

2008 UBCM ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS

UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES



ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS

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

SEPTEMBER 23 - 26, 2008

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU

2007- 2008 UBCM EXECUTIVE



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PRESIDENT



CHAIR ROBERT HOBSON
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT



MAYOR SHARON HARTWELL
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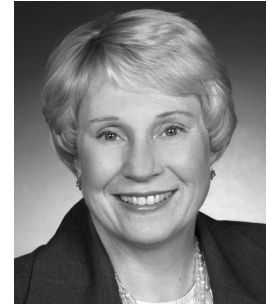
MAYOR TERRY LAKE
THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT



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COUNCILLOR KIM CAPRI
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COUNCILLOR BARBARA STEELE
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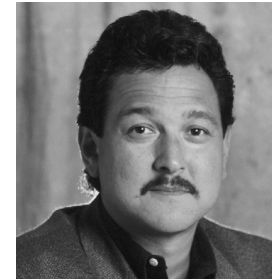
MAYOR ELLA BROWN
SMALL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE



DIRECTOR TERRY RAYMOND
ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE



DIRECTOR HEATH SLEE
ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY &
BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



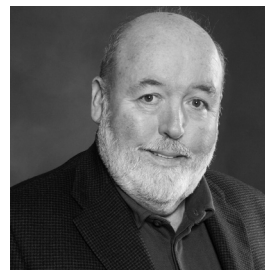
COUNCILLOR BOB LONG
LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



DIRECTOR EILEEN BENEDICT
NORTH CENTRAL MUNICIPAL
ASSOCIATION



DIRECTOR RHONA MARTIN
SOUTH INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION



DIRECTOR ROD SHERRELL
ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND &
COASTAL COMMUNITIES



COUNCILLOR SHARON GAETZ
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



DIRECTOR HARRY NYCE
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



MAYOR HERB POND
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



COUNCILLOR MARY SJOSTROM
DIRECTOR AT LARGE



MAYOR JOE SNOPEK
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

UNION OF
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
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ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 2008 ANNUAL CONVENTION

DATES:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2008
to
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

LOCATION:

PENTICTON TRADE & CONVENTION CENTRE
PENTICTON, B.C.

REGISTRATION:

COMMENCES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CONTINUES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7:00 a.m.

FORUMS FOR:

- ELECTORAL AREAS
- SMALL TALK
- MID-SIZED COMMUNITIES
- LARGE URBAN COMMUNITIES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2008
COMMENCES at 9:00 a.m.

OPENING RECEPTION:

COMMENCES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7:30 p.m.
AT SOUTH OKANAGAN EVENTS CENTRE

BUSINESS SESSIONS:

COMMENCES WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 8:30 a.m.
PENTICTON TRADE & CONVENTION CENTRE

UBCM ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS BOOK

for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

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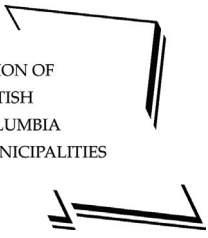
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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO UBCM MEMBERS

As the President and Executive Director of UBCM we are pleased to convey the 2008 Annual Report.

In the past year three new municipalities were incorporated in British Columbia, a sign of the continued growth of our Province. We are pleased to welcome Westside, Barriere and Clearwater into our membership. This reflects the 29th consecutive year that UBCM has represented 100 percent of the local governments in B.C.

Local governments in British Columbia are best served through a common voice. Our challenge is to continue to ensure that UBCM is able to respond to the diverse needs of our membership and to build consensus. The activities of 2008 and the results outlined in this Annual Report are proof of UBCM's continued efforts to advocate and support all elements of our diverse membership.

In 2008 we played an active role in the signing of a one billion dollar funding extension to the Gas Tax Agreement for the years 2011 – 2014. We were also involved in negotiations, which led to the signing of a Communities Component Agreement under Building Canada. We were the first province in Canada to achieve these two milestones. In addition, UBCM successfully advocated that funding be set aside from the Building Canada Fund for those larger municipalities who were not eligible under the Communities Component.

Governments continued to show support for efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in British Columbia. Resolutions of support for the Climate Action Charter continued to pour in and UBCM has worked to advance the local government commitments that are defined in the Charter.

This year also saw extensive time and resources committed to negotiating amendments to TILMA on behalf of the membership. Work was also initiated on two other long-term projects involving a targeted review of regional district issues and local government financing.

The Annual Report also describes an active year for our provincially funded grant programs. Phase One of the Community Tourism funding was completed and Phase Two is well underway. New programs were rolled out in the areas of Built Environment and Active Transportation, Building First Nations Governance Capacity and Support Treaty Implementation.

On an operational level, our focus this year was on achieving a smooth transition in the Executive Director position. It is crucial that we continue to look at the future needs of our membership while keeping in mind the strategies and partnerships that have brought us our past successes. To this end, we would like to thank Richard Taylor for his advice and contributions over the past year.

We encourage you to read the detailed accomplishments set out in this Annual Report.

Susan Gimse
President

Gary MacIsaac
Executive Director



RICHMOND STAFF

BACK ROW (left to right): Anna-Maria Wijesinghe, Mgr., Member & Association Services; Pamela Lewis, Convention Coordinator; Errin Morrison, Information & Resolutions Coordinator (no longer with UBCM); Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor; Jared Wright, Senior Policy Analyst; Joslyn Young, Executive Coordinator; Ted Willmer, Mgr, Finance & Operations; Susie Koivu, Financial Services Officer; Rose Hayes, Office Services.

FRONT ROW (seated left to right): Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director; Raelene Adamson, e-Office Services; Marlene Wells, Policy Analyst; Marie Crawford, Associate Executive Director.

MISSING: Reiko Tagami, Information & Resolutions Coordinator; Marylyn Chiang, Policy Analyst



VICTORIA STAFF

BACK ROW (left to right): Jen Cizman, Learning Events Coordinator, BCHC; Pamela Lewis, Convention Coordinator; Iris Hesketh-Boles, Gas Tax Administration; Natalie Laframboise, Communications Coordinator, BCHC; Danyta Welch, Policy and Programs Officer; Sue Clark, Programs Officer, Provincial Programs.

FRONT ROW (left to right): Richard Taylor, Manager, Victoria Operations as of October 15, 2007; Cynthia Kinney, Administrative Assistant, LGPS; Eydie Fraser, Executive Coordinator; Brenda Gibson, General Manager, Gas Tax/Public Transit; Jodi Mucha, Director, BC Healthy Communities; Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director as of October 15, 2007.

MISSING Paul Taylor, Relationships and Communications Advisor



UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF INCORPORATION

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

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED BY UBCM EXECUTIVE 2003

2007-2008 UBCM ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN BRIEF¹

TOP ACTIVITIES OR INVOLVEMENTS

- 100% membership maintained for the 29th consecutive year
- Municipal House - construction underway and ceremonial foundation pouring held in conjunction with April Executive meeting
- secured \$1 Billion in Gas Tax Funding for 2010/11 to 2013/14 - federal government announces Gas Tax Program is permanent
- total funding received by UBCM under Gas Tax and Public Transit Program reached \$359 million and already 80% delivered out to local governments
- agreement signed with Knowledge Network to produce Picture BC
- second year of funding for three provincial grant programs – Local Motion, Towns for Tomorrow and Spirit Squares – and Green Cities Awards launched at 2007 UBCM Convention
- third year in the doubling of Small Community and Regional District grants
- negotiations conclude and agreement reached on TILMA
- established Joint Provincial-UBCM Green Communities Committee under the BC Climate Action Charter to support local government climate action initiatives – over 120 local governments have now signed Climate Action Charters. Three joint working groups established
- initiated work on fiscal imbalance
- negotiations lead to signed Communities Component under Building Canada
- traffic fine revenues increase again this year - \$61 million flows directly to local government
- second Local Government Leadership Academy training program – overall rated highly at 4.6 /5
- “Guide to Community to Community Forums in British Columbia” developed and produced with First Nations Summit, Province of BC and supported by INAC
- spring conferences held - Crime Prevention as well as Regional District CEO/CAO and Electoral Area Directors meeting
- Province does not pursue province-wide Single Business Licence Initiative – opts for Mobile Business Licence pilot project in the Okanagan
- initiated Regional District Task Force work
- LGPS received nearly \$16 million in funding, including \$1.7 million for new programs
- RCMP Contract Renewal – UBCM established local government working group and appointed

- a local government representative to the provincial negotiating team
- Provincial funding maintained and federal funding increased for regional Community to Community 2008/09 program with 28 applications for 47 events received to date
- MOU for Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination on Implementation of Age-friendly Community Guides signed by 2010 Legacies Now, BC Recreation and Parks Association, Province and UBCM
- \$20 million in new funding for crime prevention and reduction to local communities under Civil Forfeiture process
- redesign of UBCM website underway

ADVOCACY

Policy Development and Implementation

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

Policy Development

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

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

Statutory framework for local government

- reviewed legislative changes related to the authorization of letters patent and changes in relation to the boundary expansion process

Justice/Community Safety

- reviewed legislative changes to the bylaw adjudication process
- participated in discussions on the development of a provincial crime prevention strategy
- appointed a local government representative to the provincial negotiating team established to look at the renewal of the RCMP contract and

- established a local government working group to assist UBCM in discussions on RCMP contract
- reviewed and discussed changes to wildfire regulations
- participated in discussions on new flood hazard management funding initiatives by the federal and provincial government
- reviewed new liquor regulations related to the 2010 Olympics and participated in local government consultations
- participated in consultations by federal officials on the federal policy related to the location of radio/cell phone antennae in urban areas
- participated in a workshop on eliminating the use of hydroponics equipment in marijuana grow-ops
- participated in discussions on green building regulations and policy
- met with staff from the Civil Forfeiture Office to discuss the program and sharing of proceeds with local government – province announced \$20 million in new funding for crime reduction and crime prevention for local communities from Civil Forfeiture program

Finance

- Increase to Home Owner Grant
- Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund Program fully committed
- UBCM Executive undertakes work on fiscal imbalance in response to member resolutions

Assessment

- proposal for mandatory assessment averaging not supported

Health

- continued to house the BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- produced the publication, *A Seat at the Table, A Resource Guide for Local Governments to Promote Food Secure Communities*, in collaboration with the Provincial Health Services Authority, Community Food Action Initiative and BC Healthy Communities
- provided input to Ministry of Health on *Public Health Act* re-write
- facilitated process for the Review of the Implementation of Recommendations of the 2003 Regional Hospital District Cost-Sharing Review
- developed policy paper on the Home Support Component of the Health Care System
- participated in Round Table discussion on Seniors' Alternative Transportation
- continued participation and support for BC Healthy Living Alliance programs

- reviewed Resolution B187: *Blood Samples Act*
- reported on Mental Health Facilities in BC
- worked on the Provincial Health Services Authority's Health and the Built Environment Project and participated in the Forum in October
- reviewed the Food Premise Regulation
- reviewed the Ministry of Health's Conversation on Health
- analysed the Tripartite First Nations Health Plan

Environment

- submissions drafted on the CCME Canada-wide municipal wastewater strategy and participation in joint federal-provincial workshops
- participation on the development of the BC Brownfields Renewal Strategy through the Brownfield Strategy Steering Committee
- ongoing work through the Sewerage System Leadership Council and the UBCM SSR Working Group on policy and regulatory options for addressing local government concerns
- review of potential amendments to the Subdivision Regulation (SR) through the SR Consequential Amendments Committee
- consultation with the Ministry of Environment (MOE) on proposed amendments to the *Wildlife Act*
- co-ordination of a joint provincial-local government workshop on the site profile process and off-site contamination and participation in MOE contaminated sites workshops
- review of the proposed provincial Landfill Gas Capture Regulation intentions paper
- work initiated on the development of best practice manuals for urban forests and community gardens for local governments
- facilitation of local government compliance with the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) through the RAR Co-ordination Committee and RAR Steering Committee
- drafting and signing of the Riparian Areas Regulation Intergovernmental Co-operation Agreement
- participation on the development of the "carbon neutral" framework for the Climate Action Charter through the Green Communities Committee carbon neutral working group
- participation in several climate change action workshops and liaison with NGOs, consultants and private companies specializing in mitigation and adaptation strategies
- review of the BC Plant Health Emergency Response Plan
- discussions with the plastic industry, retail and grocery associations, and MOE on addressing the "plastic bags issue"

- consultation with the Ministry of Environment on the provincial review of the *Water Act*.
- review of Ministry of Environment Codes of Practices
- advising on the creation of new, and the expansion of existing, product stewardship programs through the Recycling of British Columbia Council Board

Trade

- developed UBCM position paper on TILMA, signed Consultation Agreement with Province and undertook negotiations with governments of BC, Alberta and our local government counterparts through AUMA and AAMDC to specifically address local government interests within the agreement. Negotiations concluded, agreement reached
- Single Business License initiative moves to pilot project stage in the Okanagan for mobile businesses only
- monitored implications of softwood lumber agreement on BC communities
- discussions on extension of energy chapter of AIT to local governments

Economic Development

- responded to the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers updated Canada Forest Accord
- organized a Pine Beetle pre-conference session at the 2007 Convention which brought together provincial and federal government leaders as well as local beetle action coalitions and individual communities.
- provided input into BC Recreational Trails Strategy
- participated on working group on RV Park development
- reviewed proposed new federal *Fisheries Act* (Bill C-32)
- reviewed the BC Agricultural Plan
- reviewed the Coastal Forest Action Plan
- considered referred 2007 resolution on aquaculture
- partnering with Centre for Tourism Development on Guidebook to assist communities in identifying tourism opportunities

Infrastructure

- MRIF fully expended
- negotiations led to signed Communities Component under Building Canada
- total funding received by UBCM under Gas Tax and Public Transit programs reached \$359 million and over 80% already delivered to local governments
- Gas Tax Agreement extended to 2014

Energy Policy

- reviewed provincial Bioenergy Strategy
- supported MOU working group on offshore oil and gas (3 meetings in 2007-2008)
- continued to monitor consultations by BC Hydro on Site C
- received delegation on proposed changes to oil and gas regulations and realignment of related legislation
- participated in provincial meetings on energy efficiency and conservation
- participated on BC Transmission Corporation Transmission Expansion Policy working group

Aboriginal

- advocated for a role for local governments in the Province's New Relationship activities outside the treaty process
- reviewed and commented on MCS's discussion document on treaty local government chapters
- advocated for sufficient funding for local governments participating in treaty negotiations
- advocated for the sharing of confidential treaty information among treaty advisory committees

Transportation

- assisted in the reporting out on the BC Transit governance and funding review
- ATV/ORV licensing
- met with federal transportation officials regarding railway safety policy
- discussed zero emission vehicle regulations

Other Policy Matters Reviewed

- delivery of fire services
- seismic upgrades to buildings
- policing and security issues related to 2010 Olympics
- accessibility issues

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- pine beetle funding to eradicate infestation and assistance to private land owners
- citizenship and immigration – new immigrants integration into communities
- Bill C-32 renewed *Fisheries Act*
- childcare funding
- flood hazard management to match provincial funding – federal government announced \$60 million in funding for flood hazard management from Building Canada fund.
- 2007 Resolutions conveyed to federal government
- railway safety issue
- telecommunications and rights of way
- siting of radio antennas

MEMBER INITIATIVES: RESOLUTIONS

UBCM's policy initiatives are primarily derived from resolutions submitted by members. During 2008, UBCM reviewed many high quality, clearly written and well-researched resolutions in the course of preparing the Annual Report and Resolutions Book. All Area Associations submitted their resolutions for UBCM comment prior to their annual meetings and subsequently conveyed endorsed resolutions to UBCM for consideration at the 2008 Convention.

Policy Implementation

Policy work over the last year which involves UBCM included:

Legislation (in order of degree of UBCM involvement)

Among the legislation reviewed by UBCM:

- *Public Health Act* rewrite
- amendments to elections legislation for local governments
- amendments to provide for GHG requirements for OCPs and RGSs, Development Permit Area changes, varying off-street parking and DCCs.
- amendments with respect to *Wildlife Act*
- *Water Act* amendments
- legislation regarding access to and maintenance of resource roads
- amendments to legislation regarding oil and gas activities
- amendments regarding bylaw adjudication process
- letters patent/boundary expansion provisions
- changes to Building Code – promotion of green buildings and other changes
- TILMA enactment

Regulations (in order of degree of UBCM involvement)

UBCM contributed to the development of many regulations including:

- wildfire regulation (amendment)
- subdivision regulation
- landfill gas capture regulation
- riparian areas regulation
- smoking regulation
- zero emission vehicles

UBCM Resolutions Responses

A total of 175 resolutions were forwarded to the provincial government for consideration following the 2007 UBCM Convention. In addition, 33 resolutions were conveyed to the federal government and four were conveyed to the FCM. Responses have been conveyed to the resolution sponsors.

The Province has indicated that 67 issues raised in the 2007 resolutions have already been addressed

in whole or in part by provincial initiatives and noted that it was not willing to consider changes proposed in 37 of the resolutions. Provincial support was noted in the case of six resolutions and the Province indicated it is willing to consider the changes/suggestions/concerns expressed in 13 other resolutions. Further review and/or action will be undertaken on the changes suggested in an additional 18 resolutions. As well, UBCM is already working with the Province on four resolutions and will monitor provincial action in several other policy areas.

UBCM PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Health Programs

- Community Health Promotion Fund – 42 pilot projects approved for Round 3. A total of 121 projects have now received approval
- Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative – 21 pilot projects were approved for Round 3; resulting in 52 projects in 40 communities funded to date. In 2007, 7 'Seniors in Communities' dialogues were funded and 5 have been funded to date in 2008. In total close to 40 dialogues have now been approved
- Healthy Food & Beverage Sales in Recreation Facilities and Local Government Buildings – Phase 1 of this program was launched and 9 communities have been approved
- Built Environment & Active Transportation Community Planning Grants – over 50 Expressions of Interest were received and staff expect 10 to 12 communities to receive project approval
- Local government employee health promotion project and "Active Civic Employees" website launched with 2010 Legacies Now

First Nations

- regional Community to Community Forum program – 48 applications were received for the 2007/08 program and 39 events were held. Provincial funding maintained and federal funding increased for 2008/09 program. To date, 28 applications for 47 events have been received
- supporting Treaty Implementation Pilot Project program – 4 applicants were approved for pilot projects and applications will continue to be reviewed
- Treaty Knowledge Exchange Dialogue program – To date, 4 applicants have been approved in principal. Applications will be reviewed on an on-going basis
- Building Governance Capacity Pilot Project program, for shared local government and First Nation initiatives – launched in May 2008

- "Guide to Community to Community Forums in British Columbia" developed and produced with First Nations Summit, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliations and Ministry of Community Services, and supported by INAC
- received \$300k from MARR and implemented workplan on information sharing and relationship building activities relating to three final agreements initialed in 2006 (includes two programs)

Gas Tax

- see report in the Annual Report

Local Government Program Services

- managed 16 programs, including six new programs
- nearly \$16 million contributed to LGPS programs including:
 - \$9.8 million to enhance ongoing Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative programs
 - \$4 million for the 2008 West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative
 - \$500,000 to add to the original \$2 million for the Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative
 - Over \$1 million for grants administered on behalf of the BC Healthy Living Alliance: Healthy Food and Beverage Sales in Recreation Facilities and Local Government Buildings and Built Environment and Active Transportation Community Planning grants.
 - \$350,000 for new Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Emergency Planning program
 - \$300,000 for the new Building Governance Capacity Pilot Project program
- continued enhanced reporting for all LGPS programs and the annual Premier's Report
- signed agreement with Knowledge Network to produce Picture BC
- initiated quarterly MLA e-bulletins
- administer the WED/NDI funding program for BC Stories
- also see report in the Annual Report

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON WITH OTHER GROUPS

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

Our contacts in the past year include:

- provincial Premier, Ministers, Ministry and agency staff at federal & provincial levels

- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- BC Conservation Lands Forum
- BC Fire Services Liaison Group
- BC Healthy Communities Initiative
- BC Hydro
- BC Recreation and Parks Association
- BC Safety Authority
- BC School Trustees Association
- BC Transmission Corporation
- BC Treaty Commission and the First Nations Summit
- BC Underground Safety Project
- Centre for Tourism Development
- CivicInfo BC
- Coalition for Licensing and Registration of Off Road Vehicles
- Communities In Bloom
- Community Energy Association
- Community Food Action Initiative (CFAI)
- Council of Tourism Associations
- Development Finance Review Committee
- Electronic Products Stewardship Canada
- Emergency Medical Assistants Funding Advisory Committee
- Fraser Basin Council
- Health Authorities
- Land Title and Survey Authority Board and Stakeholders Committee
- Local Government Leadership Academy
- Municipal Insurance Association of BC
- MRIF Infrastructure Program – Management Committee and Joint Secretariat
- National Crime Prevention Centre
- National Forest Accord – BC Coalition
- Ombudsman
- other local government associations – all five Area Associations visited; represented on the FCM board; and maintain relations with neighbouring provincial associations
- presentation of local government issues to groups and foreign delegations: Philippine associations, Sri Lankan, Russian and Chinese delegations, university students
- professional groups such as LGMA, GFOA, PIBC, BOABC, AIBC, professional engineers; consulting engineers
- other provincial associations like the BC Chamber of Commerce, BC Business Council, Smart Growth BC
- RCMP
- regularly sought out by media
- SPARC BC
- Tourism BC
- 2010 Legacies Now

Some relationships are set out in agreements:

- MOU between UBCM, FCM Philippine Leagues reviewed and renewal underway
- renewal of MOU with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and First Nations Summit for an additional 2 year term
- reviewed all MOUs and Agreements as part of annual procedures.
- MOU for Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination on Implementation of Age-friendly Community Guides signed by 2010 Legacies Now, BC Recreation and Parks Association, Province and UBCM

MEMBER SERVICES

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

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Publications

- Thousands of copies of publications printed and distributed – for example: 1,600 Annual Report & Resolutions books, 550 Convention minute books, and over 1,100 Net•work•books distributed and sold
- Numerous membership circulars and fax broadcasts distributed throughout the year
- Four issues of UBCM News – totaling 100 pages
- updated UBCM Guide to Information Services
- 2008 date planners and wall calendars produced with 164 members purchasing 621 planners and 634 wall calendars
- Net•work•book distributed; 73 Professional Directory listings
- Developed new partnership with CivicInfo on our Professionals Directory; listings are now searchable on the web
- TAC Update
- C2C Connect newsletter

Other media

- RFP tendered and redesign of CivicNet underway (www.civicnet.bc.ca – UBCM’s website)

ADVICE, TRAINING AND INFORMATION SHARING

UBCM hosted or participated in a number of training events:

- Municipal Administration Training Institute; Capilano College local government administration course; SFU graduate students
- supported the annual regional district Chairs and CAOs meeting
- Local Government Leadership Academy learning

session held February 12 – 14, 2008

- Crime Prevention Conference held February 28 – 29, 2008
- Electoral Area Director’s Meeting held June 12 – 13, 2008

Member Liaison

- 35 special appointments to visit members outside of the Metro Vancouver/Greater Victoria area plus the many trips to member communities in conjunction with other UBCM business

CONVENTION

The UBCM Convention is an opportunity for our members to gather in one location to focus on policy development, provincial government relationships, training and to network with colleagues from around the province. Some highlights of the 2007 Convention were:

- second highest attendance in history
- increased submissions and a new partner for the Community Excellence Awards
- endorsed four policy papers on: TILMA; Enforcement of BC Building Code; Legislation to support Climate Change Action Plans and Building Green Communities; and Environment Action Plan.
- Long Service Awards (25 years) given to:
 - Councillor Ray Brady, District of Kitimat
 - Councillor Simon Gibson, City of Abbotsford
 - Director Bob Headrick, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
 - Director Lloyd McKimmon, Fraser Valley Regional District
 - Mayor Clifford Pederson, Village of Zeballos
 - Councillor John Clemens Ratcliffe, City of Kimberley
 - Director Les Watmough, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
 - Councillor James (Jim) Buchanan Woodruff, District of Vanderhoof
- Life Memberships awarded to:
 - Councillor Brenda Binnie, 2006 – 2007 UBCM President
 - Richard Taylor, UBCM Assistant Executive Director 1982 – 1985; UBCM Executive Director 1985 - 2007

OPTIONAL MEMBER SERVICES

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

- Group Benefit Association Plan in 26th year of operation with approximately \$10.2 million in annual premiums; provide coverage and

- administer approximately 250 different plan designs covering more than 3,000 employees
- Processed over 205 benefit contract amendments
- Re-designed employee benefit booklets
- Members purchase dog, and now cat tags through UBCM
- \$703,644 distributed to 102 members participating in the Commercial Vehicle Licensing program

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

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

- construction underway for new Municipal House
- Executive Policies and Staff Policies revised and updated
- UBCM Code of Conduct established for Executive and staff
- Executive review the Code of Ethical Standards of Conduct for Elected Officials
- Office Lease renewal completed and Richmond office improvements complete
- new UBCM pay grid administration system established
- coordinate Professionals Directory component of Net•work•book with CivicInfo BC
- establish “green” convention policies/practices

KEY INDICATORS

- 6 Executive meetings, including the April 2008 meeting in Victoria – the first meeting to be held in conjunction with the AVICC Annual meeting – where Committees met with 6 Cabinet ministers, provincial staff and others
- 31 UBCM Executive committee meetings held over the year
- 100% (189 out of 189) local governments have membership in UBCM
- over the year numerous meetings with MCS Minister and delegations from Minister as part of our quarterly Executive meetings

EXECUTIVE AND SECRETARIAT

- Staffing: Gary MacIsaac is appointed as UBCM’s new Executive Director and Richard Taylor transitions to retirement, serving as General Manager, Victoria Operations until December 2008. Long serving employees Errin Morrison and Shannon McAvella depart UBCM for career changes as does Lesley Arsenault. UBCM welcomes Reiko Tagami as the new Information and Resolutions Coordinator and Marylyn Chiang as Policy Analyst to support the health policy portfolio. Cynthia Kinney joins the Victoria Office as Administrative Assistant to the LGPS office
- provide administrative oversight over delivery of Local Government Program Services and Gas Tax/Public Transit Program

ASSOCIATION SERVICES

UBCM provides services to:

- Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- BC Healthy Communities initiative. UBCM provides the secretariat support including staffing and offices under a contribution agreement with the Ministry of Health

Finance

- The year-end audited financial statements indicated a small surplus
- 2% dues increase in 2007

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



FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS, TREATY NEGOTIATIONS AND THE NEW RELATIONSHIP

FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Director Terry Raymond, Chair

Director Harry Nyce, Vice
Chair

Mayor Herb Pond

Director Rod Sherrell

Chair Robert Hobson

Brenda Binnie (VP Liaison)

PRIORITIES

- Local government role in the New Relationship
- Treaty Support
- Strengthening local government-First Nation relations

Over the past year, UBCM continued to provide policy support to local governments on treaty negotiation issues and to strengthen relationships between local governments and First Nations. In addition, the First Nations Relations Committee focused its work on establishing a role for local governments in the Province's New Relationship activities with First Nations.

New Relationship

UBCM is seeking active consultation on New Relationship agreements that the Province is negotiating with First Nations outside the treaty process that have the potential to affect local government jurisdiction. UBCM has been working with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) on drafting a revised memorandum of understanding that will define a role for local governments in the New Relationship.

Information Sharing and Relationship Building Activities

In 2007 UBCM received \$300,000 from MARR to undertake information sharing and relationship building activities relating to the three final treaty agreements that were initiated in 2006. With this funding UBCM is administering two programs:

- Treaty Knowledge Exchange Dialogue program provides funding for treaty advisory committees (TACs)/local governments involved in treaty negotiations to meet with and learn from other TACs/local governments who are involved in more advanced negotiations.

- Supporting Treaty Implementation Pilot Project program provides funding to TACs/local governments who are undertaking initiatives that support treaty implementation.

Other information sharing activities that UBCM is working on include

the research and writing of a case studies handbook on local government experiences in treaty negotiations. This handbook will provide information on promising practices and lessons learned.

Strengthening Local Government - First Nation Relations

At the 2007 UBCM Convention, a pre-conference session was organized that dealt with how local governments can work effectively with First Nations. Our main speaker, Bob Joseph, provided delegates with tools and tips for working collaboratively with First Nations. Also at this session, UBCM launched the Guide to Community to Community Forums in British Columbia, which was designed to assist communities in taking the first step in coming together in dialogue. The Guide was a collaborative effort among UBCM, Ministry of Community Services and First Nations Summit. The federal government also provided funding support.

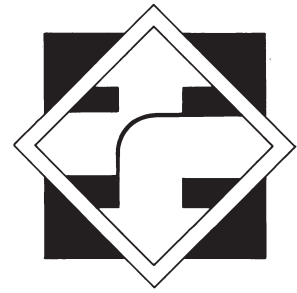
Another issue of the C2C Connect newsletter was distributed in fall 2007. UBCM also continued to administer the Regional Community to Community Forum Program. Over the 2007/08-year, close to 40 regional forums were held across the Province.

Treaty Focus

UBCM continued to advocate to the provincial government for improved funding support for local governments in treaty negotiations. UBCM also advocated for sharing of confidential treaty information among TACs.

UBCM provides support to local governments/TACs as needed. UBCM has supported information sharing among TACs/local governments through conference calls and TAC updates.

ENHANCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Opportunities



The terms of reference for the Community Economic Development Committee state that its primary focus is to improve regional economic development opportunities for local governments. Over the past year, the Committee has engaged in a number of policy areas that have a direct affect on the economic development potential of BC communities.

With respect to the pine beetle and the challenges that this presents for many forest communities, the Committee hosted a pre-conference session at the 2007 UBCM Convention which brought together Ministers Coleman and Lunn to discuss the provincial and federal responses to the pine beetle. As well, representatives from each of the Beetle Action Coalitions reported out on the work being done locally to plan for and assist communities in the years ahead.

Many local governments are looking to expand the economic development potential of tourism for their communities. UBCM has been working with the Centre for Tourism Development on a guide book to assist BC communities in identifying tourism opportunities as well as the "how to" of developing an effective tourism plan.

One sector of the tourism market that has been expanding is the recreational vehicle (RV) traveler. Today's RV'er is looking for greater and expanded services within park sites to accommodate both the size and the level of technology associated with their vehicle. The Province recently released a report outlining 15 recommendations for enhancing RV park development in BC. Three of the report's recommendations directly relate to local governments. Committee Chair, Councillor Mary Sjostrom, has agreed to be part of an inter-agency

working group that will be providing input as to how best to implement the report's recommendations.

On other policy matters, the Committee reviewed the proposed new federal Fisheries Act (Bill C-45); met with provincial representatives on the oil and gas regulatory review initiative; received a delegation from the Canadian Community Economic Development Network; continue to monitor discussions related to Site C; reviewed and provided feedback on the BC Agricultural Plan as well as BC's Bioenergy Strategy; and engaged in discussions around the BC Energy Plan's recommendation related to energy conservation and efficiency.

The Committee also oversees the work of the MOU working group on Offshore Oil and Gas. The Committee has been represented by both Mayor Sharon Hartwell and Director Rod Sherrell as the Committee liaison, serving as Chair to the working group. The working group continues to make progress and will be preparing a report on its deliberations in the coming months, specifically identifying issues of interest to local governments.

This year the Committee has also taken on a monitoring role with respect to the Province's single business licence initiative. When presented at Convention in 2007, the Province had proposed a province-wide business licencing scheme. As a result of expressed local government concerns, however the initiative has since reduced its scope to a pilot project in the Okanagan for mobile businesses only, as part of Phase 1. The Committee continues to monitor the pilot, and quarterly reports on the project are reported in the UBCM News.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mary Sjostrom,
Chair

Director Rod Sherrell, Vice
Chair

Mayor Ella Brown

Councillor Bob Long

Mayor Sharon Hartwell (VP
Liaison)

PRIORITIES

- respond to BC Energy Plan elements of specific local government interest
- continue to request a coordinated long term economic development strategy for beetle affected areas
- respond to the recommendations of RV Park Development report
- continue to support the Offshore Oil and Gas Working Group
- monitor the Province's Single Business Licence Initiative – now a pilot project in the Okanagan.
- continue to work with others to support economic development opportunities for communities.



THE GREEN AGENDA

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Mayor Herb Pond, Chair
Director Rhona Martin, Vice
Chair
Councillor Sharon Gaetz
Director Harry Nyce
Director Heath Slee
Mayor Joe Snopek

PRIORITIES

- Work with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Community Services on implementing the recommendations contained in the UBCM Sewerage System Regulation working group action plan;
- Engage in consultation with the Ministry of Environment to address outstanding local government concerns with the proposed interim site profile process and work with the Municipal Insurance Association to assess liability exposure under the new process;
- Continue to monitor the development of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment municipal wastewater strategy to ensure that local government concerns are addressed;
- Advise on the development of any new provincial product stewardship program to ensure that it adopts a fully industry funded framework which maximizes the recovery rate and provides the broadest choice of options for consumers; and
- Provide advisory support to the implementation of the Climate Action Charter where requested and appropriate.

Over the past year, the Environment Committee has been actively monitoring and advising on a number of key environmental issues which impact the sustainability and well being of local communities. From the Sewerage System Regulation, to contaminated sites, to product stewardship, the Committee has voiced local government concerns and recommendations on a number of key regulations, strategies and policies devised under the Province's "green agenda."

The Sewerage System Regulation (SSR) has been a key Committee issue this year as the Regulation has raised implementation challenges for local governments' throughout the province. In response to these onsite septic system issues, UBCM struck a working group of appointed elected officials and senior provincial staff to review the SSR and identify policy changes and/or regulatory amendments. The working group developed a seventeen (17) point action plan last Fall, and has been actively working to secure the deliverables within the plan. In September, the Ministry of Health will be initiating a communications strategy and holding regional workshops to outline changes made to the implementation of the SSR.

As part of its advocacy efforts, the Committee has been raising local governments concerns over the proposed interim site profile process for contaminated sites, as well as the handling of offsite contamination. In April, the Committee met with the Honourable Barry Penner, Minister of Environment, and discussed the need for full indemnification of local governments under the proposed process as well as the need to provide local governments with a reasonable ability to require timely remediation of onsite and offsite contamination. The Committee has also sought changes to the site profile process through formal submissions, staff representation on two contaminated sites working groups, and the holding of a joint UBCM-provincial government workshop that explored ways to accommodate local

government positions.

In accordance with the product stewardship framework adopted in the 2007 Environment Action Plan, the Committee monitored and advised on the creation of new, and the expansion of existing, product stewardship programs. In April, the Province announced its intention to add products containing mercury to the provincial Recycling Regulation, as well as the expansion of the list of electronic products included in the electronic waste product stewardship program.

The Committee has also been proactively working with the Province on its "green agenda." Through participation in the BC Brownfield Advisory Group, UBCM has been shaping the development of a new provincial brownfields renewal strategy that is designed to foster the redevelopment of abandoned and vacant sites with perceived or real contamination. Discussions were also held with the Province over amendments to the *Wildlife Act*, the provincial review of the *Water Act*, air quality standards, the plastic bags issue, and the proposed development of a Landfill Gas Regulation under the *Environmental Management Act*. The Committee also provided advisory support for the implementation of the Climate Action Charter, of which one hundred and twenty-four (124) local governments have signed.

In addition, the Committee continued its work with the Ministry of Environment on minimizing the impact of the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR), and assisting local governments in achieving compliance with the Regulation. In June, the Ministry and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans signed off on the RAR Intergovernmental Co-operation Agreement, marking the completion of the last tool required for the full implementation of the RAR. Overall, the Environment Committee has been advocating local government interests on a wide range of regulations, policies, and strategies being devised under the Province's "green agenda."

NEW MEASURES UNDERWAY



The Community Safety Committee has focused on a number of broad issues during the past year. The Committee was successful in organizing a Crime Prevention Conference in 2008 that dealt with the development of integrated crime prevention plans, gang, drug and domestic violence issues. The Committee also met with Attorney General Wally Oppal and senior staff from the Ministry of Attorney General where it raised issues of concern to local government and received information on a number of new initiatives.

Over 170 delegates attended the two-day conference on crime prevention entitled "Building A Safer Community: Gangs, Drugs and Domestic Violence" that was organized by the Committee in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Ministry of Community Services, Ministry of Attorney General and the RCMP. The conference looked at a number of important issues to enhance community safety:

- development of an integrated approach to crime prevention and crime reduction measures, using evidence based programs;
- crime prevention measures being undertaken by local communities;
- strategies for dealing with youth gang violence;
- drug issues facing local communities and strategies to mitigate the problems;
- community-based strategies to address domestic and sexual violence.

The Committee received an update on the activities of the Civil Forfeiture Office, which under the *Civil Forfeiture Act* is able to use the civil court process, to seek the forfeiture of proceeds of unlawful activity in British Columbia – money, property etc. The Civil Forfeiture Office has been successful in all of its actions to date and the proceeds from these cases can be used to reimburse victims

(i.e. fraud cases); administration of the Act; crime prevention and crime reduction activities. The province in 2008 announced that \$20 million dollars in funding obtained through proceeding under the *Civil Forfeiture Act* would be made available to local communities for crime prevention and crime reduction initiatives.

While in Victoria, the Community Safety Committee met with senior staff from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and received an update on the RCMP contract discussions, the status of the new Police Recruitment Fund announced by the federal government, and the provincial response to the concerns raised regarding the sale of stolen property by pawnshops and scrap metal dealers. The Committee also met with Attorney General Wally Oppal and senior staff from the Ministry of Attorney General where it received a briefing on the Community Court system that the province will be opening in Vancouver in 2008; an update on the development of a provincial crime prevention strategy that is scheduled to be released in the fall of 2008; potential changes to the Bylaw Adjudication Court System; and the release of a comprehensive review of court sentencing in the province that is expected to be released this fall.

The Community Safety Committee received updates on new provincial funding for flood hazard management and continued to pursue the need for federal funding for flood hazard management. The Committee wrote to the federal government requesting that it match the provincial level of funding of \$100 million over 10 years to enhance flood protection measures announced at the 2007 UBCM Convention. The federal government has announced that it will provide \$60 million to flood hazard management to be financed out of the Building Canada Fund.

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Terry Lake, Chair
Mayor Joe Snopek, Vice Chair
Councillor Barbara Steele
Director Terry Raymond
Councillor Kim Capri
Director Eileen Benedict
BC Assoc. of Police Boards

PRIORITIES

- 2008 Crime Prevention Conference – February 28th & 29th;
- RCMP Contract Renewal
- Crime Prevention & Crime Reduction Plan
- Sharing Proceeds of Crime – Forfeited Crime Proceeds Fund
- Flood Hazard Management



STANDING COMMITTEES REPORT OUT

PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE

Director Susan Gimse,
President
Chair Robert Hobson, First
Vice-President
Mayor Sharon Hartwell, Second
Vice-President
Mayor Terry Lake, Third Vice-
President
Brenda Binnie, Past President

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Councillor Kim Capri, Chair
Councillor Mary Sjostrom, Vice
Chair
Councillor Bob Long
Director Heath Slee
Councillor Barbara Steele

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Councillor Sharon Gaetz, Chair
Mayor Herb Pond, Vice Chair
Councillor Mary Sjostrom
Mayor Terry Lake
Chair Robert Hobson, VP
Liaison

Presidents

This past year has been one of transition. The Presidents Committee, mandated with the task of hiring a new Executive Director, undertook a recruitment process over the summer of 2007. On October 15, 2008 Gary MacIsaac became the new Executive Director while Richard Taylor continues as Manager of Victoria Operations until December 2008.

The Committee has continued with its three-fold mandate to: maintain and enhance organizational effectiveness; serve as hub for coordination between Vice-President liaisons to all UBCM Committees; and oversee projects that don't have a home within the established UBCM Committee structure.

Projects related to maintaining and enhancing UBCM's organizational effectiveness have included:

- completed a review and updated both Executive and staff polices
- established a UBCM Code of Conduct for Executive and staff
- established a new pay grid administration system
- contracted consultants to redesign UBCM website - civicnet.bc.ca
- partnered with Civicinfo on the Professionals Directory component of the 2008 Networkbook.

The Committee also provides oversight on the new Municipal House project and is pleased to report that construction has begun on the new LEED building at 525 Government Street in Victoria. Executive members were joined by the Honourable Ida Chong for the ceremonial "cement pouring" on April 11 in conjunction with our spring Executive meeting. While in Victoria, the Committee also met with the Finance Minister on the

carbon tax and the Transportation Minister on the Building Canada Fund. The Committee has also taken the lead on providing oversight to the affordable housing and homelessness file which straddles many Committee mandates, as well as commissioning research work on the municipal fiscal imbalance.

The Committee also provides oversight for UBCM's Member Services and Group Benefits Programs, Community Excellence Awards, the BC Healthy Communities Initiative administrative functions, and our work in the area of international programs. UBCM representatives to the Municipal Pension Plan and the Pension Management Corporation also report to the Presidents Committee.

Convention

The 2007 Convention was held in Vancouver from September 24 - 28. A variety of tours and sessions were held, such as the always-popular Agriculture Study Tour and theme-related sessions on climate change. This diverse mix continued all week with clinics on mining, provincial sessions on the single business license initiative, and a workshop on "Living with Illiteracy" lead by Jacques Demers. A total of 1,986 people attended Convention - 1,246 of those representing 179 UBCM member municipalities and regional districts. Delegates rated the Convention well at 4.1 out of 5.0.

Resolutions

The annual resolutions process forms the foundation of UBCM's ongoing advocacy work on behalf of British Columbia's local governments. Resolutions are a means of speaking with one voice to express the needs and concerns of BC communities and

often result in positive change for municipalities and regional districts throughout the province. Many members have asked, “do resolutions make a difference?” This report from the Resolutions Committee is designed to definitively state, “yes!”

Recent responses to several resolutions from the past two years provide examples of the kinds of success that can be achieved through this process:

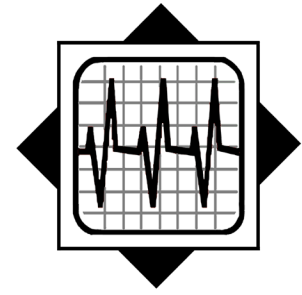
- Addressing concerns raised in **2007** resolutions **B29** and **B70**, the 2008 provincial Throne Speech introduced a new “Brownfields to Greenfields” redevelopment strategy to target existing “dirty” sites for the creation of well-treed, green, livable communities.
- Resolution **2006-B73** was addressed through amendments to local government statutes extending mail ballot voting, where authorized by local bylaw, to snowbirds and other electors who will be absent throughout the voting period for local government elections.
- Resolution **2007-B130** called for local government authority to implement and require energy efficiency standards for new buildings, recent amendments to housing statutes grant this authority to local governments.
- Resolution **2006-B27** saw action in the form of the provincial Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act, which requires that fuel suppliers have a prescribed percentage of renewable fuel in the fuel they supply.

- Resolution **2006-B118** was addressed through amendments granting local governments discretionary powers to waive or reduce DCCs for “green” developments (for-profit affordable rental housing; subdivisions of small lots designed to result in low greenhouse gas emissions; and developments designed to result in a low environmental impact).

These are some recent success stories. Other resolutions from years past may not have achieved immediate results, but nevertheless brought local government issues to the attention of the provincial and federal governments. Close to 100% of UBCM resolutions have received direct responses from provincial and federal ministries over the past several years – indicating that, while change is not always achieved immediately, UBCM’s collective voice is heard loud and clear.

In 2008, member resolutions reflect a wide variety of local government contexts and concerns, and respond to provincial and federal initiatives and legislation. Climate change issues and local government fiscal concerns are paramount for many members, as local governments consider the new provincial carbon tax. Community safety and policing issues are once again of key interest to the membership, with transportation, the environment, and economic development also remaining top priorities for local government.

Building Healthy Communities



Over the past year, the Healthy Communities Committee has continued to work on health related policy development and collaborate with local governments around the province in proactively addressing community health problems.

Health policy work has included extensive consultations on Bill 23- a new Public Health Act. The implications of the new Act for local government were discussed in several meetings, including a meeting in March 2008 between UBCM President Susan Gimse, and the Ministers of Health and Community Services. UBCM has continued to advocate for local government interests and Bill 23 sets out a new role for local governments in section 83, which is limited to;

1) Acting on health hazards by taking one of the following three actions if the local government becomes aware of a health hazard

- reporting the hazard to the MHO; or
- taking action if it has been delegated authority under the Act; or
- taking action if it has the authority under another Act such as the Community Charter or the Local Government Act.

2) Designating a liaison to the regional Health Authority

3) Requesting a MHO or provincial health officer to issue an order regarding a health hazard

In addition, under this Bill, Medical Health Officers are required to consult local government if they intend to report on a public health issue affecting local government; Cabinet can establish processes to resolve disputes between local governments and Health Authorities; and public bodies that are ordered to prepare a health plan are required to consult with local government.

UBCM has received communication from many of our members regarding the adequacy of health services

throughout the province and the implications for an aging population. UBCM membership has previously endorsed several resolutions on the topic of Home Support, that have generally called for the provincial government to ensure access to and adequate funding for home support programs throughout the province. UBCM has prepared a policy paper on Home Support for aging populations for review at this year's Convention.

Since 2006, UBCM has considered ongoing member concerns on the topic of local government relations with Regional Health Authorities. This year, a consultant was selected and a Review of the Implementation of Recommendations of the 2003 Regional Hospital District Cost-Sharing Review has begun. The consultant will be presenting the results in late October.

Health promotion and disease prevention initiatives continue with work on the Provincial Health Services Authority's Health and the Built Environment Project; support for the BC Healthy Living Alliance; and our Local Government Program Services grant management on Healthy Food & Beverage Sales, Seniors' Housing & Support Initiatives and Built Environment & Active Transportation Plans.

Food security continues to be another critical component of healthy communities. UBCM, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and BC Healthy Communities have jointly prepared a resource book for local governments on their role in food security in their communities. UBCM also participates in the Community Food Action Initiative, led by the PHSA, as part of ActNowBC.

The Committee also reviewed the Tripartite First Nations Health Plan; the Food Premises Regulation; reports on the ambulance service and first responders as well as the Conversation on Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mayor Ella Brown, Chair

Mayor Sharon Hartwell, Vice Chair

Director Rhona Martin

Director Eileen Benedict

Councillor Brenda Binnie
(VP Liaison)

PRIORITIES

- Facilitate process for the Review of the Implementation of Recommendations of the 2003 Regional Hospital District Cost-Sharing Review
- Continued participation in the Public Health Act re-write
- Local Government Resource Guide for Food Security
- Participation in the Provincial Health Services Authority's Health and the Built Environment Project



Administration provided
by UBCM

Funding provided by:
Province of B.C.



LGPS Secretariat

Municipal House
545 Superior Street
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Phone: 250.356.5134
Fax: 250.356.5119

Details of each program are
on the website:
www.civicnet.bc.ca
under
Programs & Services
Local Government Program Services

Local Government Program Services

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

UBCM has been delivering a number of provincially funded programs since 2004. Building on the successes of previous years, we have received an additional \$16 million in support of new or expanded community programming. These funds include:

- Building Governance Capacity - \$300,000
- Built Environment & Active Transportation - \$425,000
- Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal - \$350,000
- Healthy Food & Beverage Sales - \$600,000
- Regional Community to Community Forum - \$120,000
- Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative - \$500,000
- Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives - \$9.8 million
- West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative - \$4 million

This is the fourth annual report to members on LGPS programs. Regular programming updates are also available through the UBCM Newsletter and by contacting the LGPS office. Program status reports and the annual Premier's Report also provide detailed information on LGPS programs and their effectiveness in communities.

This year's financial statements include audited accounts for the funds received, amounts disbursed and fund balances. More detailed expenditures and our accounting policies are available on the Civicnet website. It is important to note that LGPS funds are completely separate from regular UBCM accounts.

The following is a summary of the types of activities that have been undertaken by UBCM's members through funds administered by LGPS on behalf of the province.

Building Governance Capacity

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

This program was developed in 2007 to assist local governments and First Nations that have an established working relationship to address specific capacity gaps related to governance issues. Matching grants of up to \$25,000 are available to help local governments and First Nations to work together on common governance-related issues, participate in capacity building activities or events and, at the same time, build governance management skills, knowledge, abilities and understanding.

Built Environment & Active Transportation

Administered for the BC Healthy Living Alliance (\$425,000/ 2008)

Phase 1 of this program provided community planning grants to local governments to develop new plans or amend existing plans for active transportation infrastructure. The purpose of the program is to better position local governments to secure and more effectively utilize existing funding opportunities offered through provincial and federal government programs, and other funders, that require local governments to have a plan in place. Phase 2 will be available in 2009.

Community Health Promotion Fund

Administered for the Ministry of Health (\$5 million/ 2004)

This program was created in 2005 to support health promotion programs and activities in communities through a focus on healthy living and chronic disease prevention. To date, over

120 pilot projects have been approved and community and individual health promotion projects have taken in more than 80 communities.

Community Structural Protection Units

Administered for the Office of the Fire Commissioner/Ministry of Forests & Range (\$1 million/ 2004)

This program was developed in 2004 in response to "Filmon Report" recommendations after the fires of 2003. Four structural protection units were developed and are available for deployment in the event of a fire in the wildland urban interface. The units are managed on an on-going basis in cooperation with Office of the Fire Commissioner and Ministry of Forests.

Community Tourism

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

The Community Tourism program is in the second of a two-phase program designed to support communities to increase local tourism. Nearly every local government in the province has participated in this program, which has supported a broad range of activities such as planning and marketing, festivals and events, and small capital investments. The deadline for applications is November 30, 2008.

Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal

Administered for the Minister of Agriculture and Lands and the Investment Agriculture Foundation (\$350,000/ 2007)

Working with the Investment Agriculture Foundation this program was developed to assist communities wishing to develop an emergency plan for dealing with carcass disposal in the event of mass mortality. It is directed at communities with a large population of farmed animals that could be impacted in an emergency.

Healthy Food & Beverage Sales

Administered for the BC Healthy Living Alliance (\$600,000/ 2008)

UBCM and the BC Recreation & Parks Association worked in partnership to develop this program in 2008. Grants support local governments with the development and implementation of healthy food and beverage sales in recreation facilities and local government buildings. Nine communities received funding in Phase 1 and Phases 2 (2008) and 3 (2009) will support an additional 50 communities.

Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum Program

Administered for the Ministry of Community Services and Indian & Northern Affairs Canada - BC Region (\$665,000/ multi-year and \$120,000/ 2008)

The Regional C2C program has provided opportunities for local governments and First Nations to come together in dialogue on topics of mutual interest or concern since 1999. In 2007/08, 37 events were held throughout the province and the spring call for 2008/09 applications generated close to 30 applicants.

School Community Connections

Administered for the Ministry of Education by UBCM and the BC School Trustees Association (\$10 million/ 2005)

This program was launched in 2005 to encourage local governments and school districts to consider the use of under-utilized schools in addressing joint community/school district needs. Projects funded under this program are now underway across the province.

A smaller scale program was launched in 2008 in support of projects that address both school and community needs, but focused on such issues as early learning, literacy, food security, and healthy kids and families. The deadline for applications is October 30, 2008.

Seniors' Housing & Support Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Community Services (\$2 million/ 2004) and Ministry of Health (\$500,000/ 2007)

Launched in 2004, the intent of this program is to assist local governments to prepare for an aging population by supporting the ability of BC's older adults to age in place. In 2007, age-friendly community planning and initiatives were added to both the pilot project and dialogue component of this program. To date, more than 50 pilot projects and more than 40 dialogues have received funding.

Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives

Administered for the Ministry of Forests and Range (\$37 million/multi-year since 2004)

The Strategic Wildfire Prevention program is designed with three separate components. Communities can develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP); test fuel management methodologies and conduct public education programs with a small-scale fuel management pilot project; and implement larger scale fuel reduction programs. Over 80 communities now have CWPPs and are moving forward with fuel reduction initiatives. A First Nations element to the program is also available where there is Mountain Pine Beetle affected timber. This program is open to applications on an on-going basis.

Supporting Treaty Implementation Pilot Project Program

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

The intent of the program is to demonstrate options and provide examples of initiatives that local governments are undertaking to support treaty implementation activities in their communities. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for pilot projects that support treaty implementation through activities such as developing an agreement between a local government and First Nation, establishing a mentoring program, or undertaking a community education and awareness campaign.

Treaty Knowledge Exchange Dialogue Program

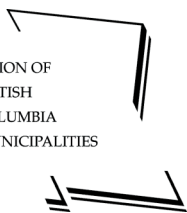
Administered for the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation (\$150,000/ 2007)

This program provides small grants to encourage the exchange of knowledge, information and experience between Treaty Advisory Committees (TACs) and/or local governments that have participated in advanced stages of the treaty process and those TACs/local governments that are involved in earlier stages of the process.

West Nile Virus Risk Reduction Initiative

Administered for the Ministry of Health (\$17 million/ multi-year since 2005)

This initiative was developed to assist communities with mosquito control programs designed to reduce the risk of West Nile Virus occurrence. Available to both local governments and First Nations, allocations are determined by a formula based on population and level of risk.



Administration provided
By UBCM

Funding provided by:
Government of Canada



In partnership with:



Secretariat

Municipal House
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Victoria BC V8V 1X4

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Fax: 250-387-4470

Website:

www.civicnet.bc.ca
under
Programs & Services

Gas Tax/Public Transit Management Services Secretariat: Investing in Local Government Capacity and Infrastructure

Priorities:

- Funding approvals under Gas Tax Agreement's application based programs
- Secure funding for 2010/11 to 2013/14

UBCM continued to deliver funding under the Gas Tax Agreement's Community Works Fund and Tier 3 Strategic Priorities Fund, as well as funding under both the Public Transit Agreement and Public Transit Infrastructure Program. Total funding received from inception of the programs to June 30, 2008 was \$359.2 million (federal GTA funding: \$254.2; federal PTA funding: \$52.5; provincial PTIP funding: \$52.5), and we have delivered \$290.8 million of this to recipients. This represents delivery of 81% of the funding received to date.

In addition, while none of these funds have yet been expended, funding commitments from the first round of applications under the Gas Tax Agreement's application based programs were made this year, as follows:

Fund	Number of Projects Approved	Grant Amount Committed
General Strategic Priorities Fund	23	\$43.0 million
Innovations Fund	32	\$13.5 million
Regionally Significant Projects	22	\$27.9 million
Total	77	\$84.4 million

A second intake of applications for funding under the General Strategic Priorities Fund and Innovations Fund was invited this year, with an April 30, 2008 application deadline. Funding decisions on these applications are expected to be made by the fall of 2008.

This year's highlight was the securing of an additional \$1 Billion in federal Gas Tax funding for BC communities for the years 2010/11 through to 2013/14. This was accomplished through a Gas Tax Agreement extension signed by President Gimse and Ministers Cannon and Chong on March 17, 2008.

Further information, including UBCM and recipient financial information, program details, highlights of projects funded and progress towards expected outcomes are set out in the Gas Tax/Public Transit Annual Expenditure Report, available on our website at: <http://ubcm.fileprosite.com/contentengine/launch.asp?ID=3077>