executive Small Municipalities and Remote Communities**

Whereas the current level of transportation services do not adequately address the safety, economic interests, and social needs of the citizens who live in many rural places, small municipalities, and remote communities;

And whereas there is not a clear, multi-faceted plan in place that coordinates all modes of transportation and takes into consideration the current reality or foreseeable transportation needs of rural and remote areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government review the current state of transportation in British Columbia and creates a comprehensive, forward looking plan that fulfills the safety, economic interests, social needs and environmental well-being of rural places, small municipalities and remote communities.

*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 specifically asked the provincial government to review the current state of transportation in British Columbia and creates a comprehensive, forward looking plan that fulfills the safety, economic interests, social needs and environmental well-being of rural places, small municipalities and remote communities.*

*However, UBCM members have endorsed resolution 2003-B59 which asked the Province to “begin work on an integrated transportation management plan that would take into account the particular needs of all parts of the province including the North, examining the interrelatedness of the various modes of transportation and their economic impact on the province as a whole; and that UBCM be consulted before any further major changes to transportation infrastructure are made.”*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B63                      Transportation Services                      Okanagan-Similkameen RD**

Whereas the availability of transportation services provided to many small, rural and remote communities across BC has declined;

And whereas there exists a need for a socially-mandated intercity bus transportation program to provide essential transportation services for small, rural and remote citizens:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government initiate a “Connecting Communities Fund”, made available to eligible local governments, to address significant transportation challenges for citizens and taxpayers who reside in small, rural or remote communities with a view of providing them with access to transportation hubs located on primary transportation corridors.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                      **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee advises that UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution to initiate a fund to address significant transportation challenges for those living in small, rural or remote communities to provide them with access to transportation hubs on primary transportation corridors.*

*However, membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B9, calling for adequate funding to support local and intercommunity transportation in rural communities.*

*In addition, membership has endorsed wide-ranging resolutions aimed at improving transportation infrastructure in rural and remote areas, including:*

- 2014-B9, 2012-B38, 2009-B15 requesting supports for medical transport;
- 2017-B8, 2013-B15, 2012-B115 addressing public transportation and taxis in rural communities; and
- 2014-B54, 2009-B16, 2008-B17, 2007-B15 calling for funding and improvements to rural roads and highways.

See also resolutions B15 and C6.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Finance

### B64 Gas Tax Funding for Volunteer Fire Departments

NCLGA Executive

Whereas the need for safety equipment and response vehicles for volunteer fire departments is continually increasing to meet provincial, federal and insurance requirements;

And whereas the expense of safety equipment and response vehicles is an extraordinary cost for volunteer fire departments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the FCM and federal government to appropriately fund safety equipment and response vehicles for volunteer fire departments.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

**Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the FCM and federal government to allow Gas Tax funding to fund safety equipment and response vehicles, and include volunteer fire departments as eligible recipients.**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution 2016- B74 calling for fire protection service areas to access and utilize gas tax funding to construct fire halls and purchase firefighting equipment. However, membership has not considered a resolution specifically identifying Volunteer Fire Departments.*

*The Committee would observe that distinguishing VFD from other first responders may be divisive amongst UBCM membership who have previously endorsed resolutions for all first responders supplies/ equipment to be eligible for Gas Tax funding.*

*Members have endorsed resolutions seeking sources of funding for first responder supplies and equipment (2014-B15, 2012-B10, 2010-B6, 2000-B15); and seeking grant funding for local government priorities (2014-B18, 2013-B19).*

*Note that 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.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Environment

### B65 Federal Review of Geoduck Aquaculture

Islands Trust

Whereas Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) approved the Integrated Geoduck Management Framework in 2017 (IGMF);

And whereas the IGMF will lead to increased applications for geoduck aquaculture which has the potential to negatively impact the marine environment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the DFO conduct an ecosystem-based study of potential and cumulative impacts of increased geoduck clam aquaculture and consider increased monitoring and enforcement.

*Endorsed by 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 request asking that DFO conduct an ecosystem-based study of potential and cumulative impacts of increased geoduck clam aquaculture, with increased monitoring and enforcement.*

*The membership considered and endorsed a resolution on geoduck farming in 2007-B148, which asked the Province to provide the scientific information and rationale for the provincial government's decision to proceed with commercial geoduck farming. In response to this resolution, the Province indicated that "responsibly located and managed subtidal geoduck aquaculture is an environmentally benign activity and any environmental impact associated with the activity can be mitigated."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B66 Protecting Coastal Communities & Waterways from Oil Spills**

**Victoria,  
Powell River**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is pursuing regulations to restrict the transport of diluted bitumen until such time as adequate safeguards are in place to protect coastal communities and waterways from the harm caused by oil spills;

And whereas the impacts of oil spills on local communities are severe, including: costs relating to emergency response, clean-up and recovery; damage and loss of enjoyment of shoreline areas; damage to biological diversity of plant and animal species; reduced property values; public health impacts; and economic losses in tourism, fishing and other sectors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM endorse the efforts of the Province of British Columbia to introduce regulations that will safeguard coastal communities and waterways from harm caused by oil spills.

*Endorsed by 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 that would support the Province's proposal to introduce regulations to protect BC waters from spills.*

*UBCM understands that this resolution is referring to the Province's announcement on January 30, 2018 to introduce a second set of spill preparedness and response regulations under the Environmental Management Act, including regulations that would provide "Restrictions on the increase of diluted bitumen transportation until the behaviour of spilled bitumen can be better understood and there is certainty regarding the ability to adequately mitigate spills". However, on February 28, 2018, the Province released an intentions paper and the regulations on restricting an increase in diluted bitumen are no longer part of the proposed regulations.*

*Further, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions on spill preparedness and response, including requests for the Province and the federal government to:*

- implement regulations that ensure pipeline safety standards are to the highest available standards and include mandatory external hydrocarbon sensing technologies (2017-B112);*
- support the Province of British Columbia's position with respect to the need for world-class marine oil spill prevention, preparedness and response, and call on the federal government to support and co-operate with BC to the fullest extent, committing sufficient resources, to achieve the highest level of spill prevention, preparedness and response capacity on Canada's West Coast (2016-B20);*
- -assess the cumulative risks and impacts associated with projected vessel traffic increases in the Salish Sea and develop an innovative 20-year mitigation plan (2016-B21);*

- *stop the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters (2015-B29); and*
- *order an independent audit of the current state of oil spill preparedness in BC (2015-B30).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B67 Watershed Governance Model**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

Whereas UBCM has consistently advocated for providing water purveyors with greater control over the watersheds that provide drinking water to their communities;

And whereas an integrated watershed governance approach that recognizes indigenous water rights and utilizes a collaborative, consensus building approach to decision making could provide a model that addresses community needs while balancing the resource and capacity limitations experienced by local governments and First Nations:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province recognize and support local watershed collaborative governance entities and adequately resource these entities.

*Endorsed by 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 that the Province recognize and support local watershed collaborative governance entities, and adequately resource these entities.*

*However, the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions on watershed management, including resolution 2016-B25 which called on the Province to mandate through regulation “an increased local role in key decision making in matters affecting the health and protection of watersheds, including the right for local watershed authorities to be the agencies responsible for approvals and controls of activities in watersheds.”*

*The Committee understands that the Water Sustainability Act (WSA) and regulations came into force as of February 29, 2016. The first phase of WSA regulations addressed water management functions, such as dam safety, groundwater protection and water sustainability fees. The next phase of regulations will address dedicated agricultural water, livestock watering, water sustainability plans.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B68 Packaging and Printed Paper Recycling Regulation Amendment Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas the Province has enacted legislation under the *Environmental Management Act* and the Recycling Regulation to require Extended Producer Responsibility Plans (stewardship programs) for PPP (Packaging and Printed Paper) from residential sources only;

And whereas local governments collect solid waste and recyclables including PPP from all sectors including residents and industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) entities;

And whereas opportunities for recycling by the ICI sector in rural BC are limited or non-existent due to their distance from large urban areas;

And whereas that lack of recycling opportunities results in either the PPP products being landfilled or local governments stepping in to provide an ICI recycling service, both scenarios resulting in the financial burden for handling ICI-generated PPP on all taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to amend Recycling Regulation 449/2004 to include the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector in the requirement for Extended Producer Responsibility Plans for Packaging and Printed Paper.

*Not presented to 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 inclusion of industrial, commercial and institutional sector in the Packaging and Printed Paper program.*

*However, the membership has endorsed resolutions for a fully funded program with service levels that meets the needs of local government (2014-A6, 2012-B28, 2012-B125).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B69 Residential Recycling Services in Small Communities**

**Kitimat-Stikine RD,  
New Hazelton**

Whereas Recycle BC provides funding to local governments for the collection and processing of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) materials and the operation of residential EPR Depots;

And whereas Recycle BC proposes expansion of the current program to include only incorporated municipalities with a population greater than 5,000 with curbside collection established prior to May 2014:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to require Recycle BC's Program Plan to include access and financial support from Recycle BC for unincorporated and rural communities.

*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 endorsed any resolutions calling for Recycle BC's new program plan to include access and financial support for unincorporated and rural communities.*

*However, membership endorsed resolution 2014-A6, which called for service delivery by Recycle BC in all communities, including rural and small, in which regulated products are retailed. In terms of financial assistance, membership endorsed resolution 2017-B109 which called on the Province to direct Recycle BC to negotiate a cash transfer to regional districts to support existing packaging and printed paper recycling programs.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B70 Venting Index in BC**

**Elkford**

Whereas British Columbia communities have been experiencing the burning of brush piles that create smoke that lingers low to the surface;

And whereas the burning of brush piles is sometimes authorized based on the venting index established in distant centres;

And whereas the establishing of the venting index does not always represent the venting conditions in the area around the affected communities thus affecting the health and safety of the residents:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy develop more venting indexes that would be representative of the venting conditions in all areas of British Columbia.

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

*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 Province develop additional venting indexes in BC.*



However, the membership endorsed a related resolution, 2016-B24, which asked the Province to introduce new regulations to further limit or ban the burning of wood debris piles on private and crown lands within community air-sheds, in an effort to improve seasonal air quality.

In response to resolution 2016-B24, the Province noted that the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation governs the burning of vegetative material, and that it is currently under review. A policy proposal was posted for public review in April 2016, and would create three smoke sensitivity zones in the province.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Land Use

### **B71 Moratorium on ALR Lands for Cannabis**

**Central Saanich**

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Premier of British Columbia and the Minister of Agriculture place a moratorium on further use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands to grow recreational cannabis while it performs a minimum of six month review and broad consultation with farmers, local governments, industry and the public on the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for the growth and production of marijuana.

*Endorsed by 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 endorsed a resolution requesting the provincial government place a moratorium on the use of ALR land for production of non-medical cannabis, and subsequently undertake a minimum 6 month engagement process with stakeholders.*

*UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2014-B109 and 2014-B113, which requested the Province amend legislation to exclude the production of medical cannabis from the list of agricultural uses that qualify for farm classification for property tax purposes. Resolution 2014-B113 also requested that the province amend legislation to allow communities to regulate medical cannabis production on ALR land. In response to endorsed resolution 2014-B113, the Province amended the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation to exclude medical cannabis production as a qualifying agricultural use. The Province also created a set of bylaw standards that allow local governments to regulate, but not prohibit medical cannabis production on ALR land.*

*Recently, UBCM made a submission to the Minister's Advisory Committee on the Revitalization of the ALC and ALR. In the submission, UBCM addressed the issue of non-medical cannabis production, expressing concerns that non-medical cannabis would be better categorized as an industrial use as opposed to an agricultural use. Some of the potential issues with cannabis production on ALR land include light pollution, odour and accessory uses. UBCM has asked that the Minister's Advisory Committee "carefully examine the means of production of recreational cannabis to determine if the expected industrial-style production is the best use of BC's limited agricultural land."*

*UBCM and the Province have also established the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation (JCCR), which provides a forum for local governments to share their experiences and knowledge, and discuss issues of interest or concern with the Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat. Since October 2017, local governments and the Province have worked collaboratively to develop a BC framework for non-medical cannabis legalization, and in the process gain understanding of local government responsibilities and costs associated with legalization. One issue currently being discussed is cannabis production on ALR land.*

*Additionally, UBCM's Executive, at its May 2018 meeting, expressed support for a moratorium on the production of non-medical cannabis on ALR land until the provincial government undertakes a comprehensive review and broad consultation with local governments. The provincial government, as of June 2018, has yet to respond to this request.*

*See also resolution C24.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B72 Backcountry Tourism**

**Pemberton**

Whereas the rapidly increasing popularity of adventure tourism is having adverse impacts to the natural environment, such as increased human/wildlife conflicts, the closures of popular destinations to unmanageable volume, garbage, and an increased risk of wildfire in remote areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to match the investment made in their Tourism Marketing with a commensurate investment in infrastructure, maintenance, enforcement, and staffing to assist in mitigating the resulting challenges of increased visitor volumes at local Provincial parks and other backcountry areas;

And be it further resolved that a trail booking and reservation system fee structure be developed to mitigate day-to-day impacts to the natural environment.

*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 endorsed resolution 2011-B49 requesting that appropriate budgets and funding be provided to support the operation of provincial parks and related facilities and services, and to recognize these operations as a provincial, not local responsibility. Members have not requested that a trail booking and reservation system fee structure be put into place.*

*The Committee also notes that members did endorse 2017-B58 which requested that the Province “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.”*

*See also resolution C24.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Community Economic Development**

### **B73 Sustainability of West Coast Fisheries**

**Campbell River**

Whereas fisheries are an important economic driver for the Province of British Columbia, particularly on Vancouver Island;

And whereas fisheries in BC is defined as inclusive of commercial, indigenous, recreation and aquaculture:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province ensure that all decisions with regards to the management of all fisheries, and protection of the natural environment, are made based on current data, technology, science and traditional knowledge.

*Endorsed by 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 that has specifically asked that all decisions with regards to the management of all fisheries, and protection of the natural environment, are made based on current data, technology, science and traditional knowledge.*

*However, UBCM members have endorsed a number of resolutions in support of actions for the protection of fish and fish habitat (2013-B28, 2012-B80, 2009-B126, 2005-B38, 1997-B48, 1996-B68).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Selected Issues

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### B74 Common Asset Management Policy

Courtenay

Whereas the purposes of a British Columbia municipality and regional district include providing for stewardship of the public assets of its community;

And whereas the powers, duties and functions of British Columbia municipal and regional district Chief Administrative Officers include:

- overall management of the operations of the local government;
- ensuring that the policies, programs and other directions of the council or board are implemented; and
- advising and informing the council or board on the operation and affairs of the local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support sound asset management practices as the means to achieve local sustainable service delivery;

And be it further resolved that BC municipalities and regional districts, their respective CAOs and staffs would benefit from guidance to a common communications approach to enhance asset management practices;

And be it further resolved that the Asset Management BC partnership to develop and implement a common communications approach to enhance asset management practices.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

***Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support sound asset management practices as the means to achieve local sustainable service delivery;***

***And be it further resolved that BC municipalities and regional districts, their respective CAOs and staffs would benefit from guidance to a common communications approach to enhance asset management practices;***

***And be it further resolved that the Asset Management BC partnership to develop and implement a common communications approach to enhance asset management practices.***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution regarding asset management or the need to support the delivery of asset management within local governments through a common communications approach.*

*For reference to the membership, the Resolutions Committee notes that:*

- *Communities build and maintain infrastructure to provide services. These services support quality of life, protect health and safety, and promote social, economic and environmental well-being. Failure to care for infrastructure, manage natural resources and protect the services provided by nature, risks degrading - or even losing - the services communities enjoy and future generations will rely on. Sound asset management practices support sustainable service delivery by integrating community priorities, values, and an informed understanding of the trade-offs between risks, costs, and services.*
- *Asset Management BC has been established through a partnership agreement in order to develop and implement an asset management approach in BC for local governments. UBCM and the Local Government Management Association, along with the Government Finance Officers Association of BC, the Planning Institute of BC, the Municipal Insurance Association of BC, the Public Works Association of BC, CivicInfo, British Columbia Water & Waste Association and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing are all signatories to the partnership agreement. Asset Management BC is a stakeholder- driven community of practice that benefits from local government practitioners (local government knowledge and expertise in asset management) providing strategic direction, sharing knowledge, and sharing resources and best management practices, that support BC local governments. The BC approach is designed to be non-prescriptive, flexible, scalable and incremental.*

- All BC local governments are now required, through the Gas Tax Fund, to show progress in the development and implementation of asset management practices. Therefore, opportunities to build BC local government capacity through education, building tools and developing resources is supported by Asset Management BC.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B75 Meat Processing Review**

**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas consumers are increasingly interested in sourcing locally and ethically produced meat products;

And whereas current slaughter and meat processing regulations create a barrier for smaller farming operations to fulfill this consumer demand:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to review meat processing regulations in order to facilitate expansion of safe, local, slaughter and meat processing.

*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 endorsed a resolution calling for the Province to review existing meat regulations to facilitate the expansion of safe, local, slaughter and meat processing. However, the membership has called on the Province to enact several measures to support the agricultural community, farm gate sales, and local food security.*

*The membership endorsed resolution 2013-B38, which called for BC to reinstate farm gate sales of meat, as well as resolution 2016-B39 that sought changes to licensing requirements for abattoirs for local livestock producers. Similarly, resolution 2010-B39 called for the Meat Inspection Regulations to support local and mobile small-scale abattoir facilities that would allow local meat sales.*

*The Province recently conducted a survey on Class D and E licenses that allow on-farm slaughter. The report, Class D and E License Consultation: Summary of Survey Responses, was released in June 2018.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B76 Electricity Affordability Program**

**Terrace**

Whereas the electricity rates in British Columbia can be difficult for low-income households to pay;

And whereas electricity rates have increased significantly in the past 10 years and are expected to continue to increase in the next decade:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to direct BC Hydro to develop an electricity affordability program for low-income residential customers and that a northern subsidy program be developed for over the winter months.

*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 specifically asked “BC Hydro to develop an electricity affordability program for low-income residential customers and that a northern subsidy program be developed for over the winter months.”*

*However, UBCM members have endorsed resolutions opposing two tier rates for electricity specifically in regions where natural gas is not an available alternative option for reducing electric heating costs (2015- B40, 2013-B85).*

*More generally, the Committee notes that UBCM members have endorsed resolutions supporting postage stamp, cost-based rates for electricity (1996-B7; 2001, 2002 and 2003 UBCM energy policy positions). In 2004, members*

*endorsed resolution B87, which objected to BC Hydro's proposed increase in electricity rates. Prior to that, resolution 1992-B99 requested that BC Hydro be encouraged to promote electric heating at equitable rates in homes that are adequately insulated, especially in areas where natural gas service is not available.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section B2-b

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### Legislative

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#### **B77      Community Charter Definition of Parcel 18-11 Interior Lot Lines**

**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 consider 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;

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:      **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has considered the same resolution 2017-B81, and it was not endorsed.*

*In 2017, the Resolutions Committee noted that the membership had not considered this request previously.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B78      Verification of Submissions During Public Hearing Process**

**Squamish**

Whereas the *Local Government Act* legislates the Public Hearing process and broadly provides for submissions to be made by anyone in the public having an interest in the matter or the property;

And whereas Councils must consider all submissions made with respect to the public interest in the zoning, rezoning, OCP or OCP amendment without an ability to verify the validity of submissions made electronically:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province bring forth an amendment to the *Local Government Act* which would assist local governments with the ability to verify the legitimacy of a submission where there is strong reason to believe that the submissions are false and dishonest and made to undermine the integrity and purpose of the Public Hearing process and UBCM work with the province to understand best practices.

*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 seeking an amendment to the Local Government Act which would assist local governments with the ability to verify the legitimacy of a submission where there is strong reason to believe that the submissions are false and dishonest and made to undermine the integrity and purpose of the Public Hearing process and UBCM work with the province to understand best practices.*

*The Committee notes that while technology has made participation in local government processes easier for citizens, it has also created challenges as referenced by the sponsor. As we move to more on line systems and methods of communication, it is expected that these types of situations will arise more frequently, making it difficult*

for elected officials to fulfill their obligations to make decisions based on facts and the most accurate information available.

While the membership has no previous policy on this specific matter, UBCM members have consistently supported the basic principles of transparency, openness and accountability.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B79 Rural Needs Act**

**Nelson**

Whereas provincial policy development tends to be focused on research obtained from the larger urban areas;

And whereas there can be a lack of consideration for the impact to the province's rural communities when adopting legislative changes and policy:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to adopt an act or policy that places a statutory duty on public authorities to have due regard to rural needs in the development of policy and legislation.

*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 specifically asked the Province to adopt an act or policy that places a statutory duty on public authorities to have due regard to rural needs in the development of policy and legislation.*

*Under the Community Charter, the Province has legislative obligations to consult with UBCM on matters that will have an impact on local governments. Through the consultation process UBCM is able to provide input to the Province on any policy or legislative matter taking into consideration the potential impact of any proposed changes on both its rural and urban members, recognizing that there is great diversity amongst our membership.*

*UBCM members have endorsed resolutions in support of the Rural BC Project and funding programs and initiatives to advance the economic development opportunities within rural communities (2016-B36, 2013-B39, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2009-B30, 2004 Resource Revenue Sharing Policy Paper, 2004-B21; 2003-B30, 2002-B20, 1999-B70).*

*With the endorsement of 2013-B39, members also supported the establishment of a rural advocacy element that referenced establishing a Minister of Rural BC. While the Committee acknowledged the desire on the part of the sponsor of 2013-B39 to have an advocate for rural issues, the Committee also noted that there is a benefit to maintaining the present system whereby the present Minister responsible acts as one voice for local government. The government of the day responded to 2013-B39 by stating that presently there are a number of ministers and a dedicated parliamentary secretary focused specifically on rural issues, so did not consider a separate minister as necessary.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B80 Strata Utility Billing Legislative Change**

**Courtenay**

Whereas many British Columbia municipalities invoice strata corporations directly for the collection of utility services fees;

And whereas billing individual strata property owners directly for utility services fees would have significant financial administrative implications for these municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be respectfully requested to take forward to the Legislative Assembly amendments to the *Community Charter* and *Strata Property Act* to afford municipalities the option of imposing utility services fees on either strata councils or on individual strata lot owners.

*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 the issue of providing local governments with an option to impose utility services fees on either strata councils or on individual strata lot owners.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B81                      Autonomy and Authority of Local Jurisdictions with Respect to                      Langley Township**  
**Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Activities**

Whereas the Trans Mountain (TM) pipeline was conceived and developed in the 1950's to move energy products, including oil and gas, from its source to other markets for refining and potential export;

And whereas the pipeline created a concomitant corridor to facilitate further works, servicing, and other infrastructure-related opportunities further to the movement of natural oil and gas products from Alberta to the British Columbia coastline;

And whereas the associated pipeline works cross over numerous territories, regions, local government and First Nation jurisdictional areas across the Province of British Columbia;

And whereas there have been on-going concerns expressed by many local entities both within the Metro area, and beyond, regarding concerns arising from the potential for deleterious results from pipeline- related activities affecting the natural environment, watercourses, local infrastructure, agriculture, and other areas of local government influence and jurisdiction under the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act*;

And whereas most recently, Kinder Morgan has sought, and received approval, from the federal government of Canada to "twin" the existing pipeline (Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMEP) largely to construct new infrastructure to enhance the capacity of the existing dated infrastructure;

And whereas by Decision dated December 7th, 2017, the NEB concluded that local TM works in the City of Burnaby related to the City's Zoning and Tree Bylaw could proceed without these local government approvals based on a prior BC Court of Appeal ruling in support of the NEB's jurisdiction to resolve conflicts relative to a Federal regulatory scheme;

And whereas this recent ruling has significantly undermined opportunities for all accountable local governments, regions, territories and First Nations representative bodies to protect our local communities from a plethora of environmental and social maladies potentially associated with the aforementioned expansion:

Therefore be it resolved that FCM, the provincial government and the federal government create a framework to articulate and establish enforceable protocols and legally binding agreements to ensure that the Trans Mountain Pipeline must be in substantial compliance with all provincial and municipal permitting and authorizations prior to commencing with pipeline expansion associated works in any local area.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                      **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee can advise that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that FCM, the provincial government and the federal government create a framework to articulate and establish enforceable protocols and legally binding agreements to ensure that the Trans Mountain Pipeline must be in substantial compliance with all provincial and municipal permitting and authorizations prior to commencing with pipeline expansion associated works in any local area.*

*However, UBCM members endorsed resolution 2014-LR2 calling for the BC Environmental Assessment Office to withdraw from the 2010 Equivalency Agreement with the National Energy Board and instead undertake its own environmental assessment of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.*

*In response to resolution 2014-LR2, the provincial Environmental Assessment Office emphasized BC's five conditions for any heavy oil pipeline:*



- Successful completion of an environmental assessment;
- Establishment of world-leading marine oil spill response, prevention and recovery systems for BC's coastline and ocean;
- Establishment of world-leading land oil spill prevention, response and recovery systems;
- Legal requirements regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights are addressed and First Nations are provided with the opportunities, information and resources to participate and benefit from the project; and
- BC receives a fair share of the fiscal and economic benefits.

The Province also referenced its active role as an intervenor in the NEB's review of the project, including filing information requests and meeting with Kinder Morgan. The Province pointed out that the review is run entirely under the authority of the National Energy Board, which sets the process for the reviews it conducts.

In April 2015, UBCM met with the National Energy Board to discuss local government concerns regarding pipeline safety, environmental protection and related infrastructure. At the time, the Chair of the National Energy Board expressed interest in participating in the 2015 UBCM Convention in order to consult with BC local governments regarding concerns with the National Energy Board and equivalency agreements.

Prior to 2015, members also endorsed resolution 2011-LR6 which called on the National Energy Board, Port Metro Vancouver, and the federal government to:

"ensure that any applications to expand the amount of oil transported by pipeline ... in British Columbia undergo:

- the highest degree of environmental assessment; and
- meaningful public consultation, including direct engagement with affected municipalities, regional authorities and British Columbia First Nations."

The Committee would note that members have endorsed a previous resolution requesting provincial compliance with local government zoning bylaws as a condition when issuing mining permits (2015-B34).

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B82 Full Disclosure of Financial Interests by Local Elected Officials Vancouver**

Whereas The Province of British Columbia states on the government website that "The intent of the *Financial Disclosure Act* is to identify what areas of influence and possible financial benefit an elected official, nominee or designated employee might have by virtue of their office, and to ensure the public has reasonable access to the information.";

And whereas while the current *Financial Disclosure Act* requires disclosure of direct employment conflicts, it does not require disclosure of potential conflicts for local elected officials where the conflicts may be obscured as a result of them being employed as lobbyists or government and public relation consultants on behalf of other private interests:

Therefore be it resolved that the *Financial Disclosure Act* be amended to ensure that all potential conflicts and financial interests of local elected officials are disclosed per the stated intent 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 sought amendments to the *Financial Disclosure Act* to ensure that all potential conflicts and financial interests of elected officials are disclosed per the stated intent of the Act.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B83 Elected Official Disqualification Terrace**

Whereas there is no provision in BC legislation for disqualification from local government office, or mechanism for recall, in the event that an elected official is convicted of a serious criminal offense:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to implement legislation to require that an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a serious criminal offense;

And be it further resolved that an elected local government official be required to take a paid leave of absence from office upon Crown approval of charges until the court process is complete.

*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 endorsed 2003-B57, which requested amendments to the Local Government Act and the Community Charter to include the following disqualification provisions:*

*An elected official is immediately disqualified from continuing to hold office:*

- *On conviction of an indictable offence; or*
- *On conviction of a criminal offence against the local government to which he or she is elected to serve.*

*In its response the Province stated in part: "With respect to indictable offenses, the legislation prevents those who have not completed the sentence for an indictable offence - unless the person is released on probation or parole and is not in custody - from running for or continuing to hold local government office."*

*Prior to the 2003 resolution members also endorsed 1996-A5 which also advocated a legislative change so that a person would be disqualified from holding local government office if he or she had been convicted of an indictable offence.*

*The membership has no policy on whether elected local government official should be required to take a paid leave of absence from office upon Crown approval of charges until the court process is complete.*

*See also resolution B84.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B84 Disqualification from Holding Elected Office**

**Pitt Meadows**

Whereas council has no authority to seek the removal of a council member who has been criminally convicted during his/her current term;

And whereas the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, has recommended that the City of Pitt Meadows advocate through LMLGA and UBCM for appropriate changes to the governing legislation for local government;

And whereas the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, has advised that her Ministry is prepared to work with UBCM on the issue:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to make whatever legislative changes are needed to:

- Require that an elected local government official be put on unpaid leave immediately upon conviction, during his or her current term, of a serious criminal offence (to be defined by legislation) until the expiration of the time to file an appeal or determination of an appeal; and
- Require that an elected local government official be disqualified from holding office upon conviction, during his or her current term, of a serious criminal offence (to be defined by legislation) upon the expiration of the time to file an appeal or determination of an appeal.

*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 has considered and endorsed the issue of disqualification from office previously. However, the resolution is 15 years old. Members endorsed 2003-B57, which requested amendments to the Local Government Act and the Community Charter to include the following disqualification provisions:*

*An elected official is immediately disqualified from continuing to hold office:*

- *On conviction of an indictable offence; or*
- *On conviction of a criminal offence against the local government to which he or she is elected to serve.*

*In its response the Province stated in part: "With respect to indictable offenses, the legislation prevents those who have not completed the sentence for an indictable offence - unless the person is released on probation or parole and is not in custody - from running for or continuing to hold local government office."*

*Prior to the 2003 resolution members also endorsed 1996-A5 which also advocated a legislative change so that a person would be disqualified from holding local government office if he or she had been convicted of an indictable offence.*

*The Committee notes that a similar resolution/request was brought forward by the sponsor to the LMGLA Conference this year (2018) where it was not endorsed after extensive debate and discussion by delegates. The sponsor has advised that this amended version "takes into account some of the points raised at LMLGA." Despite similar resolutions on this issue, the Committee has offered no recommendation to ensure that the matter comes forward for individual debate by delegates, and not considered as part of block. This will ensure direction is provided to the Executive on this matter.*

*See also resolution B83.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Community Safety**

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### **B85      Need for Improved Snow and Ice Removal Services in Rural Areas**

**Columbia Shuswap RD**

Whereas there are increased issues in terms of timeliness and quality of snow and ice removal in rural areas, particularly during the past 2017/2018-winter snow season;

And whereas the deteriorating level of winter maintenance in rural areas is creating a public safety issue in regards to emergency response vehicles (fire, police, ambulance) having the ability to access streets and roadways in the event of emergency, and affecting school bus routes, leading to unsafe situations for drivers, passengers and pedestrians:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure be requested to immediately undertake a review of their contractor obligations, and agreement specifications for snow and ice control in the rural areas, including a review of minimum equipment standards and staffing requirements.

*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 requesting the Minister of Transportation initiate a review of its agreements related to snow and ice control in rural areas, as well as minimum equipment standards, and staffing requirements.*

*Membership previously endorsed 2007-B98, which requested the Ministry of Transportation work with UBCM to develop an agreement providing for highways within a local jurisdiction to be cleared of snow, ice and gravel in a*

*manner consistent with the practices used by the local government, and to provide adequate funding for delivery of this service. In response, the Ministry of Transportation outlined the current standards used by contractors, as well as provincial and local government responsibilities related to snow ploughing and de-icing of arterial highways.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B86 Seismic Early Warning System**

**Powell River**

Whereas the provincial government has recently invested five million dollars into Ocean Networks Canada's earthquake early warning system in BC to increase its number of offshore strong motion sensors and to integrate them with land-based sensors for robust collection and analysis of seismic activity;

And whereas this system is intended to feed a centralized source that in turn can immediately deliver early detection notifications prior to the arrival of the damaging waves of an earthquake to enhance life safety for British Columbians living in areas of the province with seismic risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province commit to making the earthquake early warning system operational by completing the development of access to this network for communities, and other entities in the public and private sectors, for public safety in all parts of BC vulnerable to earthquake.

*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 the Province provide local governments access to Ocean Networks Canada's earthquake early warning system.*

*UBCM currently appoints a local representative to the British Columbia Seismic Safety Council, which seeks to recommend goals and priorities for province-wide strategies that address the seismic threat through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B87 Local Police Services – Amendments to Service**

**Vernon**

Whereas the Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC) is intended to be a "forum for consultation, analysis and communication between local government and the Province regarding the management of the Municipal Police Unit Agreement;"

And whereas the LGCMC is to "receive and disseminate information to local governments about issues that may impact the cost, quality, governance or capacity of the RCMP to deliver local police services;"

And whereas the LGCMC is to "consider changes proposed by the Province, the federal government and/or the RCMP in relation to any aspect of the delivery of local government police services;"

And whereas the RCMP British Columbia ("E") Division consistently makes unilateral changes to the costs and delivery means of police services for local governments, with little or no consultation and clearly without advising the LGCMC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM appeal to the Solicitor General to require the RCMP "E" Division to provide one calendar year notice to local governments when there will be a change in means of service delivery that will have a substantial budget impact greater than 0.5 per cent of the total RCMP Service Contract to the local government beyond historical costs.

*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 endorsed a resolution requesting that the RCMP "E" Division provide one calendar year notice to local governments for any changes to service delivery that have a budget impact of greater than 0.5 per cent of the total RCMP contract to local governments.*

*UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2010-SR1, RCMP Police Costs & Accountability, requesting, among other things, "the need for increased accountability for the RCMP" with respect to the increasing cost of police services. In response to this resolution, the provincial government indicated support, while the federal government noted the cost pressure on all orders of government as a result of increasing policing costs, and the need to address accountability in upcoming RCMP contract renewal discussions.*

*The RCMP Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC) has repeatedly raised the issue of RCMP accountability with respect to consultation, service delivery, and increasing costs, among other issues.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B88 Provincial Policing**

**Peace River RD**

Whereas the Province of BC has established a population based formula to allocate RCMP resources to provide police services to the rural areas of the province, which does not address growing property crimes and traffic offences in rural communities;

And whereas other jurisdictions have enabled peace officers and sheriffs to assist with traffic offences, warrant apprehension, surveillance and other duties to assist the RCMP:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC explore the roles of peace officers and sheriffs in other jurisdictions to determine if legislation could be enacted in BC to assist the RCMP by providing similar services, in an effort to increase policing services in the rural areas of the province.

*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 endorsed a resolution that specifically requests the Province research the roles of sheriffs and peace officers in other jurisdictions to potentially expand their roles in BC and increase policing services in rural areas.*

*UBCM membership did endorse resolution 2013-B89, which requested that the Province amend the Police Act and create another level of police services. In response, the BC Ministry of Justice cited an upcoming "comprehensive review" of law enforcement, related to the recently completed BC Policing and Public Safety Plan. To UBCM's knowledge, there were no tangible results from this review.*

*Local governments have recently endorsed a number of resolutions related to police resource allocation in rural areas (2016-B82, 2014-B6, 2013-B7, 2012-A4, 2012-B1). Endorsed resolution 2016-B82 called on the provincial government to request that the RCMP conduct an analysis of all combined post detachments in BC to ensure there is an adequate level of provincial policing resources. In response, the provincial government noted that it was aware of the potential impacts that major industrial developments can have on public safety, and that it continues to work with the RCMP to ensure proper service delivery in rural areas.*

*The Resolutions Committee would observe that, in the past, local governments have expressed concerns about costs associated with an additional level of policing (e.g. additional staff, training, equipment).*

*Additionally, the RCMP Senior Executive Committee recently elected to expand the duties of Auxiliary Constables through a new tiered Auxiliary Constable Program model, consistent with the results of an October 2016 UBCM membership survey. The tiered model will allow Auxiliary Constables to participate in a wide range of activities based on experience, training and a local community's needs. This decision will also impact the January 2016 amendments to the Auxiliary Constable Program (ACP) that ended firearms familiarization training and ride-alongs,*

among other things. The UBCM membership recently endorsed resolution 2016-B3, seeking a reversal of the January 2016 amendments.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B89 Request for Increased Court Access**

**Grand Forks**

Whereas the provincial government is committed to improving access to justice and the courts, and appoints and pays judges for the courts;

And whereas rural communities typically make do with a part-time circuit judge once a month, while hundreds of millions of dollars has been allocated to improving court access in urban centers:

Therefore be it resolved the provincial government mandate increased access to the courts in rural BC by providing a bi-monthly circuit court judge so that routine court matters may be dealt with in a more expedient manner.

*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 bi-monthly visits to unstaffed circuit court sites by provincial court judges.*

*The membership endorsed 2011-B9, requesting the Province increase judicial resources. In response, the Ministry of Attorney General noted its recent human resource additions as well as its goal to provide a high level of judicial resources within budget constraints.*

*The Resolutions Committee would note that there is no clear indication that the provision of a bi-monthly provincial circuit court judge would be a sufficient solution for all communities.*

*The Committee would also clarify that in requesting a "bi-monthly circuit court judge," the sponsor is requesting that a circuit court judge visit communities twice per month.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B90 Restorative Justice**

**Vernon**

Whereas the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General oversees the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch, Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division, Community Programs and thus the Community Accountability Program;

And whereas the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General has spoken about, " ... that it's time to significantly broaden a restorative-justice system ... " (*The Globe and Mail*, July 30, 2017) and that restorative justice has been in operation in British Columbia since 1998);

And whereas there has not been an increase in funds since 1998;

And whereas restorative justice services are in some communities that are not part of the Community Accountability Program and are receiving restorative justice services and other communities that are part of the Community Accountability Program and no longer receive restorative justice services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General undertake a province-wide review of restorative justice services with a focus on previously endorsed UBCM resolutions (2017-B89, 2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2008-B4, 2007-B3, 2006-B10, 2003-B2, 2001-B10, 2000-B7), i.e. funding standards and training plus re-open the list for communities to become part of the Community Accountability Program and to increase the funds while identifying gaps "...to enact a province-wide restorative-justice system..." in British Columbia.

*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 that seeks a provincial province-wide review of restorative justice services, with a focus on previously endorsed UBCM resolutions (2017-B89, 2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2008-B4, 2007-B3, 2006-B10, 2003-B2, 2001-B10, 2000-B1) with the goal of implementing a provincial restorative justice system.*

*The UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting that the provincial government provide a sustainable funding source for restorative justice programs (2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2010-B2, 2009-B7, 2008-B4 and 2007-B3).*

*In response to endorsed resolution 2016-B8, requesting funding for restorative justice programs equivalent to what is provided to victims assistance programs, the provincial government made note of the full range of restorative justice programs it provides, as well as funding it has made available through the Community Accountability Program and Civil Forfeiture and Crime Reduction Fund.*

*All of the resolutions cited by the sponsor pertain to federal and/or provincial funding for restorative justice services, except 2017-B89, which seeks to have restorative justice training incorporated into law enforcement training, and 2000-B1, which examines condominium construction standards.*

*UBCM continues to monitor provincial developments related to restorative justice funding. In the past, the Province and federal government have encouraged local governments to establish restorative justice programs; some would prefer to retain more local autonomy over their restorative justice programs while many have placed a higher priority on receiving sustainable federal and provincial funding.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B91 Amend Criminal Justice Branch Charge Assessment Guidelines**

**Grand Forks**

Whereas the criminal justice system is a foundation of Canadian society that plays an important part in maintaining a just, peaceful and safe society;

And whereas in BC, police do not have authority to lay charges as in other provinces, and unlike other provinces, the BC Crown Counsel requires a “substantial likelihood of conviction” criteria for laying charges:

Therefore be it resolved the provincial government drop the burden of proof criteria for Crown Counsel in the laying of criminal charges from a “substantial likelihood of conviction,” to a “reasonable likelihood of conviction.”

*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 the provincial government amend the burden of proof criteria for Crown Counsel to lay criminal charges.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B92 Cannabis Legislation Enforcement**

**Mackenzie**

Whereas it is likely that a substantial portion of the regulatory burden and associated costs for compliance with and enforcement of the new cannabis legislation will fall on Local Government;

And whereas Local Government does not currently have the resources to deal with these issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to take whatever measures necessary to regulate the consumption of recreational cannabis in the same way they do with alcohol and prohibit consumption in public places, vehicles and workplaces.

*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 has not previously endorsed a resolution that specifically requests the Province regulate the consumption of non-medical cannabis similar to alcohol, prohibiting consumption in public places, vehicles and workplaces.*

*UBCM and the Province have formed the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation (JCCR), a forum for local governments to share their experiences and knowledge, and discuss issues of interest or concern with the Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat. As part of this work, UBCM's Executive has endorsed recommendations made by the JCCR, including those relating to public consumption, where UBCM recommended to the Province "that existing public tobacco restrictions should be extended to smoking or vaping non-medical cannabis." In February 2018, the Province announced a broad regulatory framework for non-medical cannabis that includes the extension of existing tobacco restrictions towards cannabis consumption, allowing consumption in public except for areas frequented by children, such as beaches and parks, as well as prohibiting consumption in vehicles. Additional restrictions will be at the discretion of local governments.*

*Additionally, UBCM's membership has endorsed resolution 2017-SR1, which among other things requested that the Province provide funding to address "responsibilities and increase in administrative burden" related to the regulation of non-medical cannabis. The UBCM Executive has subsequently endorsed a set of principles that seek to ensure that BC's share of cannabis excise tax revenue addresses all local government costs associated with the legalization of non-medical cannabis:*

- Cannabis legalization should not result in additional local government funding by property taxpayers.*
- Local governments should be reimbursed for costs associated with the implementation of legalized cannabis.*
- Local governments should be reimbursed for any additional policing costs resulting from cannabis legalization.*
- Remaining excise tax revenue (after taking out expenses incurred as part of the first three principles, and the federal share) should be shared between the Province of BC and local governments.*

*British Columbia's Cannabis Control and Licensing Act creates new cannabis offences, and the enforcement authority to issue fines ranging from \$2,000 - \$100,000 and recommend imprisonment of 3-12 months. A new provincial community safety unit will handle enforcement against illegal dispensaries and others operating outside the legalized framework.*

*Conference decision:* \_\_\_\_\_

## **B93            Medical Cannabis Production**

## **Sunshine Coast RD**

Whereas medical cannabis production in residential areas often generate neighbourhood concerns about safety and nuisance complaints related to odours;

And whereas Health Canada lacks the resources to conduct routine inspections to address compliance and related nuisances to minimize the negative impact and risk to communities, while safety issues fall to local governments to address:

Therefore be it resolved that the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation be revised to make the installation, operation and maintenance of ventilation systems that mitigate odour nuisances a condition of medical cannabis production licenses (including designated person or registered person licenses);

And be it further resolved that Health Canada inspectors have the authority to enter residences where production is taking place and that the federal government provide adequate resources to support Health Canada in conducting regular inspections to ensure compliance and neighbourhood safety.

*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 endorsed a resolution that seeks to:*

- *Revise the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation to make odour-mitigating ventilation systems mandatory for medical cannabis production;*
- *Provide Health Canada inspectors with the authority to enter residences where medical cannabis is being produced; and,*
- *Have the federal government provide “adequate resources” to support Health Canada in conducting inspections.*

*UBCM has previously requested that federal resources be used to perform inspections of personal medical cannabis grow operations (2013-B9). Endorsed resolution 2013-B9 requested that all individuals licensed to produce medical cannabis notified local governments, and that federal resources were used to perform physical inspections of these operations. No provincial or federal response was received by UBCM.*

*With the legalization of non-medical cannabis taking priority with federal and provincial orders of government, there is currently no scheduled review of Canada’s laws pertaining to medical cannabis, and in particular personal production regulations.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B94 Priority Funding of Flood Prevention Capital Projects**

**Stewart**

Whereas in early history, settlements occurred by waterways to provide for the transportation of people and goods;

And whereas these settlements have become the villages, towns and cities of today;

And whereas many of these communities are threatened by the potential of catastrophic flooding;

And whereas small communities with relatively low tax bases are heavily dependent on senior government grants for flood protection as well as other infrastructure;

And whereas grant programmes are heavily subscribed resulting in long approval processes and a shortage of grant money;

And whereas there is a need for more funds dedicated to flood prevention in a more expedient manner:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby both the provincial and federal governments for small community priority funding of flood prevention capital projects.

*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 endorsed a resolution requesting that the provincial and federal governments provide funding to small communities for flood prevention capital projects.*

*However, UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2016-B56, 2015-B6, 2015-B7, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B4, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8, 2009-B3, 2008-B69, 2007-A1).*

*In response to endorsed resolution 2016-B56, the provincial government re-affirmed its commitment to support local governments in emergency and disaster response activities. The Province also outlined the Emergency Program Act provisions requiring provincial assistance in large magnitude emergencies or disasters, as well as*

other assistance provided by provincial authorities. The Province is also committed to continuing to provide guidance, training, and funding of incremental response costs (e.g. overtime, equipment rental, specialized support).

Communities of all sizes are also able to apply for funding through the \$32 million Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), a provincial initiative (administered by UBCM) intended to enhance the resiliency of communities and their residents in responding to emergencies. The CEPF includes 5 different program streams, including dedicated funding for flood preparedness and mitigation

UBCM has a long standing policy position that the provincial government should provide local government with financial assistance to manage disasters and to undertake the studies needed to improve the system. However, because the resolution specifically requests that funding should be prioritized in favour of small communities, the Committee has made no recommendation.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B95      Emergency Management Incident Commander**

**Lumby**

Whereas Emergency Management BC is the Province of BC's lead coordinating agency for all emergency management activities, including training, testing and exercising, to help strengthen provincial preparedness;

And whereas Emergency Management BC works in collaboration with local governments, First Nations, federal departments, industry, non-governmental organizations and volunteers during emergency response efforts;

And whereas local governments with a population under 5,000 people, make up more than half of the 162 municipalities in British Columbia;

And whereas local governments with a population under 5,000 often do not have the capacity during an emergency event to coordinate with Emergency Management BC and also cannot afford to incur a financial obligation that is later disputed and not reimbursed though the Provincial Emergency Program administered by Emergency Management BC:

Therefore be it resolved that Emergency Management BC make available to small, micro communities with populations under 5,000, Provincial Incident Commander(s) to make the critical on-site decisions during emergency events.

*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 endorsed a resolution requesting Emergency Management BC make Provincial Incident Commanders available to communities under 5,000 in population for the purpose of making decisions during emergency events.*

*UBCM membership has recently endorsed numerous resolutions requesting provincial assistance with the provision of emergency services (2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-B44).*

*Endorsed resolution 2017-B86 requested the Province increase its share of emergency recover costs to 90 per cent, with local governments paying the remaining 10 per cent. In response, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General noted the funding already available to local governments through the current cost-sharing model, as well as ongoing disaster mitigation reviews.*

*In 2016, as part of the provincial review of the Emergency Program Act, UBCM made a submission to Emergency Management BC (EMBC). UBCM's submission outlined feedback provided by BC local governments, while also providing recommendations for consideration. Recommendations included the need for further local government consultation; caution against the transfer of additional responsibilities to local governments; and, a desire to maintain the current level of local government authority. It is unknown whether the current provincial government plans to continue this review.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B96 Wildfire Mitigation Practices**

**Williams Lake**

Whereas wildfires have plagued much of British Columbia's Interior this summer, and will continue to threaten communities, particularly with predicted climate change;

And whereas forest restrictions continue to hamper fire mitigation efforts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support lobbying the provincial government to support and implement changes to its wildfire mitigation practices that allow for increased spacing of fibre stands, prescribed burning, larger fuel breaks around residential communities, and other methods to lessen the provincial landscape's susceptibility to "mega-fires" and better protect our citizens and assets from this growing threat.

*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 requesting the provincial government to support and implement changes to its wildfire mitigation practices that allow for increased spacing of fibre stands, prescribed burning, larger fuel breaks around residential communities.*

*However, the UBCM membership has endorsed a number of resolutions requesting that the provincial government increase efforts to mitigate wildfire risk (2017-B4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5).*

*UBCM has administered the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) since 2004. As of June 2018, based on the recommendations of the 2017 Flood and Wildfire Review, UBCM is working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development to transition SWPI to a new community-focused funding model based on the principles of FireSmart. It is expected that the Ministry and the Forest Enhancement Society of BC will continue to address wildfire risk on Crown land.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B97 Wildfire Related Issues**

**Quesnel**

Whereas very little has been done to actually protect rural communities from the threat of wildfires since the 2003 Filmon Firestorm Report;

And whereas the threat of year-over-year catastrophic wildfires is increasing, putting communities at greater risk;

And whereas the fundamental weakness in the current approach to protecting interface communities from wildfire risk is the downloading of the responsibility for managing and treating Crown forest land to local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the provincial government to enable the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to become the lead agency for developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans, fuel management prescriptions for the Wildland Urban Interface ("WUI"), and fuel management treatments in collaboration with local government;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide sufficient funding to the Forest Enhancement Society to fully fund WUI fuel management treatments so they can be undertaken expeditiously.

*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 in relation to funding for the Forest Enhancement Society of BC.*

However, membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B4 which requested that the Province 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.

UBCM has administered the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) since 2004. As of June 2018, based on the recommendations of the 2017 Flood and Wildfire Review, UBCM is working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development to transition SWPI to a new community-focused funding model based on the principles of FireSmart. It is expected that the Ministry and the Forest Enhancement Society of BC will continue to address wildfire risk on Crown land.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B98 Wildfire Crime**

**Quesnel**

Whereas in the wake of BC wildfires, many reports were made of persons illegally accessing restricted fire zones and in particular vulnerable evacuation zones to commit wildfire crime including trespass, vandalism, looting, theft of personal property, theft of wildfire fighting equipment and supplies and impersonation of wildfire or emergency personnel ('fire marshals');

And whereas the *BC Emergency Act* and the Criminal Code of Canada are in need of strengthened language and provisions to specifically and appropriately target and prosecute perpetrators of wildfire crime, including crime which potentially threatens firefighter life and safety;

And whereas penalties appropriate to the severity of such criminal activity in fire zones and vulnerable evacuation zones would enable and provide for meaningful prosecution and conviction, as well as providing a strong and effective deterrent to persons considering such crime:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government and federal government be encouraged to take whatever actions deemed necessary to enable and provide for more appropriate and meaningful penalties for such wildfire crime and/or other similar emergencies situations.

*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 that specifically requests the federal and provincial governments increase penalties related to crimes committed in active wildfire areas or during other active emergency situations.*

*UBCM membership recently endorsed resolution 2016-B6 seeking greater consultation and involvement of local governments in fire management planning, communication and activity. In response, the provincial government cited its work to keep local governments informed about fire activity, as well as funding options to reduce wildfire risks.*

*In 2016, Emergency Management BC initiated a review of the Emergency Program Act. As part of the review, local governments were asked to respond to a number of specific questions related to the Act, including potential policy changes, as part of a provincial discussion paper. Although wildfire crime was not included as a topic for discussion in the provincial paper, respondents were asked to consider adding authority for police to apprehend any person who refuses to comply with an evacuation order issued under a declared state of emergency for the purpose of taking the person to a place of safety. Many local government respondents did not support this policy option.*

*The 2018 Flood and Wildfire Review Final Report, Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia, does not directly address wildfire crime.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B99 Wildfire Firefighting Inventory**

**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas local knowledge of the local climate, terrain, travel routes, communication channels and resources can contribute to the safety of emergency responders and the public in the dangerous and demanding work of fighting wildfires;

And whereas many locals, including contractors and industry, have heavy equipment, local expertise, and are required to have firefighting equipment and trained personnel on site when carrying out any activities on the land base and will stay to fight wildfires to protect their assets, structures, land, and livestock, sometimes for significant periods before the BC Wildfire Service is able to arrive:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Wildfire Service be urged to maintain current inventory listings of the local resources available for firefighting purposes and find ways to work collaboratively with them in the suppression of wildfires.

*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 requesting the BC Wildfire Service maintain an inventory of local resources available to assist in wildfire firefighting.*

*UBCM members have previously endorsed resolution 2017-LR1, which requested the BC Wildfire Service work collaboratively with ranchers in the suppression of wildfires. In response, the provincial government noted necessary training standards for firefighters employed by the BC Wildfire Service, while also recognizing the value of local knowledge. The Province also endeavoured to seek out meetings with the BC Cattlemen's Association to discuss how local resources could benefit wildfire prevention, mitigation and response.*

*The 2018 Flood and Wildfire Review Final Report, Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia, directly addresses this issue through a recommendation which seeks to develop strategic partnerships with community members (e.g. ranchers, forestry contractors, landowners) to provide additional response capacity during emergencies. The provincial government is currently considering all recommendations made in the report.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B100 FireSmart Incentives**

**Williams Lake**

Whereas British Columbia has experienced an unprecedented number of wildfires throughout many communities in the province, with this trend expected to continue;

And whereas FireSmart initiatives help ensure the protection of homes, public safety, and the forest:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the federal and provincial governments and the Insurance Bureau of Canada to provide incentive options for property owners and agricultural land owners to reduce the amount of forest fire fuel on privately-owned land through one or multiple options, including: reduced home insurance rates upon certification of adequate "fire smart" status; a tax rebate in correlation to the amount of fibre removed from the property to achieve "fire smart" status; and/or a reduction in property tax rates once certification of "fire smart" status is achieved.

*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 for the federal and provincial governments and the Insurance Bureau of Canada to provide incentives for private property owners to reduce forest fuels, thereby reducing the threat of wildfire, to meet a FireSmart standard.*

*The Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provincial funding for carrying out wildfire proofing activities on public and private interface lands (2015-B5, 2012-B114, 2008-B59, 2007-B75).*

*In December 2017, former MLA George Abbott and hereditary Chief Maureen Chapman were appointed to undertake a thorough review of the 2017 flood and wildfire season. Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia outlines the findings of the review, and includes 108 recommendations to improve emergency preparedness, response and recovery. Included are several recommendations concerning FireSmart and insurance and tax incentives to encourage participation in emergency preparedness and wildfire resiliency activities (recommendations #46, #54, #60, #68).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Transportation

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### **B101 Rail Proximity Issues**

### **LMLGA Executive**

Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the FCM Railway Advisory Committee (RAC) are committed to building a common approach to the prevention, mitigation, and resolution of safety and liveability issues that can arise when people live and work in close proximity to railway operations and have developed the FCM-RAC Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations (FCMRAC Guidelines);

And whereas adopting the FCM-RAC Guidelines at the municipal or regional level will provide the framework to effectively anticipate and manage railway proximity issues in a way that strengthens safety and facilitates municipal and railway growth—both of which are essential for the future economic prosperity of the province;

And whereas the FCM-RAC Guidelines have not been comprehensively applied across the province leading to inconsistent land use planning:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge all local governments to adopt the FCM-RAC Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*This was submitted to UBCM in 2017 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2018 resolutions cycle.*

*The FCM-RAC Proximity Initiative released its revised Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations in May 2013.*

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging all BC local governments to implement the FCM-RAC Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations, consequently, no recommendation has been provided.*

*However, the Committee would note that members have endorsed resolutions calling on railway companies and the federal government to improve their communication with and responsiveness to local governments regarding rail transport and perceived negative effects on communities (2016-B68, 2014- B56, 2012-B116, 2009-B157, 2007-B107, 2005-B142, 1996-B86).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B102      Updating the *BC Motor Vehicle Act* to Improve Safety for  
All Road Users**

**New Westminster**

Whereas the *BC Motor Vehicle Act* was originally passed in 1957, and reflecting the transportation environment of its time, it was written with an emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of motorist, and does not adequately address the rights and responsibilities of other road users;

And whereas the provincial government has established a “Vision Zero” plan to eliminate road-related injuries and deaths by 2020, through the trend towards reduced injuries and deaths for vulnerable road users are not keeping pace with improved safety for motorists;

And whereas the Road Safety Law Reform Group of BC have created meaningful recommendations toward reform of the Act based on current scientific and legal research, recognized best safety practices from other jurisdictions, and the experiences of BC road users;

And whereas the Provincial Health Officer’s Annual Report “Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Reducing the impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes on the health and well-being in BC” seeks to address challenges to road safety while building upon our current successes;

And whereas these recommendations address modern conditions on the provinces’ roads, and seek to reduce conflicts between motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, and persons with disabilities, and better protect seniors, children and other vulnerable road users:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to support modernization of the *Motor Vehicle Act*, addressing the recommendations in the Road Safety Law Reform Group of BC Position Paper entitled “Modernizing the *BC Motor Vehicle Act*” to enhance safety for all road users.

*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 specifically endorsed the recommendations brought forward within the Road Safety Law Reform Group of BC Position Paper entitled “Modernizing the *BC Motor Vehicle Act*” to enhance safety for all road users.*

*However, the Committee notes that members have endorsed other resolutions in support of road safety education as requirement for a drivers license, funding for road safety projects, road upgrading for safety purposes (2009-B16, 2007-B80, 2004-B105, 2004-B106, 2001-LR1).*

*See also resolution C3.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B103      Reducing Excessive Driving Speeds in Designated BC Road Safety  
Corridors, For All Drivers, All The Time**

**Lions Bay**

Whereas the correlation between excessive speed and road accidents is well accepted, and the high human and economic cost to British Columbia is well understood;

And whereas average-speed-over-distance or point-to-point technology has proven extremely effective in jurisdictions worldwide at controlling road speed for all drivers all the time in designated road safety corridors:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to pilot average-speed-over-distance technology at one or more suitable locations in BC, including but not limited to the Sea-to-Sky Highway 99 at Lions Bay, the Malahat Highway 1 or the Coquihalla Highway 5.

*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 Province to pilot average-speed-over-distance technology at one or more suitable locations in BC, including but not limited to the Sea-to-Sky Highway 99 at Lions Bay, the Malahat Highway 1 or the Coquihalla Highway 5.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Taxation

### **B104      Alternate Tax Sale Redemption Date**

**Lake Cowichan**

Whereas the *Local Government Act* requires the sale of a property, where delinquent taxes are unpaid, to occur on the last Monday of September;

And whereas the property owner currently has until the start of the sale of the tax sale auction the opportunity to redeem the property from a tax sale, which often does occur, thus inconveniencing bidders who have taken time off work or who have brought cash, certified checks or bank drafts to bid on a property that may no longer be in tax sale status:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province to establish the tax redemption deadline date to be no later than the Friday prior to the tax sale date in September, so that the bidders and local government staff are dealing with a listing of tax sale properties available for tax sale that is final.

*Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions on this topic and notes that the topic of tax sales has been an ongoing concern for local governments. Previous resolutions have focused on the redemption period. For instance, resolution 2000-B76 was endorsed which asked that the time limit for making a redemption of property sold at a tax sale be shortened as a measure to persuade owners to redeem their property.*

*Prior to the 2000 resolution, resolution 1997-B37 requested that the then-Municipal Act be amended to reduce the current one year redemption period to sixty (60) days. This resolution was not endorsed. Resolution 1994-A9 was sponsored by the UBCM Executive as a composite resolution on the issue of tax sales. One part stated: "(c) the period of redemption be shortened as a measure to persuade owners of properties sold at tax sale to redeem these properties." A specific time period was not suggested.*

*The Committee is offering no recommendation to provide delegates with an opportunity to determine what is the appropriate tax redemption deadline date. The sponsor has outlined in their background materials that it would be prudent to have a clear separation of dates and times for the tax sale redemption deadline and the occurrence of the tax sale so that bidders have the certainty that the tax sale listing is final.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B105      Agricultural Land Reserve – Protective Taxation Reform**

**Burnaby**

Whereas a significant portion of Agricultural Land Reserve lands are being used for permitted non- farming uses;

And whereas this land is some of the most agriculturally productive in Canada;

And whereas existing taxation and assessment procedures for the Agricultural Land Reserve provide benefits for non-farm uses that occur on these lands:



Therefore be it resolved that UBCM further encourage the provincial government to direct BC Assessment, and any other appropriate bodies, to promptly investigate and propose possible taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary 'farm uses', as laid out in the Homes for BC companion document to the 2018 Provincial Budget.

*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 on this issue.*

*However the membership endorsed resolution 2014-B113 which asked that medical marijuana not be considered as a 'farm use' for taxation assessment.*

*Over the past 10 years, UBCM members have endorsed multiple resolutions calling for increased provincial food production, increased availability of local produce and farm products, and better support for farmers.*

*Compared with other jurisdictions, BC has a considerably low threshold for classifying a property as "farm class." This contributes to land owners undertaking minimal farm use for the purpose of tax benefit and, potentially, to increased non-farm use on ALR land.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Finance

### **B106 Provincial Financial Support During a State of Emergency**

**Cariboo RD**

Whereas fighting wildfires is the responsibility of the provincial government;

And whereas local fire departments and search and rescue teams are critical in fighting large scale wildfires during a declared State of Emergency:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to enact any legislative and/or policy changes necessary to ensure that local emergency organizations that are requested to and do assist during a declared State of Emergency receive timely compensation for their time and supplies used assisting the Province in this manner.

*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 endorsed a resolution requesting that local governments receive "timely compensation" for their time and supplies used to assist during a provincial State of Emergency.*

*UBCM membership has endorsed multiple resolutions related to funding for first responder supplies and equipment (2017-B61, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2014-B15, 2012-B10, 2010-B6, 2000-B15). In response to endorsed resolution 2017-B61, requesting a grant program for emergency vehicles and equipment, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General listed several initiatives (e.g. Gas Tax, Investing in Canada Plan) that it would like to see eventually include funding streams for emergency equipment/preparedness.*

*The Committee would also note that UBCM is now administering the new \$32 million Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. This new funding program includes a funding stream that focuses on building capacity for Emergency Social Services teams through new equipment, training and volunteer recruitment/retention.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B107 Downloading of Wildfire Mitigation Costs and Responsibility****Burns Lake**

Whereas current wildfire trends in British Columbia, being driven by the effects of climate change and the devastating and lasting effects of the mountain pine beetle, show increasing impacts to timber values from unwanted wildfires and associated suppression costs, an increased threat to infrastructure and communities and increased losses of natural resources; including mid-term timber supply;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia introduced the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) in 2004 which resulted in the cost, responsibility and expertise of wildfire mitigation on Crown land, areas surrounding local governments and land inside local government boundaries, being shifted onto local governments which is creating significant additional pressure on local government finances and staff resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial and federal governments to discontinue downloading wildfire mitigation costs and responsibilities onto local governments and First Nations through the SWPI program and take responsibility for wildfire mitigation costs on Crown land and areas surrounding local governments.

*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 endorsed resolution 2017-B4 which requested that the Province 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.*

*UBCM has administered the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative (SWPI) since 2004. As of June 2018, based on the recommendations of the 2017 Flood and Wildfire Review, UBCM is working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development to transition SWPI to a new community-focused funding model based on the principles of FireSmart. It is expected that the Ministry and the Forest Enhancement Society of BC will continue to address wildfire risk on Crown land.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B108 International Biodiversity Targets Commitment****Pemberton**

Whereas the federal government has committed to meeting the International Biodiversity Targets of protecting 17 per cent of our land and inland waters and 10 per cent of our ocean by 2020 through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;

And whereas a strong provincial parks system provides economic benefits in the forms of good jobs in urban and rural communities, economic impacts through visitor spending, tourism revenue and diversifying the economy, and ecosystem services in the forms of clean air, water, providing critical habitat for species-at-risk, and climate change adaptation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to set aside dedicated funding for purposes of system expansion, ecological monitoring and research, and management planning to meet the quantitative and qualitative measures set out in the 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada.

*Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for funding to meeting the measures set out in the 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada.*

*See also resolution C21.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B109 Amendments to Rural Dividend Fund Process****Cariboo RD**

Whereas the purpose of the Province's Rural Dividend Fund is to support rural communities and strengthen their economies;

And whereas this goal could be achieved in a more efficient manner if local governments did not have to apply and report on each application individually, but could plan the funding for appropriate projects with a cooperative, strategic lens:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide a Rural Dividend allocation to local governments each year through a multi-year agreement, similar to the federal Gas Tax Fund, allowing the local government to effectively utilize the funds for local projects based on provincial criteria, and to complete the process through a simplified annual reporting structure.

*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 requesting the province to amend the funding process/allocation for the Rural Dividend Fund.*

*However, previous endorsed resolutions (2012-B69 Local Government Funding and 2009-B29 Federal Provincial Infrastructure Program Funding) have both requested for efficiency and streamlining improvements to existing federal and provincial funding programs.*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the Province has committed to extending the Rural Dividend Fund to 2021 (\$25 million/year). It is also noted that the Province will be considering a program review of the Rural Dividend Fund in 2018.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B110 Municipal Uplift Grant Program****Telkwa**

Whereas there is a large inequity between British Columbia municipalities in per capita revenue, spending and municipal staffing capacity;

And whereas this inequity makes it difficult for low revenue communities to compete in grant funding intakes, which assess all applicants as being equal in their capacity to apply:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to establish a new capital infrastructure and operations grant fund which proactively identifies and supports those communities with high residential tax rates and low revenue due to a lack of commercial and industrial property taxation.

*Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution regarding the establishment of a distinct capital infrastructure grant fund specific for those communities with high residential tax rates and low revenue due to lack of commercial and industrial property taxation.*

*UBCM membership did endorse 2014-SR1, Strong Fiscal Futures. The strong fiscal futures framework sought to engage the provincial government in strengthening the local government finance system. It recognized local challenges, but looked at options/solutions that would benefit all BC local governments. It does identify looking at grants through a per capita/equalization lens. The current Small Community Grants continue to be available (municipalities under 19,000 pop.). These grants are used to assist in the provision of basic services and provide support to smaller communities that may have capacity challenges.*

*Further, UBCM membership have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to consider the limited capacity of smaller local governments to both apply for, and finance, large infrastructure projects (2013-B19, 2012-B11, 2012-B13).*

*The UBCM Resolutions Committee notes the challenges and implications of creating new and additional categories for eligible applicants, specifically based on tax rates and current commercial and industrial property taxation.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B111 Grant Funding**

**Quesnel**

Whereas local governments are accountable and autonomous orders of government;

And whereas local governments have legally mandated obligations to prepare official community plans, multi-year budgets, long term capital plans based on more and more sophisticated asset management systems, and a variety of other strategic plans for their communities;

And whereas local governments must be able to focus on implementing their publicly approved budgets and strategic plans rather than expending their limited staff and financial resources on grant applications and unnecessary reporting requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments restructure all their infrastructure and social and economic grant programs to mirror the federal gas tax allocation to local governments in order to provide ease of access to year over year incremental funding.

*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 requesting both the federal and province government to amend all programs to align with the funding structure of the Gas Tax Fund.*

*However, previous endorsed resolutions (2014-B19 Federal Matching Grants, 2013-B19 Infrastructure Grants for Small Municipalities, 2012-B13 Infrastructure Funding Criteria, 2012-B69 Local Government Funding, and 2009-B29 Federal Provincial Infrastructure Program Funding) have all requested various changes to existing programs focused on funding formula (reducing local government share), streamlining processes and/or alternative allocation methods.*

*In BC, the Gas Tax Fund is allocated in two ways: (1) The Community Works Funds provides a direct, per-capita allocation to each individual local government, and (2) Pooled Funding (the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund for Metro Vancouver region) and (the Strategic Priorities Fund for all local governments outside of Metro).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B112 Community Gaming Grant Funded by eGaming Revenues**

**Lillooet**

Whereas the British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC), pursuant to its Corporate Social Responsibility Charter, was created to benefit the lives of British Columbians;

And whereas according to the 2016/17 BCLC Annual Service Plan Report the provision of gambling services through traditional channels such as casinos and community gaming facilities is maturing and close to meeting existing market demand while eGaming business performance was very strong with double digit growth in revenue;

And whereas host local governments received \$95.8 million and non-profit community organizations received a further \$134.8 million from gambling revenue in fiscal year 2014/15;

And whereas small communities are unlikely to be host local governments and have proportionally fewer non-profit community organizations that may not have the sophistication to apply for community gaming grants creating a structural inequality between large urban communities and small rural communities with respect to the sharing of gambling revenues;

And whereas eGaming is an activity engaged in province wide and not restricted by geography:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be encouraged to establish a Community Gaming Grant program to financially support communities with populations of less than 25,000 to be funded from BCLC eGaming revenues.

*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 establish a Community Gaming Grant program to financially support non-host communities with populations of less than 25,000 to be funded from BCLC eGaming revenues.

The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2013-B100, requesting the Province increase the percentage return from gaming revenues to host local governments. At that time, the provincial response identified that profits from eGaming made up only 1.5 per cent of BCLC's total net income in 2012/2013.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B113        A Call To Divestment – Aligning City Investments With The Future**

**Port Moody**

Therefore be it resolved that the Municipal Finance Authority of BC be called upon to:

- divest all investments from the fossil fuel-related companies and endeavours, or
- move forward with plans for a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) fund free from investments in fossil-fuel related companies and endeavours.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2016-B77 which called upon the Municipal Finance Authority to create a fossil-fuel-free investment fund to provide local governments with an investment choice that aligns with priorities for climate action and social responsibility.*

*UBCM is aware that at the 2017 UBCM Convention MFA held a workshop on this issue and advised that it was "opposed to the narrow approach of fossil-fuel divestment, but is supportive of a broader Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) approach." Since that time MFA has committed to creating a Socially Responsible Investing Fund if it is able to achieve a demonstrated demand of a minimum \$100 million from local governments. Currently the MFA has received support in the amount of \$65 million from local governments and will require additional commitments in order to launch the fund.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assessment

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### **B114 New Municipal Tax Classes**

**West Vancouver**

Whereas many municipalities in BC are facing a very significant and well-documented housing affordability issue with property prices significantly higher than local residents' ability to pay and in many cases the highest average housing prices in the country;

And whereas currently, municipalities have only nine tax classes that can be used to set property taxes to achieve municipal goals:

Class 1 – Residential;  
Class 2 – Utilities;  
Class 3 – Supportive Housing;  
Class 4 – Major Industry;  
Class 5 – Light Industry;  
Class 6 – Business Other;  
Class 7 – Managed Forest Land;  
Class 8 – Recreational Property; Non-Profit Organization; and  
Class 9 – Farm;

And whereas there have been minor amendments, the basic structure of this property tax class system has not be substantially amended since the 1980's;

And whereas with the creation of new tax classes each municipality could set different tax rates for each class based on their individual needs and circumstances. As an example, different residential classes could be created to address vacant houses, non-residents ownership, etc:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government amend the *Community Charter* to allow municipalities to create additional tax classes so they can each accomplish their own community goals.

*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 consistently defeated resolutions seeking to split the residential assessment class in order to apply different tax rates to different types of residential property. Members considered, but did not endorse resolutions 2016-B105, 2008-B126 (Executive endorsed), 2003-B79, 2002-B41 and 1995-B37 on this topic.*

*The Committee notes that past resolutions have requested all manner of special treatment by creating new classes and sub-classes of property.*

*However, the Committee notes that in 2016 members endorsed B104, which asked the provincial government to create a new tax class for brownfield sites so that local governments can tax these sites accordingly.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B115 Supporting Independent Small Businesses Through Provincial Assessment and Tax Reform**

**Vancouver**

Whereas the widespread land speculation and soaring assessments on commercial and industrial properties continue to pose significant affordability challenges to independent small businesses who have limited ability to absorb extraordinary increases in rent and assume all property taxes passed on to them by their landlords, including taxes on the development potential;

And whereas Vancouver City Council has formally submitted a request to the Province of BC in February 2018 to initiate a province-led intergovernmental workgroup to assess the options put forward by the City of Vancouver to

address the impact of soaring property assessments on independent small business tenants in time for the 2019 tax year. The City of Vancouver has not formally heard back from the Province of BC to-date:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to initiate a province-led intergovernmental workgroup to address these assessment and taxation issues immediately to enable the long-term viability of independent small businesses in Metro Vancouver and the rest of British Columbia.

*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 for the Province to initiate an intergovernmental working group to assess the impacts of soaring property assessment impacts on small businesses.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Environment

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### **B116        Southern Mountain Caribou**

### **Peace River RD**

Whereas the Southern Mountain Caribou has been identified as a species at risk and the Province has announced a draft conservation agreement under the federal *Species at Risk Act* regarding recovery measures for the Southern Mountain Caribou, the goal of which is to articulate the actions the parties will take over the next five years to support the long term objective of achieving recovery of self-sustaining populations of the Southern Mountain Caribou in BC;

And whereas the initial focus includes the Pine, Narraway, and Quintette Local Population Units in in the Peace River Regional District in north eastern BC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government consider the impact of actions proposed to assist with the recovery of the Southern Mountain Caribou will have on back country access, which is integral to the success of tourism in northeast BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to commit to involve the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in the process as they have significant knowledge regarding health concerns specific to the Southern Mountain Caribou and potential impacts to other domestic and wild animal species in the region;

And be it further resolved to urge the federal and provincial governments to give community health and viability high priority when pursuing the worthy objective of recovering the Southern and Central Mountain Caribou;

And be it further resolved to strongly urge the federal and provincial governments to enter into real consultation with all the affected communities before announcing decisions.

*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 for the Province to consider the impact of South Caribou recovery actions on back country access, and for the involvement of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.*

*However, the membership endorsed resolution 2017-B114 that called for the Province to investigate and consider the socio-economic impacts of implementation plans for the conservation and regeneration of woodland caribou in*

BC. In response to the resolution, the Province acknowledged that a socio- economic assessment is developed to inform decisions on all species-at-risk implementation plans.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B117      Intentional Feeding of Wildlife – Amendment to the *Wildlife Act*      East Kootenay RD**

Whereas the intentional feeding of wildlife is often detrimental to wildlife by causing them to concentrate and habituate to living in unnatural conditions within a community, damaging property, and becoming a nuisance and public safety issue;

And whereas section 33.1 of the *Wildlife Act* prohibits the intentional feeding of dangerous wildlife, but does not apply to other wildlife, meaning that the feeding of wildlife in general is not regulated, and conservation or other officers have no authority to control, enforce, or educate the public about problems caused by the intentional feeding of wildlife:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government amend the *Wildlife Act* to prohibit the intentional feeding of problem wildlife.

*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 an amendment to the Wildlife Act to prohibit the intentional feeding of problem wildlife.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B118      Protection of Native West Coast Salmon      Sooke**

Whereas British Columbia's native west coast wild salmon can be negatively impacted by commercial salmon farms due to increased levels of diseases and parasites from farmed salmon; degradation of their genetic makeup through interbreeding with escaped farmed salmon; and ecological competition with escaped farmed salmon:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to enact legislation that would protect British Columbia's wild salmon stock from the negative impacts of commercial salmon farms.

*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 specifically calling for legislation to protect BC's wild salmon stocks.*

*However, the Committee notes that members have endorsed a number of resolutions related to the protection of wild salmon stocks. In 2007 members endorsed resolution B172, which asked all governments to work together to ensure the sustainability of wild Pacific salmon as a priority and mitigate threats. Resolution 2006-B151 requested the Province to place a moratorium on any expansion of open- net fish farming on the BC coast until the Special Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture reported to the House (no later than May 31, 2007).*

*In its response to resolution 2007-B172, the Province referenced existing resources and efforts to protect fish and fish habitat; and in its response to resolution 2006-B151 the Province indicated that it was "proceeding with caution and looks forward to receiving the recommendations of the Committee so that the Ministry can continue to improve our approach to having both farmed and wild salmon for the benefit of all British Columbians."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_



**B119 Upgrade Flood Infrastructure to Consider Fish and Access to Fish Habitat**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas the Fraser River is home to more salmon runs than any other river in the world, and many of these runs are affected by outdated municipal flood control infrastructure that blocks or harms salmon streams;

And whereas the Ministry of FLNRORD administers the *Water Sustainability Act*, and administers funding programs to replace aging and inadequate flood protection infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to improve their oversight of flood infrastructure maintenance and improvements, to include consideration of ecological connectivity and aquatic ecosystem health;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government initiate infrastructure funding priorities and partnerships that support the installation of fish-friendly infrastructure in those locations where aging or inadequate infrastructure requires upgrading or replacement.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution for improved provincial oversight of flood infrastructure maintenance and improvements, and provincial infrastructure funding priorities for fish friendly infrastructure.*

*However, the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions supporting provincial funding and support in flood protection infrastructure (2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2011-B79, 2010-B8).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B120 Mine and Quarry Siting Restrictions**

**Cowichan Valley RD**

Whereas sand and gravel mines and quarries that are reclaimed as landfills have the potential to contaminate surface and ground water;

And whereas provincial regulations for aquifer and drinking water protection related to reclamation of mines and quarries are inadequate to protect community water supplies and are inferior to many other jurisdictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province legislate enforceable and mandatory landfill siting restrictions in the *Environmental Management Act* so that no waste permit, approval, or Operational Certificate can be issued for filling a mine pit with waste over a porous or sensitive aquifer.

*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 on the Province to legislate enforceable and mandatory landfill siting restrictions in the Environmental Management Act so that no waste permit, approval, or Operational Certificate can be issued for filling a mine pit with waste over a porous or sensitive aquifer.*

*However, the membership endorsed resolution 2013-B37 which called for an amendment to contaminated site regulations to provide for thorough and appropriate consideration of local government input and land use regulations in the contaminated soils permitting process.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B121 Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracking****North Saanich**

Whereas seventy percent 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 liters 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 petition the Province to place a moratorium on any additional fracking wells and to actively promote conversion to alternative green energy development.

*Not presented to 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 previously considered a resolution requesting a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, but that resolution was not endorsed (2017-B131).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B122 West Coast Marine Spill Response Guarantee****Port Alberni**

Whereas Kinder Morgan has announced they may cancel their expansion project as soon as May 31st, 2018 and the West Coast Marine Spill Response Corporation has suspended activities at facilities they are building across our region which are tied to the completion of the Kinder Morgan project;

And whereas there is an existing and continued need for world class spill response and the jobs that are tied to that response on the West Coast of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial and federal governments to guarantee funding for the construction and operation of the marine response facilities including those steered by First Nations, so that those jobs and the world class ocean protection they provide are guaranteed.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the senior orders of government to guarantee funding for the construction and operation of marine response facilities.*

*However, the membership has endorsed resolution 2016-B20 that called on the federal government to work with the Province to create a world class marine oil spill prevention, preparedness and response capacity.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B123 Streamlined Process for Sediment Management – Flood Mitigation****Chetwynd,  
Peace River RD**

Whereas the accumulation of gravel, sediment and debris such as trees and other obstructions in an active creek bed (aggradation) can increase flood hazards on alluvial fans and promote erosion of previously deposited materials, and an environmentally appropriate in-stream sediment and obstruction management program can be an important part of a local government's flood hazard mitigation program;

And whereas careful consideration needs to be given to the scale of intended actions, and recognizing that much larger excavations done under emergency conditions during flood events could greatly increase the scale of unintended actions to the environment;

And whereas removal of gravel and obstructions from creek beds as a means of managing water surface elevations is possible, the regulatory requirements are relatively complex, and the timing of the various steps must be considered well in advance of the intended works since the approval process needs to be completed prior to nesting periods and fisheries work windows:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government and federal government to work with local governments to streamline the regulatory processes and develop management guidelines, best practices, policies, and regulations to permit local governments to perform sediment and obstruction removal work, in the most minimally disturbing way to aquatic habitats, in streambeds in order to minimize flooding during heavy-rain events;

And be it further resolved that the development of these stream-bed management guidelines, best practices, policies, and regulations be given high priority.

*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 specific resolution calling for streamlined regulatory processes and the prioritized development of management guidelines for sediment management and flood mitigation.*

*However, the membership endorsed resolution 2012-B62 which similarly called for the development of clear and consistent policies for the implementation of environmental legislation and associated approvals for flood mitigation works. The membership also endorsed resolution 2009-B8 that called on the senior orders of government to allow proactive and co-operative solutions to flood mitigation and dyke repairs through 'in-stream' work.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B124 Reclaimed Water Use****Peace River RD**

Whereas fresh water is a finite resource that is being consumed faster than it can be replenished;

And whereas the conservation of water is a shared responsibility between the Province and local government and the vast majority of wastewater flows back to the natural environment without being treated or re-used:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to implement provincial policy that requires, where reasonably available, the use of reclaimed water for operations such as dust control, agricultural irrigation, and industrial uses, prior to the use of potable or fresh water.

*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 endorsed resolutions calling for the Province to require the use of reclaimed water for agricultural and industrial operations prior to the use of potable water.*

*However, the membership has endorsed resolution 2012-B31 which called on the Province to promote the use of reclaimed water. As well as resolution 1995-B44 which called on the Province to develop criteria for the use of reclaimed water in residential areas for landscape irrigation and agricultural purposes.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B125 Water Conservation in New Buildings**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas BC has signed the Climate Agreement and water conservation is one of the most important aspects of the agreement;

And whereas there are roughly 2.5 million men in BC who could save 10,950 liters of water per person, per year, if new buildings were required to have waterless urinals:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government update the Building Code to make the installation of waterless urinals mandatory in all new dwellings built.

*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 update the Building Code to make the installation of waterless urinals mandatory in all new dwellings.*

*However, the UBCM membership endorsed a related resolution 2002-B49, which sought to improve water conservation through the Building Code. The resolution asked that the Building Code be amended to replace the requirement for 13.25 liter toilets with a requirement for 6.0 liter capacity toilets or dual flush technology toilets (3.0 liter and 6.0 liter).*

*The Committee would note that the provincial government recently concluded a public consultation on changes to the Building Code, which included proposed changes to plumbing fixture water efficiency. This review ran from December 2017 to February 2018 and included the proposal to reduce water flush cycles in non-residential urinals from 5.7 litres to 1.9 litres.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B126 Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy**

**Vancouver**

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia develop a provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a provincial Zero Waste Strategy, which would include but not necessarily be limited to plastic and paper shopping bags, polystyrene foam cups and polystyrene foam containers, other hot and cold drink cups and take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single use items needed for medical use or for people with disabilities.

*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 has previously endorsed resolution B88-2008, which called on the Province to ban on the use of thin film plastic grocery bags. Resolution B28-2016 also called for the provincial government to enact legislation to prohibit the distribution of thin film plastic shopping bags by businesses. In addition, resolution B29-2006 called on the senior orders of government to mandate product*

*stewardship recycling programs for packaging to address plastic shopping bags, disposable cups and dishes, styrofoam packing, bubble wrap packing and plastic film packaging.*

*While there is no ban on plastic items in place within BC, the Committee notes that Recycle BC has an approved product stewardship plan in place for the collection and management of packaging and printed paper – including plastic bags – to increase diversion and recycling rates of these materials across BC.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B127 RecycleBC**

## **Okanagan-Similkameen RD**

Whereas rural areas within the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen have unique challenges associated with curbside collection of recyclable materials including many long rural driveways, concerns of animals getting into unsecured materials and higher than average senior population;

And whereas the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen has determined that the use of clear bags and other customer supplied containers allows for the most efficient collection of residential recycling in their existing collection areas by increasing ease of use, increasing the volume of materials collected, reducing total program costs, reducing contamination as compared to cart collection, limiting windblown litter and protecting recycling from rain and snow;

And whereas Recycle BC intends to require that all participating local governments ban the use of clear bags and other customer supplied containers for their residential recycling by July 2020:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Environment intervene with Recycle BC in allowing clear bags and other customer supplied containers to remain an option for existing local government collection programs.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that Recycle BC allow clear bags and other customer supplied containers to remain an option for existing local government collection programs.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B128 Climate Accountability for Fossil Fuel Companies**

## **Victoria**

Whereas communities in British Columbia face a range of impacts from climate change, including sea- level rise, increased coastal erosion, prolonged summer drought, and increased winter precipitation and communities are required to consider these impacts in infrastructure planning, construction and maintenance, as well as to mitigate the financial impacts of these costs on residents and businesses given the limits of local government revenue raising to property taxes and utilities;

And whereas while the precise amount of increased costs due to the increase in work on infrastructure due to climate change is not yet quantified, local governments in British Columbia are almost certainly already paying significantly increased costs and those amounts will only increase, noting that fossil fuel companies have played a major role in the creation of climate change, making hundreds of billions of dollars in selling products which cause climate change with the twenty largest fossil fuel companies having contributed—through their operations and products—to approximately 29.3 per cent of greenhouse gases in the global atmosphere today:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM on behalf of their member local governments write a climate accountability letter to the twenty fossil fuel companies outlining the types of costs that communities are incurring and expected to incur due to climate change, and requesting that the companies pay their fair share of those impacts.

*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 suggesting that UBCM write a climate accountability letter to the twenty largest fossil fuel companies, requesting those companies to pay to local governments a share of the costs incurred by local governments responding to the impacts of climate change.*

*The Committee is hesitant to provide a recommendation for this resolution as it is proposing a course of action in the absence of UBCM following its normal business practice which would be to undertake comprehensive research and analysis on the issue and then determining the appropriate course of action.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B129 Strengthen Low Carbon Fuel Requirement**

**Richmond**

Whereas the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change calls the implementation of a clean fuel standard to reduce emissions from fuels used in transportation, buildings and industry;

And whereas British Columbia's Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements Regulation requires an increasing percentage of renewable content in transportation fuels reaching 10 per cent by 2020, which has prevented 6.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e greenhouse gas emissions between 2010 and 2016;

And whereas the Climate Leadership Team's 2015 Recommendations to the BC Government included increasing the Low Carbon Fuel Requirement to 20 per cent by 2030:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to increase the Low Carbon Fuel Requirement to 20 per cent by 2030.

*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 to increase the low carbon requirement in transportation fuels.*

*However, the membership endorsed resolution 2006-B27, which called on the Province to petition the federal government to legislate that all vehicle fuels contain a correct percentage of cellulose ethanol by 2010 to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B130 Call for the Expansion of Provincial EV Incentives**

**Port Moody**

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia take the lead across North America in providing the highest available level of provincial subsidy for purchase of electric vehicles.

*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 any resolutions calling for the Province to provide subsidies for the purchase of electric vehicles.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B131 Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate****Richmond**

Whereas ten US states and the province of Quebec have adopted Zero Emissions Vehicle standards that require a progressively increasing share of new passenger vehicle sales to be zero emissions vehicles (such as electric vehicles or hydrogen fuel cell vehicles);

And whereas the Climate Leadership Team's 2015 Recommendations to the BC government included establishing Zero Emission Vehicle targets of 30 per cent of sales by 2030;

And whereas Canada and China are the co-chairs of the EV30@30 campaign under the Clean Energy Ministerial, which is working towards 30 per cent of vehicle sales across participating jurisdictions to be zero emissions vehicles by 2030:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to develop requirements for Zero Emissions Vehicles to comprise at least 30 per cent of passenger vehicle sales by 2030.

*Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop requirements for zero emission vehicles to comprise at least 30 per cent of passenger vehicle sales by 2030.*

*However, the Committee also notes that the membership has passed resolutions endorsing initiatives that support the use of electric vehicles, including expanding charging infrastructure (2017-B132).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Land Use****B132 Crown Lands for Cannabis Production****Nelson**

Whereas there is increasing concern that prime agricultural land will be used for cannabis production and have a negative impact on food security;

And whereas cannabis has been grown on non-agricultural lands for decades including Crown lands:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to develop an overall strategy that will support local cannabis producers and minimize the impact on prime agricultural lands; which could include leasing of Crown lands that would accommodate cannabis production.

*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 the provincial government develop a strategy to support local cannabis producers and minimize impacts on prime agricultural lands.*

*However, the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions 2014-B109 and 2014-B113, which requested the Province amend legislation to exclude the production of medical cannabis from the list of agricultural uses that qualify for farm classification for property tax purposes. Resolution 2014-B113 also requested that the Province amend legislation to allow communities to regulate medical cannabis production on ALR land. In response to endorsed resolution 2014-B113, the Province amended the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation to exclude*

medical cannabis production as a qualifying agricultural use. The Province also created a set of bylaw standards that allow local governments to regulate, but not prohibit medical cannabis production on ALR land.

Recently, UBCM made a submission to the Minister's Advisory Committee on the Revitalization of the ALC and ALR. In the submission, UBCM addressed the issue of non-medical cannabis production, expressing concerns that non-medical cannabis would be better categorized as an industrial use as opposed to an agricultural use. Some of the potential issues with cannabis production on ALR land include light pollution, odour and accessory uses. UBCM has asked that the Minister's Advisory Committee "carefully examine the means of production of recreational cannabis to determine if the expected industrial-style production is the best use of BC's limited agricultural land."

UBCM and the Province have also established the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation (JCCR), which provides a forum for local governments to share their experiences and knowledge, and discuss issues of interest or concern with the Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat. Since October 2017, local governments and the Province have worked collaboratively to develop a BC framework for non-medical cannabis legalization, and in the process gain understanding of local government responsibilities and costs associated with legalization. One issue currently being discussed is cannabis production on ALR land.

Additionally, UBCM's Executive, at its May 2018 meeting, expressed support for a moratorium on the production of non-medical cannabis on ALR land until the provincial government undertakes a comprehensive review and broad consultation with local governments. The provincial government, as of June 2018, has yet to respond to this request.

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B133 Removal of Restrictive Covenants**

**Squamish**

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to include a similar provision in provincial legislation, to Section 48(4) of the *Land Titles Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 Chapter L-4, that allows for a local government to directly petition the court to remove a restrictive covenant or other instrument that conflicts with a provision of a bylaw enacted under Part 14 – Planning and Land Use Management of the *Local Government Act* [RSBC 2015] Chapter 1.

*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 on this issue.*

*The sponsor has advised that in the 1960's certain neighbourhoods that were developed had restrictive covenants attached to them. The restrictive covenant registered on title, is held between the property owner (the Grantee) and the no longer operational developer (the Grantor). As a result the local government is not a party to the agreement and has no jurisdictional authority to enforce the agreement. The restrictive covenant does not allow specific activities such as subdivision without permission of the Grantor. However with the Grantor non-operational there is no one to enforce the restricted covenant; and with residents bringing forward applications to subdivide properties, and council is trying to encourage additional density, it is challenging to deal with approving any new developments where these restrictive covenants exist. The sponsor is seeking to provide local governments with the ability to seek court approval to remove these restrictive covenants where no Grantor is around to enforce them.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B134 Proposed Amendment to Provincial Mines Act and Other Relevant Articles of Legislation**

**Kamloops**

Whereas under the current legislation, a mining operation may be established within or near municipal boundaries which can have negative impact on environmental and economic conditions as well as the physical and social health of established communities;



And whereas proposed major mines, major expansions and upgrades to existing mines, and some large-scale exploration and development projects require approval under various articles of federal and provincial legislation, including but not limited to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, the *Mines Act* of BC, and the *Mineral Tenure Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to amend the *Mines Act* of BC and any other relevant articles of legislation to require approval, on future projects within 10 km of the municipal boundaries of established communities, by those local governments.

*Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for amendments to legislation to require local government approval of mining operations that are within 10 km of local government boundaries.*

*However, the membership endorsed resolution 2014-B116, which called for the Province to amend the Mines Act to require a mine permit application to confirm that proposed mining activity is within an area designated by a local official community plan permitting such mining activity.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B135 Recreational Boating Access Infrastructure**

**North Saanich**

Whereas recreational boating is part of the fabric of many BC communities, contributes to the quality of life and is an important economic and recreational activity;

And whereas there is an ongoing decline in boating access infrastructure, and marinas and public boat launches are being removed to make way for development and community amenities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM's coastal and lakeshore member communities incorporate existing boating access infrastructure into community planning and identify areas in which there may be potential to add boating infrastructure to their longer-term community plans.

*Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

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 coastal and lakeshore member communities to incorporate existing boating access infrastructure into community planning and identify areas in which there may be potential to add boating infrastructure to their longer-term community plans.*

*The sponsor's request is something that communities can do as part of their own community planning processes so the Committee is offering no recommendation, as it is up to each community to determine how it wishes to address their own boating infrastructure.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Community Economic Development

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### **B136 Update of Regional Growth Strategy Legislation**

**Capital RD**

Whereas Part 12 of the *Local Government Act* and related regulations governing the preparation and implementation of Regional Growth Strategies have not been reviewed in 20 years;

And whereas the decades since the legislation was passed have seen shifts in provincial and local government issues and community contexts;

And whereas the *Greater Vancouver Regional District v. Langley (Township) and Wall* Court ruling (2014) raised questions about the effect of Regional Growth Strategies;

And whereas outdated and ambiguous legislation is felt to have contributed to a prolonged and expensive Regional Growth Strategy update process in the Capital Regional District;

And whereas many regional districts and municipalities across the province will in coming years be involved in reviews and updates of Regional Growth Strategies;

And whereas other jurisdictions have more recently updated growth strategy legislation (e.g. Alberta and Ontario):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to actively engage local government including First Nations in a comprehensive review and update of Part 13 of the *Local Government Act* and related regulations.

*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 considered any previous resolutions asking that the Government of BC actively engage local government including First Nations in a comprehensive review and update of Part 13 of the Local Government Act and related regulations.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B137 Northern Resource Corridor Plan**

**Northern Rockies RD**

Whereas the economies of northern communities (as well as the wider economies of British Columbia and Canada) are closely linked to the ability of resource industry products to be transported from their source to export markets;

And whereas the transportation of natural resources is often challenged and impeded in routes that traverse large, urban centres:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial and federal governments to develop a “Northern Resource Corridor Plan” to enhance and coordinate railway, road, pipeline and power infrastructure across northern BC with the goal of faster, safer and more cost effective resource transportation.

*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 specifically called for the development of a “Northern Resource Corridor Plan” to enhance and coordinate railway, road, pipeline and power infrastructure across northern BC with the goal of faster, safer and more cost effective resource transportation.”*

*However, in 2010 membership endorsed B140, which opposed tar sands oil being shipped in pipelines across northern BC for loading onto crude oil tankers.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B138 BC Commercial Fisheries**

**Prince Rupert**

Whereas BC's wild commercial fishery contributes \$800 million dollars in wholesale value to the Provincial economy, of which \$400 million dollars is in landed value paid to fishermen when the fish is 'landed';

And whereas rural coastal communities benefit from the portion of the landed value paid to fishermen who reside in our communities and we benefit from wages paid to shoreworkers if there are processing plants in our community;

And whereas the federal *Fisheries Act* has been reopened to "help ensure that the economic benefits of fishing remain with the license holders and their community by providing amendments to the *Fisheries Act* that would help support a strong independent inshore commercial fishery in Atlantic Canada and Quebec";

And whereas the amended *Fisheries Act* would recognize that when making decisions under the Act, the Minister can take into account:

- social, economic and cultural factors,
- the preservation and promotion of an independent inshore commercial fishery as in Atlantic Canada and Quebec;

The proposed Act would clarify that regulations can be made to enshrine aspects of the inshore fisheries policies in regulations, including rules that:

- help ensure that the holder of a license retains the benefits generated by fishing,
- ensure that only the license holder personally fishes using that license,
- support the Fleet Separation Policy by prohibiting certain types of corporations from holding licenses in the inshore sector,
- allow the suspension or cancellation of licenses where license holders are party to an agreement that violates any part of the Act or regulations;

These proposed changes to the Fisheries Act would:

- protect middle-class jobs and coastal communities by helping to keep the benefits from fishing in the hands of the harvesters and local communities,
- strengthen the implementation of the owner-operator and fleet separation policies;

And whereas these changes to the *Fisheries Act* would protect middle-class jobs and coastal communities by keeping the benefits from fishing in the hands of harvesters and local communities only apply to Atlantic Canada and Quebec;

And whereas, federal fisheries policies in the Pacific Region are to continue to privatize the fisheries, which lowers the retained value to working fishermen as they have to pay quota lease fees to investors, who are increasingly becoming foreign countries and our communities are not realizing the benefits as are Atlantic communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture to work with the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans on a fulsome coordinated review of fishing policy on the BC Coast;

And be it further resolved that the Province work with the federal government on the implementation of a regulatory framework that would incorporate the principles of fleet separation, owner-operation, and adjacency;

And be it further resolved that the changes to the *Fisheries Act* and Fisheries Regulations apply to the Pacific Coast so our working fishermen and BC coastal communities benefit from the fisheries.

*Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*

**No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

UBCM 2018 Resolutions Book

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the resolution requests a number of actions: coordination between the provincial and federal government on BC fishing policy; establishment of a regulatory framework similar to the east coast, addressing principles of fleet separation, owner-operation, and adjacency; to ensure that these regulatory changes benefit local fishers and the communities where they reside.*

*The Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions that align with the various requests posed in this resolution. For instance in 2000, members endorsed LR6 that requested the Province to introduce, pass and proclaim legislation that will 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. Members have also endorsed resolutions asking for consultation prior to the establishment of any quotas or changes to fisheries policy that would impact communities and those affected by the resource (2005-B128, 2001-A8).*

*Due to the multiple and varied requests posed in this resolution the Committee has offered no recommendation.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Regional Districts

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### **B139 Business Licensing**

**North Okanagan RD**

Whereas regional districts do not have business licensing powers;

And whereas it is imperative to regulate and manage businesses to enhance economic development, fire fighter safety and community planning within electoral areas of regional districts:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to recommend an amendment to the *Local Government Act* to provide business licensing powers to regional districts.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution C4 in 1992, which asked the Province to amend the then-Municipal Act to grant business licensing powers to regional districts.*

*The Province responded by stating that regional districts can request the service as an extended service, so it is at the discretion of the regional district. Regional districts continue to have this ability today.*

*It is not clear whether the sponsor is seeking to require all regional districts to take on the licensing of business. The Committee is concerned that the resolution makes a blanket request on behalf of all regional districts, some of which may have deliberately decided not to take on this service within their regional district.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Health

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### **B140 Ambulance Services**

**Chetwynd**

Whereas the ongoing shortages of manpower in Ambulance Halls throughout rural British Columbia are prevalent in most communities outside of larger Urban Centres;

And whereas because of the declining volunteer nature of the BC Emergency Health Service (BCEHS)'s ambulance service it is critical that the BCEHS be properly addressed by the Province to ensure life safety while respecting budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to initiate a full and in-depth review of BC Emergency Health Service (BCEHS)'s ambulance service in BC, with the intent of modernizing those services to consider additional duties to warrant more full time value and work for ambulance personnel;

And be it further resolved that such a review be made a high priority of the government of British Columbia.

*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 specifically requested a full and in-depth review of ambulance service in BC to examine additional duties for ambulance personnel to allow for full time employment.*

*However, members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking adequate funding for province wide ambulance services (2017-B133, 2014-B73, 2013-B44, 2013-B142, 2010-B45, 2007-B50, 2007-B156, 2006-B48, 2003-B33, 2000-B14, 2000-B93, 1999-B91, 1996-B5, 1992-B79, 1988-A29).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B141        Mutual Aid Agreements Between Regional/Local Fire Departments                  and BC Emergency Health Services**

**Lumby**

Whereas British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) is the sole ambulance service and provider of pre-hospital emergency care in the province of British Columbia;

And whereas British Columbia Ambulance Service is managed by British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) and falls under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA);

And whereas local or regional fire departments are funded by local governments who have limited financial resources;

And whereas calls from BC Ambulance for assistance have increased over the years and come at a cost to local governments;

Therefore be it resolved that BC Emergency Health Services initiate and enter into mutual aid agreements with paid on call regional/local fire service authorities so that each party can be fairly compensated when called upon for support.

*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 requested mutual aid agreements with paid on-call regional/local fire service authorities.*

*However, UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking compensation for local government provision of first response services (2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26, 2001-B4, 1999-B7, 1995-B74, 1994-B16).*

*In response to resolution 2014-A2, the Province advised that participation in the First Responder program is voluntary, and that some municipalities have chosen to have first responders continue to attend both urgent and routine (non-emergency) calls, but others have elected to have first responders attend only urgent calls where a patient's condition will benefit from initial care.*

*The Province noted that BC Emergency Health Services has several working groups in place that were created to help resolve concerns that may arise for first responders with respect to the services they provide. They also*

*provide reimbursement for initial training costs for new first responder agencies, as well as reimbursement for all medical supplies for first responder agencies serving small communities (under 25,000).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B142      Supporting a Comprehensive Public Health Response to the  
Ongoing Opioid Crisis in British Columbia**

**Vancouver**

Whereas the ongoing opioid crisis has taken the lives of over 2,800 residents of British Columbia since January of 2016, eclipsing annual deaths from suicide, motor vehicle incidents, and homicides combined, with Indigenous communities overrepresented amongst those that died from an overdose and Indigenous women more likely than non-Indigenous women to die from an overdose;

And whereas partners in provincial and local governments, health, public safety, and community continue to take significant efforts to curb this loss of life, the crisis has been driven by an increasingly deadly and unregulated drug supply that includes fentanyl and other toxic substances that continues to result in a high number of overdose deaths, and while the health system continues to take significant effort to treat people living with addictions, the unregulated supply remains a significant hazard for the population at large:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM write to the Prime Minister, Federal Ministers of Health, Justice, and Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, urging the Government of Canada to support a comprehensive and culturally safe public health approach to the ongoing opioid crisis, beginning with the implementation of low-barrier opioid distribution programs for those most at risk for overdose death whilst initiating a review process for Canada's legislative, regulatory, and policy frameworks governing illegal drugs to move towards a comprehensive regulatory framework for all illegal substances across Canada.

*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 that asks the federal government to support a comprehensive and culturally safe public health approach to the opioid crisis.*

*The membership did, however, endorse resolution 2017-B71 which asked the provincial government to develop a comprehensive cross-governmental prevention and intervention program and corresponding implementation plan. In response to this resolution, the government indicated that they are working in partnership across government to implement a comprehensive package of essential services for overdose prevention in BC.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**B143      Review of BC's Fee for Service Model**

**Maple Ridge**

Whereas there is a lack of access to family practitioners in communities throughout British Columbia;

And whereas the existing Fee for Service (FFS) model of compensation for family physicians does not encourage enough new medical graduates to choose family practice, and is less attractive compared to different models of compensation used in other provinces:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be urged to undertake a review of the FFS model with a view to making the compensation of family physicians in BC more attractive to encourage new medical graduates to choose family practice and stay in BC.

*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 review the fee for service model for family physicians.*

*However, members have consistently endorsed resolutions supporting improved physician recruitment and retention, and the need for more health care professionals, including but not limited to these resolutions (2017-B42, 2015-B68, 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B154, 2005-B41, 2003-B104).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B144 Parity in Hospital Districts Capital Contribution**

**Cariboo RD**

Whereas under the *Hospital District Act*, hospital districts may contribute up to 40 per cent of capital expenses incurred by their local health authorities;

And whereas those contribution percentages should be equitable across all hospital districts;

And whereas Metro Vancouver has been relieved of their obligation to provide a contribution to hospital capital costs, shifting additional costs to the Health Authority and ultimately further impacting the ability of the Ministry of Health to fund capital projects for hospitals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM commence discussions with the provincial government to work toward a system that creates parity in the capital contributions that hospital districts in BC provide to their local health authorities.

*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 requesting that UBCM work with the provincial government to create parity in the capital contributions that hospital districts in BC provide to their local health authorities.*

*However, UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide adequate funding to Regional Health Authorities and to commit to their 60 per cent share of health care capital project funding (2017-B39, 2016-B114, 2014-B35, 2011-B58, 2009-B150, 2008-B129, 2007-B184, 2005-B42, 2004-B28, 2002-A2). Several of the resolutions have also requested a review of the historic cost-sharing ratio.*

*Capital cost sharing for health infrastructure is a long-standing issue for the membership. UBCM worked with the provincial government, health authorities and local government representatives on implementing the recommendations from the 2008 Regional Hospital District Cost Sharing Review.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B145 Community Health Centres**

**New Westminster**

Whereas local governments are deeply concerned about the health status of their communities;

And whereas there is an urgent need in municipalities across British Columbia to find ways to improve access to quality primary health care;

And whereas Community Health Centres (CHCs), both provincially and nationally, have demonstrated the capacity to deliver cost effective, culturally appropriate health services to diverse populations in the communities they serve, based on a commitment to addressing the broader social determinants of health through a multi-disciplinary, team-based approach;

And whereas community governance of primary health care provides an effective mechanism to enable local citizens to tailor services to the diverse needs of their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM affirm its support for the provincial government's initiative to establish 20 CHCs across the province;

And be it further resolved that UBCM direct its staff to consult with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the regional health authorities to develop proposals for implementing this commitment in local governments wishing to host new CHCs;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request that the MoH support local government initiatives to develop fully-fledged CHCs, which include a community governance board, the provision of interdisciplinary services, and community outreach programs that address the social determinants of health.

*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 on the development of Community Health Centres.*

*However, membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B40 calling for formal mechanisms for including local government consultation in health services planning by health authorities. Membership has also endorsed resolution 2011-A4 calling for provincial funding for enhanced outreach and preventative health programs for seniors specifically.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B146            Dental Care and Fluoridation of Public Water Sources                    Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas dental health is a critical component to health and a key indicator of healthy childhood development, and poor dental health contributes to speech impediments, lower nutritional absorption and growth development, pain, learning inequality, and other health and quality of life issues;

And whereas dental care is not a universally accessible service in British Columbia and low income and financially-restricted families and individuals do not have the same access as others to dental care;

And whereas fluoride contributes to the healthy development of enamel and the use of fluoride toothpaste by toddlers and preschool-aged children can be challenging:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health add basic dental care to Medical Services Plan coverage;

And be it further resolved that BC mandate a provincial requirement of all public water source treatment to include fluoridation where naturally occurring levels do not meet the minimum suggested level of 0.07mg/L.

*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 sought to add basic dental care to MSP coverage; nor have they sought the Province to mandate that fluoridation be added to all public water source treatment.*

*However, UBCM members did endorse 2008-B145 which asked the Province to take immediate steps to remove access barriers to dental health care, allocate more funding for basic dental health care insurance for low income individuals and families in the Province, and work with the BC Dental Association to resolve the discrepancy between the BC Dental Fee guide and the actual fees charged by dentists.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_



## Selected Issues

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### **B147 Daylight Savings Time**

**Hudson's Hope**

Whereas daylight savings time no longer serves a vital function in today's connected economy, the practice costing more to sustain today than the actualized savings historically achieved through its implementation;

And whereas there is a measurable impact to the health and safety of the general public each time daylight savings time changes are implemented (twice a year):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to abandon the practice of Daylight Savings Time and implement a single time zone province wide.

*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 endorsed 2017-B129, which requested that UBCM petition, the provincial government to consult with the people of BC with a view to abolishing Daylight Savings Time.*

*Prior to the 2017 resolution the membership did not endorse 2016-B140, which requested the provincial government consider discontinuing the annual time change within the Province of BC.*

*Since the 2017 resolution only asked the Province to consult about potentially eliminating daylight savings time, and not specifically asking for its elimination; and since a similar resolution was not endorsed in 2016, the Committee is offering no recommendation to allow debate to happen on this issue.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B148 Remuneration for Local Government Elected Officials**

**Coquitlam**

Whereas local governments currently set remuneration for elected officials through a variety of ways, without the benefit of parameters or a consistent, province-wide approach;

And whereas the concept of elected officials voting on their own salaries raises many concerns among residents, and can have the effect of diminishing trust in local government;

And whereas an independent process available province-wide could give citizens more confidence that remuneration for elected local government officials is determined in a fair and reasonable way:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM examine the issue of local government elected-official remuneration and establish an independent process that can assist local governments in setting fair and equitable remuneration for elected officials.

*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 discussed the issue of elected remuneration but not specifically asked UBCM to establish an independent process to assist members.*

*Most recently in 2012, members defeated B134, which asked "the provincial government to include in the Terms of Reference of the Municipal Auditor General responsibility for determining the most appropriate methodology for establishing remuneration levels for municipal councils."*

*Prior to that members considered 2006-B133 asking “UBCM to investigate the feasibility of coordinating a service to provide cost effective, professional remuneration studies, available to all local governments.” This resolution was deemed No Action Required since UBCM administers an online survey system (with ClivicInfo) that tracks a variety of local government fees and charges information including financial statistics on remuneration and benefits for exempt staff and elected officials. These surveys are completed by individual local governments on an annual, voluntary basis and are available to local governments to assist with setting remuneration levels.*

*As a result, that comparison information is available to local governments through the surveys, but the sponsor is asking UBCM to examine the issue and establish an independent process that can assist local governments. Beyond the survey work, the Committee would be interesting in learning what other tools are envisioned as part of an “independent process” that would assist members.*

*The Resolutions Committee cautions that UBCM would not normally take on this type of role. Responsibility for setting remuneration levels is with each local government and the Committee is not comfortable recommending that UBCM examine this issue and establish an independent process.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B149      Need for Equitable Recognition and Support for Urban Indigenous Communities in Policy, Programs, Funding and Consultation      Vancouver**

Whereas the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizes rights to self-determination, language, culture, and health as well as rights connected to equity, justice and access and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) calls to action recognize the needs of the 70 per cent of Indigenous people in British Columbia that live off reserve in urban centres, largely to pursue work, education, access to amenities, to be closer to loved ones, and to create a good life for themselves and their children;

And whereas urban Indigenous peoples are over represented across health and social inequities, yet current provincial government programs have failed to acknowledge urban Indigenous peoples in significant policies, programs and funding opportunities linked to social health determinants including poverty reduction, housing, training and education, heritage and culture, child care and health:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province recognize and treat urban Indigenous people equitably in provincial policies and regulation, programs and funding initiatives, and consultations that are tied to root causes of inequities and improved social determinants of health including housing, access and connection to culture, education and training, child and family services and income generation.

*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 endorsed a resolution on equitable recognition and support for Urban Indigenous Communities.*

*Membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B106, calling for progress by the federal and provincial governments on implementing the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that include several calls to action relating to the unique needs of urban indigenous peoples.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B150      Financing Reconciliation: Solutions for Local Communities      Central Coast RD**

Whereas local governments and First Nations have inherited a problematic public service delivery regime that poorly finances on and off reserve local government service delivery;

And whereas local governments experience revenue deficits that impact shared and overlapping public service delivery to the entire local population, including First Nation populations, that are not fairly addressed through property tax requisition;

And whereas the federal government is constitutionally committed to providing "essential public services of reasonable quality to all Canadians" (*Constitution Act, 1982 s.36*), implemented in part through federal transfer payments;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC and the Government of Canada work with First Nations and local governments to explore and implement revenue solutions such as federal transfer payments, thereby supporting implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the commitments in UNDRIP;

And be it further resolved that to ensure First Nation participation in the management of said payments, UBCM request British Columbia, in consultation with First Nations, amend the *Local Government Act* accordingly.

*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 to request revenue solutions to address financing of on and off reserve local government service delivery that are not fairly addressed through property tax requisition.*

*The Committee understands that this resolution seeks to address a challenge whereby local governments provide services that are used by the entire local population including members of local First Nations, but are unable to directly recover costs from all users through property taxes. This situation creates a revenue gap that places the onus on the affected First Nations and local governments to enter into servicing agreements or otherwise strain the ability of the local government to provide quality services for all residents.*

*However, servicing agreements may not always be feasible as a solution, and the reliance on service agreements as a solution in such circumstances places an inordinate burden on local governments and First Nations with limited capacity to construct and maintain them.*

*The Committee understands that the reference to First Nation participation in the management of payments in the second enactment clause is intended to address non-treaty First Nation participation in regional districts.*

*Membership has endorsed a resolution addressing the funding of local government library services used by First Nations, noting the federal government's distinct fiduciary responsibility for First Nations (2000-B110). Membership has also endorsed a resolution addressing regulatory challenges associated with servicing agreements (2012-SR1).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B151 Changes to the *Strata Property Act***

## **New Westminster**

Whereas the changes in the *Strata Property Act* that came into effect on July 28, 2016 can create conflicts among owners within a strata building who want to terminate the strata and sell the strata building and lands and those owners who do not want to terminate the strata and sell the strata building and lands;

And whereas the changes in the *Strata Property Act* that came into effect on July 28, 2016 can also create situations where some owners may receive far less in sales proceeds for their units than their assessed values and force owners who do not want to sell their units to sell their units;

And whereas the changes in the *Strata Property Act* that came into effect on July 28, 2016 may encourage developers to aggressively push strata owners and strata councils to terminate their strata corporations and sell the strata buildings and lands;

And whereas, under some circumstances, terminating a strata corporation may be the best choice for strata owners. As some older strata buildings reach the end of their life cycle, the cost of repair may not make economic sense or owners may not have the financial ability to pay for the necessary repairs;

And whereas municipalities are limited in their ability to address these issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to study the impacts related to the changes made in July 2016 to the *Strata Property Act* and consider increasing the percentage of registered owners required to terminate (wind up) a strata corporation depending on the results of the proposed study.

*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 the issue of rules relating to the termination of a strata corporation.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B152 Rural Living Allowance**

**Fraser Lake**

Whereas the Village of Fraser Lake, on behalf of all rural communities, request that the federal government consider a Rural Living Allowance for communities that have limited access to vital services;

And whereas the residents of many rural communities in BC are disadvantaged by the lack of in community services; residents are often required to travel out of town for medical appointments, specialist appointments, cancer treatments, dialysis, access to Service Canada resources, optometrist appointments, dental appointments, shopping and groceries. The additional costs of accommodations and travel are hardships that are not endured by all British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that the federal government establish an application process for a Rural Living Allowance to residents of rural communities meeting the criteria of a lack of medical services, government services or basic consumer supplies such as groceries, travel barriers and significant economic downturn as determined by the Treasury Board of Canada.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse and Refer to FCM**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously asked the federal government to establish an application process for a Rural Living Allowance to residents of rural communities meeting the criteria of a lack of medical services, government services or basic consumer supplies such as groceries, travel barriers and significant economic downturn as determined by the Treasury Board of Canada.*

*However, members have endorsed resolutions related to the increased travel costs facing rural communities to access medical and other services not readily available in smaller more remote communities. Members specifically endorsed 2003-B140 requesting that the Travel Assistance Program funding be extended to include travel costs for rural or remote residents requiring access to physiotherapy services. A similar resolution was endorsed in 2005-B16.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B153 Unaddressed Admail**

**Whistler**

Whereas unaddressed admail contributes to waste when it is not wanted and may go unrecycled;

And whereas unaddressed mail from local governments is not included in the exemptions allowing other governments to use unaddressed admail;

And whereas this barrier may hinder local governments from encouraging residents to use “no junk mail” stickers to reduce their amount of recycling and waste:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask Canada Post to include local governments in its list of exemptions for delivering unaddressed admail, thereby allowing local governments to use unaddressed admail to reach their citizens;

And be it further resolved that UBCM ask Canada Post to develop a system to allow recipients to OPT IN for admail rather than needing to opt out.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse and Refer to FCM**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed 2013-B59 that asked the federal government to instruct Canada Post to distribute admail notices from local governments related to public safety issues. Prior to that UBCM members endorsed resolutions 2010-B54 and 2002-B63, both of which called on Canada Post to amend its unaddressed admail program to include local government mailings among those items delivered to all residents.*

*In response to 2010-B54 and 2002-B63, Canada Post and the federal government gave no indication that they would consider excluding local government mailings from the Consumers' Choice unaddressed admail program.*

*In response to 2013-B59, Canada Post stated, "I understand your concern that unaddressed notices from rural municipalities may not be reaching some Canadians because these items are not excluded from the Consumers' Choice program. However, in all cases where the consumer indicates a preference through the program to not receive unaddressed mail, we leave them a notice card listing the items they will not longer receive. This allows the consumer to make an informed decision about whether they wish to receive this material."*

*"The application of the Consumers' Choice program is based on the premise that individual consumers should have the final choice whether they wish to receive unaddressed mail. Expanding the exceptions to the program to include broad municipal notices would not be welcome to those who do not wish to receive more unaddressed mail. Currently, just under 10 per cent of customers have elected through the Consumers' Choice program not to receive unaddressed mail. Therefore, this mail continues to be delivered to around 90 per cent of Canadian households and businesses."*

*Canada Post also stated: "To better understand your concerns, we would appreciate it if you would provide us with specific details and examples of items that you would like municipalities to be able to mail. ... We will review your request to determine if there is a solution available to support the interest of public safety balanced against the discrete choices of individuals."*

*While members have not considered a potential "opt in" system, as noted in the second enactment the intent appears to be to reduce admail overall by allowing customers to identify what they want to receive versus what they don't want to receive.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B154      Disposition of Derelict School Buildings**

**Lake Cowichan**

Whereas public schools are built through capital funding authorized by the Minister of Education under Section 141 of the *School Act*;

And whereas declining public-school enrollments in smaller communities over the past 30 years have left many public school buildings past their asset lifecycle vacant and unused for extended periods of time causing these buildings to be dilapidated and unsafe:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to allocate adequate capital funding to local school districts, so that derelict public school buildings long abandoned may be properly remediated or demolished and disposed of as a prioritized part of the capital planning process under Section 142 of the *School Act*, so that the health and welfare of the affected communities may not be in any way adversely impacted or jeopardized.

*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 specifically asked the provincial government to allocate adequate capital funding to local school districts, so that derelict public school buildings long abandoned may be properly remediated or demolished and disposed of as a prioritized part of the capital planning process under Section 142 of the School Act, so that the health and welfare of the affected communities may not be in any way adversely impacted or jeopardized.*

*However, the Committee notes that members did endorse 2003-B109, which made two requests of the Ministry of Education:*

- *to review legislation, policies and funding formulas that pertain to the closure of schools and the future profit and non-profit use of school property and the demolition of fully depreciated school facilities; and*
- *to require School Districts to develop a post-closure plan for schools being closed, with community input and approval of the Ministry.*

*The sponsor has advised by way of background that since school properties are owned by the Province, the local government does not have enforcement action authority as it would with a privately owned property; thereby leaving these abandoned school buildings as a danger to the rest of the community.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B155 Community Social Planning**

**Cumberland**

Whereas the Comox Valley Social Planning Society has been in discussions with like organizations in the Capital Regional District, Cowichan and Nanaimo on sharing experiences and developing an Island wide collaboration;

And whereas it has been demonstrated that collaborative, cooperative planning processes increase the efficiency and maximize the impacts of the investments that all levels of government are making in assisting communities to respond to the increasingly complex and inter-connected social issues they face:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to commit to providing local governments sustained financial support for local community social planning processes that serve to support and integrate responses to social issues throughout British Columbia.

*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 commit to providing sustained financial support for local community social planning processes.*

*The Committee cautions that such a request for funding may be perceived as a request for downloading insofar as support and integration of social services is a provincial responsibility.*

*The Committee would note that members have endorsed resolutions 2017-B51 and 2014-B123 calling for improved coordination of social services.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B156 Consumer Protection for Public Institutions When Purchasing Software**

**Burnaby**

Whereas public institutions are placed in a position of financial and contractual vulnerability when purchasing and maintaining needed software applications;

And whereas the speed of major upgrades, final software obsolescence, and industry mergers and acquisitions are occurring at a rate beyond the financially responsible capacity of public institutions to respond:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to work with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, and/or other appropriate bodies such as the Office of Consumer Affairs, to develop standard public institution consumer protection regulations when purchasing software applications and maintenance packages.

*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 requested FCM or the federal government to develop standard public institution consumer protection regulations when purchasing software applications and maintenance packages.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B157 Cyber Security Program & Funding**

**Penticton**

Whereas local government has become reliant on use of information technologies including the Internet, wireless technology and smart devices to advance communications and citizen services and create operational efficiencies;

And whereas protection of privacy and security of digital and physical assets and services is critical to local government in a situation where rapidly evolving technology poses significant risk of theft and damage to hardware, software and information:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia establish a program that supports local government and provides grant resources for information technology security audits and information technology security system upgrades.

*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 province to provide grant resources to information technology. The sponsor has provided the following background information:*

*“Every online connection is associated with security risk, and as the City’s use of technology advances, the risks increase. To provide fundamental services such as water, sewer and electricity the City relies on information technologies to efficiently manage and maintain them. On top of this, the City hold records with personal information that we are required by law to protect.*

*Given the potential damage that could result from a security breach, local governments need to conduct security audits to mitigate risk. Security audits are costly and the risk remediation identified is urgent and can be very costly, well beyond an annual budget allocation.*

*The province has recently taken the initiative, through the Corporate Supply Arrangement, to identify service providers for public sector entities for:*

- *Incident handling*
- *Incident response*
- *Digital forensics*
- *Data recovery*
- *Vulnerability assessment*
- *Penetration testing*

*Identifying resources is helpful, however, monetary assistance may be necessary. A provincial grant program to assist with IT security audits and critical remediation is imperative to safeguarding our citizen's assets and services."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B158 Rainbow Crosswalks**

**Vancouver**

Whereas LGBTQ2S+ people in British Columbia experience significantly higher rates of bullying, harassment and suicide than other populations and a lack of visible representation of LGBTQ2S+ community exacerbates these harms;

And whereas a number of local governments in British Columbia are being asked to increase visible representation of the LGBTQ2S+ community through the installation of rainbow crosswalks and would benefit from standardized guidelines on how to implement such projects:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to inform and advise local governments on best practices to handle such requests, and to provide financial and technical support to local governments regarding visual representations of the LGBTQ2S+ community, such as rainbow crosswalks.

*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 asked the Province to inform and advise on best practices to handle requests for, and to provide financial and technical support to local governments regarding visual representations for, the LGBTQ2S+ community, such as rainbow crosswalks.*

*The Committee can advise that the membership has endorsed resolution 2016-B98 which stated: "UBCM acknowledges the Province of British Columbia for its inclusion of specific protection for transgender people in the BC Human Rights Code, and that UBCM urge local governments in BC to develop and implement transgender inclusion policies in order that transgender and gender variant citizens can be better included in all our communities."*

*As well in the same year members endorsed B97 which requested that the Province "be requested to require the use of gender neutral language in local governments across British Columbia, bringing local governments in line with the provincial and federal standard of document and policy writing that recognizes the value of gender equality as recognized in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms."*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B159 Compensation for Damages Resulting from Voltage Variations**

**Central Kootenay RD**

Whereas there has been an increase in power surges and voltage variations that have caused damage to expensive electrical components such as heat pumps in spite of the installation of surge protectors;

And whereas power companies' terms and conditions of service state that the organization is not responsible for any loss, injury, damage or expense that is a result of interrupted service or voltage variations:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Minister of Energy and Mines, and the BC Utilities Commission work with the power companies under their jurisdiction to establish a process whereby they can provide compensation for any loss, injury, damage or expense that is a result of voltage variations.

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:



*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse resolution 2009-B171 which requested that the BCUC or an independent review panel be empowered to investigate, arbitrate and award financial compensation to consumers suffering loss, injury, damage or expense as a result of incidents of power disruption and restoration.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B160 Business Retention Heritage Program**

**Port Moody**

Whereas established, independently-owned, local businesses in communities across British Columbia are facing both prohibitive increases in rent or property tax and displacement due to new development;

And whereas there is no incentive for landlords to retain established commercial and non-profit tenants that have a history of strengthening community identity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the provincial government to explore a Legacy Business Registry and Grant program (similar to the San Francisco Legacy Business Registry and Preservation Fund) with the intention of stabilizing rents and providing incentives that support the retention of established, independently owned local businesses that are an integral part of community identity.

*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 specifically considered a resolution asking the Provincial Government to explore a Legacy Business Registry and Grant program (similar to the San Francisco Legacy Business Registry and Preservation Fund) with the intention of stabilizing rents and providing incentives that support the retention of established, independently owned local businesses that are an integral part of community identity.*

*The Committee notes that members did endorse B37 in 2016 asking the Province to re-implement the Business Improvement Grant Programme that will provide each local government an annual intake to a maximum of \$20,000 so local businesses may participate in a programme that would see the rejuvenation of business areas with the end goal of enhancing community appearance and pride which are integral to economic activity and growth. As well members endorsed 2009-B22 asking that the Province reinstate its downtown building façade revitalization grant program to assist building owners with façade improvements that conform to adopted downtown design guidelines.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B161 MLA Attendance at Area Association Conventions**

**Central Kootenay RD,  
AKBLG Executive**

Whereas direct interaction and discussions between locally elected representatives and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) are key to understanding our respective goals and priorities;

And whereas the annual UBCM convention offers limited time for local elected representatives to engage directly with their MLAs:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government and each local government area association across British Columbia make a coordinated effort to synchronize the area association spring conventions and the legislative schedule to allow MLAs to attend the area association conventions.

*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 the matter of synchronizing area association spring conventions with the provincial legislative calendar. The Committee notes that each area association has the ability to set its own convention dates, but these convention dates are booked at least a year in advance of the event. However, the Legislative Calendar is not usually made public until early in the new year, so coordinating dates can be challenging in the absence of knowing when the House is in session.*

*A challenge that occasionally arises is the scheduling of two area association conventions during the same week, which limits the ability of Ministers and party leaders to attend both events. In the past, these scheduling challenges have been addressed through Area Association Presidents and Executive Directors.*

*We would also note that with a minority government it is currently challenging for MLAs to get leave of their House duties to attend outside meetings.*

*As the resolution is specific to the Province and Area Associations, the Committee has offered the recommendation of No Action Required since this is not something that UBCM as a collective can assist in resolving.*

*See also resolution C30.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section B – Part 3-a**

### **Resolutions Proposing New Policy**

Included in Section B – Part 3-a are resolutions numbered:

B162 – B163

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

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### Health

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#### **B162 Compulsory Labelling of Genetically Modified and Genetically Engineered Foods**

**Maple Ridge**

Whereas the production of genetically modified and genetically engineered foods can lead to cross- pollination with wild plants and non-genetically modified crops causing genetic pollution and potential human health concerns;

And whereas several countries around the world have implemented compulsory labelling of genetically modified and genetically engineered foods, and a majority of Canadians are supportive of compulsory genetically modified and genetically engineered food labelling:

Therefore be it resolved that Health Canada be urged to implement compulsory labelling of genetically modified and genetically engineered foods sold in Canada.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* **Endorse**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B51, which called on the federal and provincial governments to implement a regime of mandatory labelling of genetically modified organisms.*

*In response to this resolution, the federal government noted that Health Canada requires mandatory labelling for food products including GE foods, where there are clear, scientifically established health risks or significant nutritional changes that can be mitigated through labelling.*

*They also advised that when it comes to non-health and safety-related information, including method-of- production labelling, the government supports a voluntary approach.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### Selected Issues

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#### **B163 Continuation of Income Subsidy Benefits**

**Cumberland**

Whereas the support portion of Income Assistance (\$335 for a single person) is frequently used to supplement the shelter portion of Income Assistance (\$375 for a single person) to cover housing costs;

And whereas persons entering a residential recovery program maintain the shelter portion of Income Assistance but lose the support portion, often resulting in that person not being able to maintain their current housing, and putting the person at greater risk of homelessness upon exiting of the program:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction continue the support portion of Income Assistance benefits for individuals living in temporary housing, such as recovery programs and protective housing, for the duration of their recovery.

*Endorsed by 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 that the provincial government continue the support portion of Income Assistance benefits for individuals living in temporary housing.*

*However the Committee would note that members have endorsed numerous resolutions in support of increased income assistance (2016-B120, 2013-B55, 2011-B175).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section B3-b

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### Community Safety

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#### **B164 Gender-based Violence Strategy for Youth**

**Victoria**

Whereas children and youth who have been impacted by violence experience devastating and long- ranging mental health, physical health, social and educational impacts and the #metoo campaign has recently highlighted gender-based violence as one of the most pervasive forms of violence, taking various forms (e.g. cyber, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, and economic);

And whereas according to Statistics Canada, young women aged 15 to 17 report the highest rate of gender-based violence amongst all age groups (2,710 per 100,000, in 2008), and Indigenous, LGBTQ2, and disabled girls experience even higher rates of violence, noting that in 2017 the Government of Canada launched “It’s Time: Canada’s Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence,” identifying three priority areas: prevention, engaging men and boys, and support for survivors;

And whereas to support the strategy, the federal government has committed \$100.9 million over five years, and an additional \$20.7 million per year going forward;

And whereas while the BC government recently announced \$5 million to assist organizations working to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, there is currently no cohesive provincial strategy in place;

And whereas in order to combat gender-based violence among youth in BC and support healthy relationships, healthy families and healthy communities, a provincial strategy is needed;

And whereas drawing on the expertise of all relevant ministries, and building on the resources and strategies identified in the federal strategy, a comprehensive provincial strategy can be a catalyst for positive cultural change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Child and Family Development, the Ministry of Public Safety, and the Ministry of Mental Health to work together to develop a Gender-Based Violence Prevention Strategy for Youth.

*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 various provincial ministries develop a gender-based violence prevention strategy for youth.*

*However, the Committee would note that members have endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide funding to women’s centres in BC (2011-B74, 2006-B53, 2003-LR17).*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **B165 Safety Regulations for Trampoline Parks**

**Richmond**

Whereas the incidence of injury at trampoline parks is increasing and there are no safety standards or operational requirements in the Province of BC;

And whereas several jurisdictions in North America and Australia impose safety standards for the construction, maintenance and operation of trampoline parks:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province implement safety standards for trampoline parks and that Technical Safety BC assume regulatory responsibility for the safe installation and operation of all trampoline parks in the province.

*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 requesting that the Province introduce safety standards for trampoline parks, and that Technical Safety BC assume all responsibility for the safe installation and operation of all trampoline parks.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Finance

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### **B166 Public Geoscience for Investment and Decisions**

**Fort St. John**

Whereas BC local governments wish to make informed decisions about natural resource development and attract investment to their areas;

And whereas Geoscience BC provides unbiased public earth science research, as set out in the five-year Geoscience BC Strategic Management Plan 2018-2022:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government provide Geoscience BC with funding of \$10 million per year over five years (\$50 million total) from March 31, 2019.

*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 Province to fund GeoScience BC.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Environment

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### **B167 Fresh Water Hazard Markers or Buoys**

**Fraser Lake**

Whereas the federal government has constitutional jurisdiction over navigation;

And whereas, the Village of Fraser Lake is concerned that unmarked water hazards pose a threat to the health and safety of persons involved in motorized water sports on freshwater lakes and rivers in British Columbia;

And whereas, the installation and maintenance of navigational markers and buoys will improve the safety of persons involved in motorized water activities:

Therefore be it resolved that the federal government install and maintain water hazard markers on known water hazards to protect lives and property on water ways in lakes, rivers and streams.

*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 federal government to install and maintain water hazard markers on known water hazards.*

*The UBCM membership has previously endorsed several resolutions (2017-B68, 2009-B173) requesting other orders of government remove unsafe, unsightly and hazardous objects from waterways. In particular, 2017-B68 requests that buoys on lakes and rivers that have been illegally placed be removed by Transport Canada.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## Health

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### **B168 Cannabis Advertising**

### **Langley Township**

Whereas the Government of Canada has proposed legalization of marihuana effective on or about July 1, 2018;

And whereas the Government of Canada and provincial and territorial governments have developed enactments governing advertising and promotion of tobacco products in Canada, based on public policy consensus and Canada's participation in the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;

And whereas although local governments have limited powers and jurisdiction in regard to advertising and promotion of recreational cannabis products, this substantially impacts other matters of concern to local governments in Canada:

Therefore be it resolved that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and UBCM call upon the Government of Canada and the provincial and territorial governments to coordinate public policy and regulations such that the enactments governing advertising and promotion of tobacco products be employed to apply similarly to advertising and promotion of recreational cannabis products.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    **No Recommendation**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*This was submitted to UBCM in 2017 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, the resolution has been forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2018 resolutions cycle.*

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on federal and provincial/territorial governments to regulate advertising and promotion of recreational cannabis in a manner similar to the regulation of tobacco advertising and promotion.*

*In April 2017, the federal government introduced Bill C-45, the Cannabis Act. As part of this proposed legislation, the Federal Government has outlined restrictions for packaging and promotion of non- medical cannabis. Restrictions on promotion include ensuring non-medical cannabis is not marketed in a way that is appealing to youth. If passed, legislation will permit product information (e.g. ingredients, THC and CBD levels) to be displayed on child-proof packages. Other proposed promotional regulations include restricting promotions that includes false or misleading information; promotion through sponsorship, testimonials or endorsements; and celebrity endorsement/promotion. In general, proposed legislation contains promotion and advertising restrictions similar to those in the Tobacco Act.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B169 Medicines for Life-threatening Conditions**

### **Okanagan-Similkameen RD**

Whereas thousands of British Columbia residents face life-threatening conditions which can trigger imminent death if not treated immediately, such as allergic reactions, asthma and type 1 diabetes, creating a hardship for many families that must choose between meeting their basic needs and paying for these lifesaving medications;

And whereas Naloxone and other drug overdose reversing medications are covered free of charge by the Province:



Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government develop an equitable system that would make available, free of charge, all medications which could halt immediate death.

*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 that the Province make available, free of charge, all medications which could halt immediate death.*

*The membership did, however, endorse resolution 2016-B122 which asks the provincial and federal governments to develop and implement a national pharmacare program to improve the health outcomes of citizens, ensure fairness in access to medicine, and provide for greater efficiency and effectiveness in Canada's health care system.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **B170 Public Reporting of Opioid Prescription Rates**

**Delta**

Whereas the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons has developed standards and guidelines for opioid prescriptions, recognizing the public health crisis associated to prescription opioid misuse, including the significant potential for addiction and overdoses;

And whereas in response to the opioid crisis in the United States, Veterans Affairs hospitals began publicly reporting on opioid prescriptions, which has led to a nearly 50 per cent collective decrease in opioid prescriptions in those hospitals across the country between 2012 and 2017:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to publicly release anonymized opioid prescription rates, by community, for all health regions in British Columbia, in a manner similar to that of Veterans Affairs hospitals in the United States, recognizing the impact of public reporting on reducing opioid prescription rates.

*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 province publicly release opioid prescription rates, by community.*

*However, membership has endorsed resolutions addressing the opioid crisis, including 2017-B71, which called for the development of a comprehensive cross-government prevention and intervention program to address the drug overdose crisis. Also endorsed resolution 2017-B137, which called for the development of protocols to respond to student drug overdoses on school grounds.*

Conference decision: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Selected Issues**

### **B171 Ending Discrimination in Tenancies**

**Maple Ridge**

Whereas BC's *Residential Tenancy Act* states that a landlord cannot discriminate in tenancies based on a person's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender, sexual orientation, age or legal source of income (Section 10 of the *Human Rights Code*);

And whereas there is evidence to suggest that this kind of discrimination towards prospective tenants is occurring in the BC rental housing market:

Therefore be it resolved that BC Housing be urged to proactively pursue instances of discrimination in the BC rental housing market toward ending discrimination in BC tenancies.

*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 on ending discrimination in tenancies.*

*However, members have endorsed wide ranging resolutions addressing discrimination in other circumstances (2016-B98, 2016-B103, 2013-B87, 2004-B132, 2003-B138).*

*The Resolutions Committee notes that the BC Human Rights Tribunal (BCHRT) is currently tasked with addressing complaints related to discrimination in tenancy. The Committee therefore suggests that to better address the desired intent, the sponsor may wish to replace “BC Housing” in the enactment clause with “the BC Human Rights Tribunal.”*

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 – C30

**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:

[No resolutions have been placed in this section.]

## Section C2

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### C1 Road Rescue Funding

### Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas local governments voluntarily provide road rescue service to out of region travellers using Provincial Highways in support of the BC Ambulance Service and the RCMP, and Emergency Management BC's (EMBC) reimbursement levels are not adequate to cover the cost of providing the service, and are not available to local governments that support road rescue through taxation;

And whereas the EMBC road rescue reimbursement policy forces local governments to choose between not providing the service, providing the service funded only by inadequate EMBC reimbursements, or providing the service funded only by local taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of BC to work cooperatively with local governments in funding road rescue service for the benefit of the users of provincial highways, and establish an adequate, sustainable and consistent funding and governance model for the provision of road rescue services.

*Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B5.*

### C2 Elimination of Transportation Service in Northern BC

### McBride

Whereas on February 20, 2018, the Passenger Transportation Board approved Greyhound's application to reduce or eliminate service on several routes in various areas of British Columbia and, effective June 1, 2018 Greyhound will eliminate its inter-city bus service completely on 6 routes in Northern BC;

And whereas the loss of the Greyhound service in Northern BC will further isolate the communities, intensify passenger safety concerns and increase the hardships that many people are currently experiencing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure immediately address the vital passenger transportation void left by the withdrawal of services by Greyhound in Northern BC.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution SR2.*

### C3 Modernizing the *Motor Vehicle Act*

### Victoria

Whereas the Road Safety Law Reform Group of British Columbia and organizations including the City of Vancouver, British Columbia Cycling Coalition and Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia have called on the Government of British Columbia to review and modernize the BC *Motor Vehicle Act*;

And whereas modernization of this legislation is necessary to achieve the Government of British Columbia's "Vision Zero" plan to make BC's roads the safest in North America and eliminate road-related injuries and deaths by 2020, and where the Road Safety Law Reform Group has provided evidence- based recommendations for increasing safety for vulnerable road users, including children, seniors, people with disabilities, pedestrians and cyclists:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia review and modernize the BC *Motor Vehicle Act*, to increase safety for all road users and achieve the "Vision Zero" objective of making BC's roads the safest in North America and eliminating road-related injuries and death by 2020.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B102.*

#### **C4           Active Transportation Infrastructure**

**Courtenay**

Whereas in order to respond to the evolving needs of British Columbians and to diversify the economy, local governments across BC have developed and started to implement: forward-thinking transportation plans, downtown revitalization plans, age-friendly community plans, innovative recreation plans, and integrated community sustainability plans—whose timely implementation will require significant investments in active transportation;

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

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the provincial government to establish a new, dedicated provincial fund to help finance a broad range of active transportation infrastructure projects and programming by local governments, and designed to support: local residents' diverse mobility needs, access to affordable recreation options, and tourism development.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C5, C6, C7, C8 and C9.*

#### **C5           Cycling Infrastructure Funding**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

Whereas limited revenue sources constrain local government construction of active transportation facilities, which support healthy lifestyles, local economic opportunities through tourism; and reduce congestion, greenhouse gas emissions and localized air pollution;

And whereas the current level of provincial cycling infrastructure grant funding is inadequate to meet the demand:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be urged to increase the BikeBC Fund to \$50 million per year.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C4, C6, C7, C8 and C9.*

#### **C6           Transportation Equity**

**Vernon**

Whereas a range of transportation options should be available to all British Columbians—including those who live in smaller communities, as well as children, older adults, people of diverse abilities, non-drivers, and people with low incomes;

And whereas providing world class transit and active transportation options throughout BC will greatly facilitate access to education, employment, shopping, health services, recreation, culture, and social connections by a diversity of British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure transportation funding is allocated more equitably across the province recognizing the infrastructure deficits for pedestrian, cycling and transit modes as well as recognizing limitations faced by rural, remote, geographically isolated and small communities, as outlined in the Communities on the Move Declaration.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C4, C5, C7, C8 and C9.*

**C7                    Active Transportation Corridors & Greenway Plans –                    Columbia Shuswap RD**  
**Highway Projects**

Whereas it is believed that adding active transportation corridor and greenway plans into all current and future highway projects would greatly benefit communities, residents and visitors as the corridors can be used for non-motorized forms of transportation or recreation such as cycling and walking;

And whereas pre-planning of highway and bridge designs that incorporate bike lanes and sufficient road rights-of-way for paved shoulders, sidewalks, or pathways can:

- allow for the safe movement of pedestrians and cyclists, and improve public safety;
- provide opportunities for more physical activity, and social and health benefits; and
- be more cost effective than adding this type of infrastructure afterwards:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure incorporate active transportation corridors and greenway plans into all future highway planning projects.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C4, C5, C6, C8 and C9.*

**C8                    Incorporation of Active Transportation Corridors in all Ministry of                    Chase**  
**Transportation and Infrastructure Current & Future Highways Projects**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and local governments continually encourage people of all ages to be more physically active;

And whereas the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) promotes active transportation and healthy living by encouraging cycling, and contributing funds to cycling infrastructure projects such as bike lanes, separated bike paths, shared roadways, shoulder bikeways, and bicycle/pedestrian overpasses;

And whereas the 2017/2018-2019/2020 MOTI Service Plan includes a commitment to make life more affordable for British Columbians, and to build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure be compelled to retain and improve existing active transportation corridors and incorporate new active transportation corridors into all current and future highways projects.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C4, C5, C6, C7 and C9.*

## **C9 Communities on the Move**

**Kent**

Whereas BC has an aging population and many communities are developing age-friendly community plans and research shows that few factors contribute as much to successful aging as having a physically active lifestyle;

And whereas rural communities through BC often lack essential infrastructure to accommodate both residents' active recreation and transportation needs as well as possibilities for cycling and walking agritourism potential:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to facilitate increasing funding and prioritization the enhancement of both local residential and agritourism walking and bicycling infrastructure in BC communities;

And be it further resolved that a letter be sent to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure in support of initiatives that increase safety such as shoulder enhancement projects and the importance of enhanced transit services benefiting all ages.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B15.*

*See also resolutions C4, C5, C6, C7 and C8.*

## **C10 Implementation of the Cannabis Act**

**Pemberton**

Whereas there has been a lack of communication to local governments regarding how the proposed Cannabis Act, once implemented, will directly impact local government's resources such as bylaw enforcement, policing costs, fire services, public health, licensing, municipal planning;

And whereas in order to offset costs, local governments need to be included in the distribution of tax revenues that will be generated as a result of legalization of cannabis through the proposed Cannabis Act:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to consider at least 50/50 tax share with local government;

And be it further resolved that federal and provincial governments engage in direct consultation with local governments to form a tax distribution framework.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:* ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution SR1.*

*See also resolutions C18, C19 and C20.*

## **C11 Speculation Tax & Local Government Consultation**

**East Kootenay RD**

Whereas the provincial government has introduced a speculation tax with the intent to deter investors removing homes from the long-term housing stock;

And whereas in many areas of the province, non-resident property owners invest in our communities financially, are active community members, some coming for generations, and many eventually become full-time residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to consult with communities prior to implementing a speculation tax, taking into account local circumstances, and to allow local governments to opt in or out of the tax.

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*Refer to resolution A3.*

*See also resolutions C12, C13, C14 and C29.*

## **C12 Real Estate Speculation Tax**

**LMLGA Executive**

Whereas in Budget 2018 the provincial government introduced a real estate speculation tax to target foreign and domestic speculators who are deemed to have removed their units from BC's long-term housing stock – meaning they are not owner-occupied or a qualifying long-term rental property;

And whereas the speculation tax will initially apply to the Metro Vancouver Regional District, excluding Bowen Island and Electoral A except for UBC and the Endowment lands; the Capital Regional District, excluding the Gulf Islands and Juan de Fuca; Kelowna-West Kelowna; Nanaimo-Lantzville, excluding Protection Island; and Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission;

And whereas the speculation tax was introduced without consultation with affected local governments, despite the fact that it will unfairly penalize small and rural communities whose tourism-based economies rely on secondary residences, some of which have been owned by the same families for generations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to:

- *Delay the introduction of the speculation tax in municipalities that request it;*
- *Engage affected local governments and UBCM in the development of measures to address the foreign and domestic speculation problem; and*
- *Provide enabling legislation to allow local governments to address such problems without resorting to a one-size-fits-all approach that the speculation tax embodies.*

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*Refer to resolution A3.*

*See also resolutions C11, C13, C14 and C29.*

## **C13 Impact on Municipalities From New Housing Speculation Tax**

**Capital RD**

Whereas the BC Speculation Tax imposes an unfair tax burden on British Columbians and other Canadians who wish to purchase or own a second home in British Columbia;

And whereas the tax was imposed on municipalities without consultation or economic modelling of its impact was conducted prior to the announcement;

And whereas the Government of British Columbia has already removed Parksville, the Gulf Islands, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and other areas due to pressure from various Members of the BC Legislature:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to allow municipalities to opt out of this new housing speculation tax.

*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 A3.*

*See also resolutions C11, C12, C14 and C29.*

#### **C14 Speculation Tax**

**Nanaimo RD**

Whereas the Province has proposed to implement a Speculation Tax to address housing affordability in selected regional districts and municipalities in British Columbia;

And whereas this tax has been identified by stakeholder groups and targeted local governments as having negative impacts where it is proposed, including creating an unequal playing field for real estate development and property investment between jurisdictions targeted by the tax and those that are not:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Provincial Minister of Finance not implement the proposed Speculation Tax in the Regional District of Nanaimo.

*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 A3.*

*See also resolutions C11, C12, C13 and C29.*

#### **C15 Proposed Employer Health Tax**

**Fort St. John**

Whereas the Province has brought in a new employer health tax to replace medical services plan premiums without any consultation with local governments;

And whereas there are significant cost impacts of this new tax for local government members that will need to be recovered through property taxes or through the other limited revenue sources available to local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province meet with UBCM to discuss the proposed tax, the implications of the tax, and to request a delay to its implementation until UBCM has had the opportunity to provide feedback to the Province.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*

***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution A1.*

*See also resolutions C16 and C17.*

#### **C16 Payroll Tax**

**Vernon**

Whereas the Province of BC has unveiled a new payroll tax to take effect on January 1, 2019, entitled the "Employers Health Tax" to offset the loss in revenue from medical services premiums (MSP);

And whereas the new "Employers Health Tax" takes effect in 2019, some businesses that already pay Medical Services Plan premiums on behalf of employees face the prospect of paying both MSP premiums and the new tax for a year, before the BC government promises to eliminate MSP in 2020:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be requested to defer implementation of the newly proposed Payroll Tax to January 1, 2020.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*        ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution A1.*

*Refer to resolutions C15 and C17.*

**C17        New Employer Health Tax**

**AVICC Executive**

Whereas the Province has brought in a new employer health tax to replace medical services plan premiums without any consultation with local governments;

And whereas there are apparently significant cost impacts of this new tax for local government members that will need to be recovered through property taxes or through the other limited revenue sources available to local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province meet with UBCM to discuss the proposed tax, the implications of the tax, and to request a delay to its implementation until UBCM has had the opportunity to provide feedback to the Province.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*        ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution A1.*

*See also resolutions C15 and C16.*

**C18        Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing**

**Tahsis**

Whereas local governments in British Columbia have been enduring financial downloading from both federal and provincial levels of government for decades;

And whereas local governments in British Columbia will face further increases in costs with the legalization of cannabis, including but not limited to, policing, licensing, enforcement, zoning and zoning enforcement, by-laws and by-law enforcement and possible health issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call for the Province to provide to BC local governments an equal share (50/50) of the provincial tax revenue from the sales of cannabis in British Columbia in lieu of the increased financial burden legalization will bring to the local government level.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*        ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution SR1.*

*See also resolutions C10, C19 and C20.*

**C19        Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing**

**Nelson**

Whereas the Government of Canada will legalize the use of recreational cannabis in July 2018;

And whereas legalization of recreational cannabis will result in new costs to local governments for enforcement, licensing requirements, inspections, education and awareness:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to provide fifty (50) per cent of the provincial share of the cannabis tax sharing formula to British Columbia local governments, and for support for the four principles of the current UBCM approach.

*Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution SR1.*

*See also resolutions C10, C18 and C20.*

## **C20            Cannabis Tax Revenue Sharing with Local Governments**

**Terrace**

Whereas the Federal Government plans to bring Bill C-45 into force in July 2018, which will legalize non- medical marihuana (cannabis) in Canada;

And whereas it will be the responsibility of local governments to establish and/or enforce regulations related to zoning, business licensing, building code, public consumption and impaired driving, which will result in initial and ongoing costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide an equal share of the cannabis tax sharing formula to local governments to support these costs;

And be it further resolved to support the four principle approach that focuses on the following:

- Cannabis legalization should not result in additional local government funding by property taxpayers.
- Local governments should be reimbursed for costs associated with the implementation of legalized cannabis.
- Local governments should be reimbursed for any additional policing costs resulting from cannabis legalization.
- Remaining excise tax revenue (after taking out expenses incurred as part of the first three principles and the federal share) should be shared between the Province of British Columbia and local governments.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           **Refer to Similar Resolution**

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution SR1.*

*See also resolutions C10, C18 and C19.*

## **C21            2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada**

**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas the Canadian Government has committed to meeting the International Biodiversity Targets of protecting 17 per cent of our land and inland waters and 10 per cent of our ocean by 2020 through protected areas, Indigenous protected and conserved areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures;

And whereas a strong provincial parks system protects the health of nature and the people of our province through ecosystem services in the forms of clean air and water, provides critical habitat for species-at-risk and climate change adaptation, and economic impacts through good jobs in urban and rural communities, visitor spending, tourism revenue and diversifying the economy:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Province to set aside dedicated funding for the purposes of system expansion, ecological monitoring and research, and management planning to meet the quantitative and qualitative measures set out in Target 1 of the Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada, using a participatory and

collaborative process that appropriately recognizes Indigenous rights and responsibilities to land and community stakeholders, including local governments in the spirit and practice of reconciliation.

*Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B108.*

## **C22            Local Improvement Charges**

**Powell River**

Whereas the Provinces of Nova Scotia and Ontario allow municipalities to offer homeowner financing through local improvement charges to fund improvements to private homes upgrading the energy efficiency of the home and/or adding renewable energy options to the home;

And whereas these improvements reduce energy costs to the homeowner for the lifecycle of the home while reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions within the community;

And whereas the local improvement charge model reduces the burden of debt from the homeowner and the debt stays with the house in the form of a property tax until paid off:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to approve enabling legislation to allow municipalities to provide private property owners financing for energy efficiency retrofits and renewable energy upgrades to their homes through the use of local Improvement charges.

*Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B32.*

*See also resolution C23.*

## **C23            A Call to Energy Efficiency – Pushing for the Province’s Blessing to Help Homeowners Retrofit for the Future**

**Port Moody**

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be called upon to enable municipalities to implement Local Improvement Charge (LIC)-based incentive programs that support home energy retrofits, as recommended in the report from The Columbia Institute titled THIS GREEN HOUSE II – Building Momentum On Green Jobs and Climate Action Through Energy Retrofits Across Canada.

*Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B32.*

*See also resolution C22.*

## **C24            Legalization of Cannabis – Protecting Agricultural Land for Food Production**

**Delta**

Whereas legalized cannabis has the potential to displace traditional food crop cultivation;

And whereas only 1.1 per cent of the land area in BC is prime agricultural land, and this land is needed for food security and to reduce British Columbia’s reliance on imported produce;

And whereas the commercial cultivation of cannabis can be undertaken in industrial warehouses located in established industrial areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to prohibit or place restrictions on the use of ALR land for cannabis cultivation.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B71.*

## **C25           Community Forest Expansions**

**Mackenzie**

Whereas communities could increase public safety and benefit economically with the expansion of existing Community Forests;

And whereas the long-awaited amendments to the Community Tenures Regulation regarding existing Community Forests expansion would support the development and diversification of efficient and economically viable forest and wildfire mitigation practices that would maximize benefits to local economies and reduce the wildfire risks to communities;

And whereas support for Community Forest agreement holders to invest in wildfire hazard reduction, rehabilitation, intensive silviculture and economic diversification would create more resilient communities and forests:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to create changes to the Community Tenure Regulations to allow for the expansion of Community Forest Agreements that will foster self-reliance, build capacity and promote a prosperous, healthy, and sustainable future for all Community Forests to meet the provincial government's rural development mandate.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*           ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B43.*

## **C26           Expanding the Definition of Utility to Include Telecommunications**

**Squamish-Lillooet RD**

Whereas the federal government, through the Connecting Canadians program, has the goal of providing high speed Internet to an additional 280,000 underserved Canadians by 2021;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia has the goal of 100 per cent of its residents having access to high-speed Internet services by the end of 2021;

And whereas when approached by local Internet providers for assistance with capital costs associated with expanding their Internet services to underserved communities, local governments are constrained by the statutory prohibition on providing assistance to industrial, commercial or business undertakings (section 273 of the *Local Government Act*);

And whereas local governments wish to have the flexibility to consider providing capital funding to initiatives that support the development of high speed Internet and cell coverage across their regions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia consider an amendment/update of Section 275 of the *Local Government Act* so as to specifically list telecommunications (i.e. internet, broadband, cellular) as a utility for which a regional district may operate the service of providing capital financing.

*Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*Refer to resolution B48.*

*See also resolution C27.*

## **C27 Telco Company Legislation**

**Squamish**

Whereas connectivity and internet options in rural or remote areas of the Province and within smaller municipalities are a challenge and can add to resident isolation;

And whereas there are grant opportunities through the Province or Crown Corporations to assist in bringing these services to these areas;

And whereas a local government's abilities to administer these grants can be hindered by the *Community Charter* provisions around local government assistance to business:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend the *Community Charter* to extend the exemption of assistance to business from larger utilities and Telco providers to smaller Telco providers.

*Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association*

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

*Refer to resolution B48.*

*See also resolution C26.*

## **C28 Local Government Act Modernization**

**Cowichan Valley RD**

Whereas regional district electoral areas are experiencing increasing impacts from growth and urbanization creating expectations and demands for services and powers that are only available to municipalities under the *Community Charter*;

And whereas the *Local Government Act* continues to limit the capacity of regional districts to address evolving community expectations and demands:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to initiate a comprehensive review of the *Local Government Act* specifically relating to regional district powers and authority.

*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 B4.*

## **C29 Proposed British Columbia Speculation Tax**

**Langford**

Whereas the British Columbia Speculation Tax imposes an unfair tax burden on British Columbians and other Canadians who wish to purchase or own a second home in British Columbia;

And whereas the tax was imposed on municipalities without consultation or economic modelling of its impact;

And whereas the Government of British Columbia has already removed Parksville, the Gulf Islands, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and other areas due to pressure from various Members of the BC Legislature:

Therefore be it resolved that the City of Langford calls upon the BC Government to allow municipalities to opt out of this new housing speculation tax;

And be it further resolved that the City of Langford calls upon the BC Government to put any funds received from a speculation tax on housing towards an affordable housing fund;

And be it further resolved that the City of Langford put the resolution for debate and consideration at the 2018 UBCM Convention in conjunction with a covering letter from the Mayor.

*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 A3.*

*See also resolutions C11, C12, C13 and C14.*

### **C30                    MLA Attendance at Area Association Meetings                    NCLGA Executive**

Whereas local MLA's, cabinet ministers and critics can learn about key regional issues at area association meetings;

And whereas area association meetings provide opportunities for local government officials to meet with MLA's, cabinet ministers and critics:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government schedule the legislative session to facilitate the ability of local MLA's, cabinet ministers and critics to attend local area association meetings.

*Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association*

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:*                    ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

*UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:*

*Refer to resolution B161.*