



Obstacles to
Opportunities

Minutes 118th Convention

Virtual

September 14 – 17, 2021

2020 – 2021 UBCM Executive

President	Councillor Brian Frenkel	Vanderhoof
First Vice President	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg	Quesnel
Second Vice President	Councillor Jen Ford	Whistler
Third Vice President	Mayor Ange Qualizza	Fernie
Past President	Mayor Maja Tait	Sooke
Vancouver Rep.	Councillor Pete Fry	Vancouver
Metro/GVRD Rep.	Councillor Craig Hodge	Coquitlam
Small Community Rep.	Councillor Sarah Fowler	Tahsis
Electoral Area Rep.	Director Grace McGregor	Kootenay Boundary RD
Vancouver Metro Area Representatives	Councillor Trish Mandewo Mayor Val van den Broek	Coquitlam Langley City
AKBLG*	Mayor Clara Reinhardt	Radium Hot Springs
AVICC	Director Ian Morrison	Cowichan Valley RD
LMLGA	Councillor Patrick Johnstone	New Westminster
NCLGA	Mayor Sarrah Storey	Fraser Lake
SILGA	Councillor Lori Mindnich	Lumby
Directors at Large	Director Susan Clovechok Councillor Sadie Hunter Councillor Gord Klassen Councillor Amy Lubik Mayor Gaby Wickstrom	East Kootenay RD Kamloops Fort St. John Port Moody Port McNeill

- Mayor Clara Reinhardt, Radium Hot Springs, replaced Director Roly Russell as the AKBLG rep October 2020.
- Councillor Patrick Johnstone, New Westminster, replaced Councillor Laura Dupont as LMLGA rep Nov 2020.

General Index

- Convention Opening Session 11
- President’s Address: Interview with Councillor Brian Frenkel..... 11
- Address by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Honourable Josie Osborne 13
- Address by FCM President, Mayor Joanne Vanderheyden..... 13
- Community Excellence Awards 13
- Plenary Session: Pathways to Truth and Reconciliation..... 14
- Tuesday Concurrent Workshops..... 14
- Principal Policy Session – Resolutions 15
- Results of Elections for Second Vice-President and Director At Large 47
- Address by the Interim Leader of the Opposition, MLA Shirley Bond..... 46
- Concurrent Workshops..... 46
- Concurrent Workshops..... 47
- Principal Policy Session – Resolutions 48
- Keynote Address: Rick Mercer in Conversation with Jody Vance 68
- Address by the Leader of the Green Party, Sonia Furstenuau, MLA 68
- Concurrent Workshops..... 68
- Concurrent Cabinet Town Halls 69
- Installation of President-elect 70
- Address by the Premier of British Columbia, Honourable John Horgan..... 70
- Convention Closing 70

Index of Appendices

Appendix	Page
Appendix A	President's Address Laury-Anne Roodenburg's Interview with Councillor Brian Frenkel 71
Appendix B	Report on Virtual Attendance at the 2021 Convention 76
Appendix C	Resolutions Not Admitted for Debate..... 77

Index to Endorsed Resolutions

Resolution	Page
SR1	CARIP Replacement Funding 15
SR2	Forest Management in BC 16
SR3	Strengthening Responsible Conduct 16
EB1	Electronic Permit and Public Hearing Notification 17
EB2	WorkSafe BC Coverage for Local Elected Officials 17
EB3	Enabling Legislation for Green Roofs 17
EB4	Local Government Act - Section 744 - Most Extreme Climate Change Risk 18
EB5	Timely Information to Local Governments During Local/Provincial States of Emergencies 18
EB6	Flood Mitigation Response 19
EB7	911 Call Answer Levy 19
EB8	Extending the Life of Fire Apparatus 19
EB9	Fire Apparatus Maintenance for Small Geographic Fire Departments 20
EB10	Increased Capacity at the National Forensic Lab Services 20
EB11	Increasing Capacity in Provincial Court Systems through Alternative Coordinated Initiatives 20
EB12	Civil Forfeiture Proceeds 21
EB13	Medical Cannabis Production Sites 21
EB14	Consultation by Ministry Prior to Undertaking Works on Highways 21
EB15	Provincial Maintenance of Arterial Roads Within Municipalities 22
EB16	Safe Passing Distance for All Road Users 22
EB17	Abandoned Vehicles on Crown Land 22
EB18	Strengthening Rail Safety in BC 23
EB19	Vacant Land Property Tax 23
EB20	Provincial Tax Sharing and Local Fuel Tax 23
EB21	Flexibility of Grant Programs 24
EB22	COVID-19 Funding Allocation Deadline 24
EB23	Funding Support to Manage Post COVID-19 Pandemic Tourism 24
EB24	Income Tax Credit/Deduction for Workers in Isolated Areas 24
EB25	Development Cost Charges for Local Government Facilities 25
EB26	Protection of Waterways from Aquatic Invasive Species 25
EB27	Invasive Asian Clams 25
EB28	Watershed Stewardship in British Columbia 26

EB29	Drinking Water Protection and Private Managed Forest Land	26
EB30	Illegal Dumping	26
EB31	Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas	27
EB33	Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector Recyclables	27
EB34	Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program in BC	28
EB35	Help Cities Lead	28
EB36	Property Tax Assisted Clean Energy (PACE)	28
EB37	Developing a Vision to End Energy Poverty	29
EB38	BC Circular Economy Strategy	29
EB39	Community Climate Action Plans	29
EB40	CleanBC Support for Northern and Rural Communities	29
EB41	New Provincial Trails Strategy	30
EB42	Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in BC	30
EB43	Local Control of Land Use Practices	31
EB44	Risk Assessments of Potential Threats to Natural Assets	31
EB45	Watershed Security	31
EB46	Amendments to the Aquaculture Act	32
EB47	Ensuring Access to Broadband and Cellular Services in BC	32
EB48	Rural Broadband Connectivity	32
EB49	BCUC Regulatory Regime and Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities.....	33
EB50	BC Hydro Pole Rental Sales	33
EB51	Wood Fiber Availability for Value Added Manufacturing Facilities	34
EB52	Tree Management in Electoral Areas	34
EB53	Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation	34
EB54	Mental Health and Addictions Support During the Pandemic	34
EB55	Additional Resources for Mental Health	35
EB56	Opioid Crisis	35
EB57	Streamlined Funding – Overdose Prevention	35
EB58	Improved Access to Detox and Treatment Centres	36
EB59	Detox and Treatment Beds, and Sobering Centres	36
EB60	Regional Model for Mobile Crisis Response Car Program	36
EB61	Emergency Health Services – Adequate Staffing in Communities	36
EB62	BC Ambulance Rural Service	37
EB63	Primary Care Network Funding	37
EB64	Cost-Sharing Model for Funding Hospital Capital Projects	37

EB65	Aging in Place	38
EB66	Increased Seats for Medical Students in BC	38
EB67	Implement Early Childhood Education Provincial Wage Grid	38
EB68	Increase Supported Child Development Funding	38
EB69	Dental Health	39
EB70	Farmers' Markets as Essential Services During Local Emergencies	39
EB71	Long-term Strategy to Address Homelessness	39
EB72	Enhanced Communications to Address Homelessness Related Issues	39
EB73	Extreme Weather Response Shelters	40
EB74	Unauthorized Camping Crisis	40
EB75	Housing in Rural British Columbia	40
EB76	Black Lives Matter	41
EB77	Provincial Support for TRC, MMIWG2S and UNDRIP	41
2020-NR1	Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government	43
2020-NR2	Request to Amend <i>Jury Act</i>	43
2020-NR3	Benefits of Public Car Insurance	43
NR1	Parental Leave for Elected Officials	44
NR2	Improved Efficiencies in the Prosecution of Criminal Offences	44
NR3	Stronger Sentencing/Monitoring for Prolific/Repeat Offenders	44
NR5	Comprehensive Training Model for RCMP Members	45
NR8	Invoicing for Required Officer Attendance at Hospitals	48
NR9	Funding for Independent Fire Services	48
NR10	Agroforest Specific Tenure License	49
NR11	911 Dropped Calls	49
NR12	Updating BC's Wrongful Death Law	49
NR13	Dangerous Dog Legislation in British Columbia	50
NR15	Off-Site Tasting Rooms	50
NR16	Expanding Definitions and Responsibilities of Digital Campaigns	51
NR18	BC Provincial Sales Tax on Non-Medical PPE	52
NR19	5.25 Percent Provincial Collection Fee on Rural Area Property Tax	52
NR20	Regional District Requisitions to Municipalities	52
NR21	COVID Safe Restart Grant Inequity for Electoral Areas	52
NR22	Audited Financial Statements for Municipally-Owned Corporations	53
NR23	Fair Taxation from Railway Operations	53
NR24	Review of the BC Assessment Appeal Framework and Process	53

NR25	Fair Taxation from Industrial Parks	54
NR26	Incentivizing Green Energy Production	54
NR27	Reform of the BC Utilities Commission	54
NR28	Green Energy	55
NR29	Clean and Renewable Energy Regulatory Framework	55
NR30	Issuance of Water Licenses	55
NR31	Contaminants Released from Wastewater Treatment Plants	55
NR32	Renewed Vision for Fraser River Estuary	56
NR33	Funding for Compliance with Landfill Operation and Closure Legislation.....	56
NR34	Provincial Authorization and Compliance of Landfills In British Columbia	57
NR35	Construction and Demolition Waste Strategy	57
NR36	Single-Use Item Regional Regulation	57
NR37	Right to Repair Legislation	58

Index to Referred, Withdrawn, or Not Endorsed Resolutions

Resolution Page

NEB1	Support for a Provincial Code of Conduct for Local Government Elected Officials	41
NEB2	Acceptance of Regional Growth Strategy	42
NEB3	Provincial Changes in Emergency Management	42
NEB4	Varied Residential Tax Rates	42
NR4	Criminal Justice Reform for Repeat, Convicted Offenders	45
NR6	RCMP Costs for Municipalities	45
NR7	Equitable Police Funding Model	46
NR14	Aftermarket Exhaust Systems	50
NR17	Partnerships for Fare-Free Public Transit	51
NR38	Standard Procedure for Wildlife Rehabilitation	58
NR39	Moratorium on Recreational Wolf Hunting	59
NR40	“Urban Interface Areas” to Address Current Misuse of Toxic Rodenticides	59
NR41	Alternatives to Agricultural Burning	59
NR42	Protection for Established Snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails	60
NR43	BC Hydro Universal Net Metering for Municipalities	60
NR44	Opioid Crisis	61
NR45	Inclusion of Allied Health Workers to Help Combat the Opioid Crisis	61
NR46	Health Records Sharing for Allied Health Professionals	62
NR47	Long Term Care Homes – COVID-19	62
NR48	Paid Sick Leave for Workers	62
NR49	Internet Access in Health Care	63
NR50	Clarifying Criteria of MCFD New Spaces Fund for Child Care	63
NR51	Organ Donation – Presumed Consent	63
NR52	Inclusion of Brain Injury in Titled Office – Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions	64
NR53	Transfer of a Portion of Speculation and Vacancy Tax Revenue to Local Governments	64
NR54	Acquisition of Apartment Buildings for Affordable Housing	64
NR55	Public Sector Essential Service Personnel Housing	65
NR56	Funding for Regional Housing	65
NR57	Housing Needs Reports	65
NR58	Outcomes of Supportive Housing	66
NR59	<i>Residential Tenancy Act</i> – Landlord Protection	66

NR60	Wildfire Risk Prevention in BC Building Code	66
NR61	Community to Community Forum Grants	67
NR62	Funding for Small Communities to Attend UBCM	67
NR63	UBCM Resolutions Session	67
NR64	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons	67

Minutes

Minutes of the One Hundred Eighteenth Annual Convention of the Union of BC Municipalities held virtually on September 14, 15, 16 and 17, 2021

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Convention Opening Session

The UBCM President, Councillor Brian Frenkel, called the 118th Annual Convention to order at 9:00 am on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 broadcasting live from the Vancouver Convention Centre.

President's Address: Interview with Councillor Brian Frenkel

The President, Councillor Brian Frenkel, met with First Vice-President Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg to share his perspectives on serving as UBCM President over the past year. The Interview is annexed to these Minutes as Appendix A.

Annual Meeting

The First Vice-President, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, in the Chair, opened the Annual Meeting.

Adoption of Conference Rules & Procedures

Delegates were advised that the revised Conference Rules and Procedures for 2021 were printed in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book. It was noted that in order to accommodate the virtual Convention format members had adopted ER1 at the 2020 Convention to provide the Executive with the authority to amend conference processes and rules as needed.

Adoption of Minutes of 2020 Convention

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Minutes of the One Hundred and Seventeenth Annual Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, held in Victoria, British Columbia, on September 22-24, 2020 were adopted as prepared and distributed.

Annual Report

The President, Councillor Brian Frenkel, presented the Annual Report, which, on regular motion, duly moved and seconded, was adopted.

Adoption of Financial Statements

The Third Vice-President, Mayor Ange Qualizza, presented the Audited Financial Statements of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for the year ending May 31, 2021. On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the statements were adopted. The Audited Financial Statements were circulated in the Annual Report. A copy of the budget for the year commencing June 1, 2021, as approved by the Executive, was also circulated to the membership for their information.

Appointment of Auditors

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Executive be authorized to appoint KPMG as auditors for the year commencing June 1, 2021, was adopted.

Appointment of Committees

In advance of Convention, the following Convention-related committees and officials were appointed:

Nominating Committee

Mayor Maja Tait, Immediate Past President, UBCM, Chair
Councillor Brian Frenkel, President, UBCM
Councillor Craig Hodge, GVRD/Metro Vancouver Rep

Convention Committee

Mayor Maja Tait, Chair
Councillor Lori Mindnich, Vice Chair
Director Susan Clovechok
Mayor Sarrah Storey
Councillor Sarah Fowler

Scrutineers

Tom Kadla, CAO, Village of Lumby, Chief Scrutineer
Wendy Hunt, CAO, New Hazelton, Deputy Chief Scrutineer

Parliamentarian

Ian Izard, Q.C., Clay and Company
Former Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, Legislative Assembly of BC

Report of the Nominating Committee

Mayor Maja Tait, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Report from the Nominating Committee. She noted that the process for elections and nominations would be similar to 2020, referencing that nominations would not be accepted off the floor at the virtual Convention. She also advised of the new rules on candidate videos and campaigning. Given that there were no nominations from the floor, she announced the following positions as acclaimed:

- Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, City of Quesnel, President
- Councillor Jen Ford, Resort Municipality of Whistler, First Vice-President
- Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River, Third Vice-President
- Director Grace McGregor, Kootenay Boundary RD, Electoral Area Representative
- Councillor Sarah Fowler, Village of Tahsis, Small Community Representative
- Councillor Trish Mandewo, City of Coquitlam, Vancouver Metro Area Representative
- Mayor Val van den Broek, City of Langley, Vancouver Metro Area Representative

Mayor Tait advised there would be elections for the following positions:

For Second Vice President:

- Councillor Ken Herar, City of Mission
- Mayor Ange Qualizza, City of Fernie

For Director at Large:

- Councillor Tyler Brown, City of Nanaimo
- Councillor Sadie Hunter, City of Kamloops
- Councillor Gord Klassen, City of Fort St. John
- Councillor Amy Lubik, City of Port Moody
- Mayor Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake
- Mayor Gaby Wickstrom, Town of Port McNeill

The Chair advised that all candidates speeches were posted to the virtual Convention platform. An overview of the on-line voting procedures was shared with delegates and Mayor Tait closed by thanking all of the candidates for their interest in running for office and her Committee members for their assistance in implementing the revised nominations and elections process for 2021.

Address by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Honourable Josie Osborne

At 10:30 am, UBCM President, Councillor Brian Frenkel introduced Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs who then addressed delegates.

First Vice-President, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg thanked Minister Osborne.

Address by FCM President, Mayor Joanne Vanderheyden

At 11:00 am, UBCM President, Councillor Brian Frenkel, introduced Mayor Joanne Vanderheyden, FCM President, who spoke to UBCM delegates.

President Frenkel thanked President Vanderheyden for her remarks.

Community Excellence Awards

The 2021 Awards Ceremony was held at 11:15 am. Before the winners were announced, videos of the top three projects in each category were shown. The winners of the 2021 Community Excellence Awards were:

Excellence in Governance

Winner: City of Kamloops – Adopting a “Let’s Talk Commitment Guides Kamloops” Engagement During COVID-19

Honourable mention: City of Burnaby – Mayor’s Task Force on Community Housing – Your Voice. Your Home.

Excellence in Service Delivery

Winner: City of Surrey – Surrey Make Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Honourable mention: Township of Spallumcheen – Sustainable Service Delivery & Water Improvement District Conversion

Excellence in Sustainability

Winner: City of Vancouver – Rain City Strategy: a green rainwater infrastructure and rainwater management initiative

Honourable mention: Regional District of Central Okanagan – Regional Floodplain Management Plan

Excellence in Asset Management

Winner: Town of Gibsons – Eco-Assets Strategy

Honourable mention: Village of Ashcroft – Small Municipality Focused Asset Management

Plenary Session: Pathways to Truth and Reconciliation

At 1:00 pm, Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair of the UBCM Indigenous Relations Committee welcomed delegates to the Plenary Session: Pathways to Truth and Reconciliation. She advised that the purpose of the plenary session was to address the urgent question of how Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities might walk further along the path towards truth and reconciliation, and to provide guidance for local governments seeking direction on how to act on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. Presenters for the session included:

- The Honourable Murray Sinclair;
- The Honourable Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation;
- Andrea Reimer; (former Councillor, City of Vancouver) and,
- Chair John Jack, Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Following the presentations a brief Question and Answer session was held with delegates.

At the close of the session, Councillor Mandewo thanked the presenters and called forward, UBCM President, Councillor Brian Frenkel to provide remarks prior to the the renewal of the UBCM-Province MOU on Consultation and Engagement. Ministers Rankin and Osborne also provided remarks during the signing ceremony. Councillor Mandewo then closed the plenary session.

Tuesday Concurrent Workshops

At 2:45 pm the following concurrent workshops were held:

- **Primer on Climate Action and Municipal Pension Plan**
This session focused on the Primer on Climate Action report circulated to members in August. The report provided an update to the 2016 Primer in response to a resolution adopted by the membership in 2020 seeking an update on what actions had been taken by the Municipal Pension Plan with respect to climate action. Presenters included:
 - **Gary MacIsaac**, Executive Director, UBCM
 - **Trevor Davies**, Secretary-Treasurer, CUPE BC
 - **Judy Payne**, Executive Director, Municipal Pension Plan
 - **David Morhart**, Executive Vice-President, BC Investment Management Corporation
- **Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency**
This session provided an overview of Policy Paper #1 Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency – Today’s Recovery and Tomorrow’s New Economy and discussed the extensive work undertaken by the Select Committee in advance of developing the recommendations within the policy paper. Presenters included:
 - **Maja Tait**, UBCM Past President/Member, UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance
 - **Lyn Hall**, Mayor, City of Prince George/Co-Chair, UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance
 - **Mike Buda**, Executive Director, Mayors’ Council on Regional Transportation/Member, UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance
 - **Al Richmond**, Director, Cariboo Regional District/Co-Chair, UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Principal Policy Session – Resolutions

The Resolutions session began at 9:00 am with Mayor Maja Tait, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Mayor Tait was joined in person by the members of the Resolutions Committee, including Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg and Councillor Pete Fry. One member of the Resolutions Committee, Councillor Gord Klassen, joined the proceedings virtually. The Resolutions Committee was assisted by Councillor Brian Frenkel. Mayor Tait, Councillor Roodenburg, Councillor Fry and Councillor Frenkel were assisted by Parliamentarian Ian Izzard, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac, and other UBCM staff.

In 2021, the organization of resolutions and the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions were updated to adapt to a virtual environment. The updated rules can be found on pages 5-9 of the 2021 UBCM Resolutions Book.

Section SR

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section SR resolutions.

Councillor Roodenburg commenced consideration of Section SR resolutions.

SR1 CARIP Replacement Funding

UBCM Executive

Whereas since 2008 the provincial Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) has provided local governments across BC with funding critical to achieving their commitments under the Climate Action Charter (CAC), allowing them to build staff capacity, develop policy and plans, and leverage capital to advance local climate action plans that support provincial climate action strategies and goals;

And whereas the cancellation of CARIP without local government consultation, and without a clearly defined replacement program, undermines the ability of local governments to support local climate action plans, the Province's CleanBC climate action strategy, and new provincial sectoral emission reduction targets;

And whereas both local governments and UBCM have prioritized climate action, and have implemented a range of initiatives to create energy efficient and weather resilient communities;

And whereas the Province has neither clarified whether it is actively working on a replacement funding program nor the nature, scope, amount and timing of such a program:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province to immediately develop a CARIP replacement program which provides:

- annualized funding that is equal to or greater than CARIP;
- formula based funding that recognizes varying local capacity for climate action; and
- maximum flexibility on eligible projects that support local needs and priorities.

On motion, was Endorsed

SR2 Forest Management in BC

UBCM Executive

Whereas BC local governments have called for changes to forest management to: ensure the sustainability of the resource; protect old growth; provide for greater consultation and engagement on forest policy decisions; improve accountability in tenure management; strengthen compliance and enforcement; ensure that forest policy decisions are based on the best technical and scientific information available; and provide transition support for impacted forest workers and communities;

And whereas on June 1, 2021, the Province released its *Modernizing Forest Policy in BC* Intentions Paper recommending many of the forest policy changes sought by UBCM members; and, subsequent to the Independent Panel's Old Growth Strategic Review, the Province also announced on June 24, 2021 the establishment of an independent Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel to:

- improve public information around old growth;
- inform government-to government decisions with First Nations on future deferrals; and
- provide recommendations and advice on priority areas for development of deferrals that will assist government-to-government engagement:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province engage and consult with local governments and Indigenous communities as it moves forward to implement recommendations within the *Modernizing Forest Policy in BC* Intentions Paper, including matters related to old growth designations and deferrals, recognizing that there will be implications and impacts for workers and communities that will require economic transition support.

On motion, was Endorsed

SR3 Strengthening Responsible Conduct

UBCM Executive

Whereas responsible conduct of elected officials, both individually and collectively as a Council or Board, is essential to sound and effective governance;

And whereas local governments are best served by tools and resources that reflect the legislative framework for local government in British Columbia, which is based on foundational concepts of autonomy, empowerment, accountability and collaboration:

Therefore, be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to:

- Introduce a legislative requirement that all local governments in British Columbia must consider the adoption or updating of a Code of Conduct at least once early in each new term of office;
- Work collaboratively with UBCM and others to consider the design of a mandatory educational module that would support responsible conduct by local elected officials;
- Update the oath of office prescribed by regulation to embed the foundational principles identified by the Working Group on Responsible Conduct; and
- Provide guidance for local governments that have established an oath of office by bylaw so that these oaths may be updated with the same foundational principles for responsible conduct.

On motion, was Endorsed

Policy Paper

Mayor Maja Tati assumed the Chair and introduced the blue-covered Policy Book #1. Mayor Tait commenced consideration of Policy Paper #1.

Policy Paper #1 Ensuring Local Government Financial Resilience – UBCM Executive Today's Recovery and Tomorrow's New Economy

On motion, was Endorsed

Section EB

Councillor Pete Fry assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section EB resolutions.

Councillor Fry commenced consideration of Section EB resolutions.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Endorse Block be endorsed, was endorsed.

The resolutions in the Section EB block were as follows:

EB1 Electronic Permit and Public Hearing Notification Islands Trust

Whereas the *Local Government Act*, Part 14, Divisions 3 and 8, requires that local governments give notice of public hearings in two consecutive issues of a newspaper, and temporary use permits in one issue of a newspaper;

And whereas many small communities no longer have local newspapers, or a newspaper that meets the definition in the *Community Charter*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to update the *Local Government Act* to allow temporary use permit and public hearing notifications to be provided electronically, via an application or website if the local government can demonstrate equal or greater ability to reach relevant constituents than a regular printed local newspaper.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB2 WorkSafe BC Coverage for Local Elected Officials NCLGA Executive

Whereas elected officials are regularly exposed to health and safety risks, including COVID-19, in the course of serving their constituents;

And whereas WorkSafe BC regulations cover local government employees, but not elected officials:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC amend the WorkSafe BC health, safety and COVID-19 regulations to provide coverage for local elected officials.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB3 Enabling Legislation for Green Roofs North Vancouver District, Port Moody

Whereas green roofs serve multiple societal goals, including improved stormwater management, better regulation of building temperatures, reduced urban heat island effects, and increased urban wildlife habitat and biodiversity;

And whereas currently the *Local Government Act* allows a local government to require landscaping under section 527 and to control runoff under section 523, but the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter* do not empower local governments to require and enforce the related building standard of construction (prohibited under the *Building Act*) or require and enforce maintenance of green roofs, including with security requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province amend the *Local Government Act* to empower local governments with enabling legislation, should they choose to implement it, to expressly require green roofs and enforce the related building standard of construction and maintenance of green roofs, including with security requirements.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB4 *Local Government Act - Section 744 - Most Extreme Climate Change Risk*

**Lake Country,
Powell River**

Whereas climate change induced extreme weather events regularly overwhelm local government infrastructure;

And whereas this creates liability risks, even in the absence of negligence on the part of BC local governments because of the wording of Section 744 of the *Local Government Act*, whose protection is qualified by the inclusion of the phrase "breakdown or malfunction", while every other Canadian province and territory provides local governments with similar protection without this qualification;

And whereas the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia has deemed this is the most extreme climate change liability risk facing local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that Section 744 of the *Local Government Act* be amended to: remove the words "breakdown or malfunction"; include language consistent with other provincial legislation, such as, inter alia. Section 528 of Alberta's *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26 and Section 340 of Saskatchewan's *The Municipalities Act*, 5.5. 2005, c. M-36.1; and read as follows:

A municipality, municipal council, regional district, regional district board, improvement district or greater board is not liable in any action based on nuisance or on the rule in the *Rylands v. Fletcher* case if the damages arise, directly or indirectly, out of the operation or non-operation of:

- (a) a sewer system,
- (b) a water or drainage facility or system, or
- (c) a dike or a road.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB5 *Timely Information to Local Governments During Local/Provincial States of Emergencies*

NCLGA Executive

Whereas local governments in BC are orders of government that are the first to respond to questions/concerns, resulting from emergencies, whether natural disasters like wildfires and floods or pandemics like the current COVID-19 pandemic;

And whereas local governments require accurate and timely information that can be shared with their residents, both for safety purposes and to reduce anxiety of their residents;

And whereas the communication from local health authorities and the provincial government to local governments, although improving, has only reached the minimum acceptable standard of twice weekly updates once a local pandemic outbreak has been declared:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the BC Government to find ways/means to have accurate and more timely community-based information that can be shared with local governments and their residents during declared local and provincial states of emergency.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB6 Flood Mitigation Response

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas current funding programs for flood mitigation requires 1/3 of project funding from local government as well as requiring that the local government assume ownership of the works for a period of 10 years, in some cases resulting in an unrealistic burden on affected taxpayers;

And whereas the financial inability of residents to meet the requirements of the current funding program often precludes a planned proactive approach to known flood issues to minimize environmental impacts associated with mitigative works and instead results in a reactive approach when an imminent threat occurs, resulting in greater costs and greater environmental damage, in addition to the traumatic and sometimes devastating impacts on affected residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province to develop programs that take a proactive approach to flood mitigation rather than continuing to try to download additional responsibilities on local governments that are ill-equipped and lacking in financial capacity to address these situations in a proactive manner that best respects the residents and the environment.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB7 911 Call Answer Levy

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas local government is only able to collect a 911 call answer levy from landline subscriptions; And whereas landline subscriptions across the province are decreasing;

And whereas local governments in the province do not have the ability to collect a 911 call answer levy from cellular telecommunications platforms:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of BC to enact a provincial 911 levy to include the collection of monthly charges from mobile devices, and provide these funds directly to local government 911 service providers.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB8 Extending the Life of Fire Apparatus

Port Alberni

Whereas the Fire Underwriters Survey requires that in order to receive credit for fire insurance grading purposes, all first line fire apparatus in small and rural communities should be replaced after 20 years of service and may only be extended up to 25 years when fire apparatus is tested and proven to be in excellent mechanical condition;

And whereas small and rural local governments often are financially challenged to replace high cost and minimally used fire apparatus on a 20-25-year rotational basis:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to advocate to the Insurance Bureau of Canada for the recognition and acceptance of an annual professional engineer certification of the mechanical condition of fire fighting apparatuses to extend service life beyond 20 years.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB9 Fire Apparatus Maintenance for Small Geographic Fire Departments Chase

Whereas the Fire Underwriters has deemed that all fire apparatus from all municipal and regional district Fire Departments in British Columbia be in service for 20 years, providing annual testing and inspections are performed;

And whereas there are local governments that utilize their fire apparatus much less frequently than those of other local governments, and small geographically sized communities do not put nearly as much distance on their fire apparatus as do larger geographically sized communities, and all fire apparatus are annually tested and maintained to the highest standard of operation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Provincial Government to urge the Fire Underwriters to allow small municipalities with small geographic areas to operate their well maintained and low mileage fire apparatus beyond 20 years as their first response apparatus.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB10 Increased Capacity at the National Forensic Lab Services Prince George

Whereas the RCMP are tasked to preserve and organize information and evidence collected in the course of their investigation, in consideration of the Crown's obligation to disclose and in recognition of the benefits of early disclosure;

And whereas in accordance with the *Crown Counsel Act*, Crown Counsel is required to "examine all relevant information and documents and, following the examination, to approve for prosecution any offence or offences that he or she considers appropriate";

And whereas the demand for, and backlog of, biological and other forensic service at the National Forensic Lab Services negatively impacts the efficiency and effectiveness of an investigation and ability to proceed with the laying of charges:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial and federal governments to increase working capacity within the National Forensic Lab Services for the provision of forensic services in biology, firearms, toxicology, and trace evidence in order to better meet the necessary timelines of RCMP investigations across Canada.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB11 Increasing Capacity in Provincial Court Systems through Alternative Coordinated Initiatives Prince George

Whereas Provincial Crown Counsel prosecutes offences and appeals in British Columbia that arise under Canada's Criminal Code and British Columbia statutes;

And whereas collaborative approaches that address root causes of crime, such as mental illness and addictions, create effective and targeted responses by providing offenders with supports, services and ties to their community to promote rehabilitation and a crime-free lifestyle;

And whereas the provincial government, through the implementation of coordinated initiatives such as community/integrated court and addiction treatment centres, First Nation's Health Councils and Integrated Case Assessment Teams, recognizes social and economic factors and the negative effects of reliance on established measures within the mainstream justice system:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Attorney General to improve capacity in the provincial court system by funding, province-wide, coordinated and collaborative alternatives to the court system.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB12 Civil Forfeiture Proceeds

Chilliwack

Whereas the provision of police services places a significant financial burden on local government;

And whereas the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Crime Remediation Grant Program fund community crime reduction and crime prevention activities, but does not address local government policing costs, including expenditures related to investigations and police work that results in seizures of proceeds of crime:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM respectfully request that the Province share seizures of proceeds of crime with local governments to help address protective services costs.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB13 Medical Cannabis Production Sites

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas Canada has exclusive jurisdiction over medical cannabis production sites, and such sites may be located irrespective of local government regulations and operated in a manner which causes deleterious impacts to communities;

And whereas a fundamental purpose of local governments is to foster the economic, social and environmental well-being of communities, and by sharing information and coordinating services with Canada in relation to medical cannabis production sites, local governments will be better able to satisfy this purpose:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that Canada work with local governments to establish a framework for sharing information and coordinating services in relation to medical cannabis production sites to foster the economic, social and environmental well-being of communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB14 Consultation by Ministry Prior to Undertaking Works on Highways

Gibsons

Whereas the BC government has ownership of and jurisdiction over arterial provincial highways that are located in municipalities;

And whereas municipalities have authority under the *Community Charter* to manage and regulate highways such as streets, roads, lanes, bridges, viaducts, sidewalks and other ways open to public use;

And whereas municipalities require the approval of the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure before regulating or prohibiting traffic on arterial provincial highways;

And whereas municipalities experience economic, ecological and logistical impacts whenever the Ministry of Transportation undertakes works on any arterial provincial highway that intersects with any municipal ways open to the public:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to require the Ministry of Transportation, when working on arterial provincial highways, conduct meaningful consultation with local governments and residents of all municipalities located within the highway corridor throughout the planning stages of the project and before the work has commenced.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB15 Provincial Maintenance of Arterial Roads Within Municipalities

Merritt

Whereas the Provincial Ministry of Transportation (MOTI) is responsible for the clearing of snow off arterial highways across British Columbia, including within municipal boundaries;

And whereas the Provincial MOTI has signed contracts with external companies to fulfill this responsibility, each of which is to last for ten years from signing;

And whereas residents of municipalities expect their city authorities to promptly and appropriately deal with snow removal:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to work closely with municipalities to identify any flaws or deficiencies in snow-clearing on arterial routes, and to relay an expectation to their contractors that reasonable municipal requests be heeded through the duration of the contract;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government involve municipal authorities in setting standards for snow clearance when the contracts are renewed.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB16 Safe Passing Distance for All Road Users

North Vancouver City

Whereas the Province of British Columbia encourages cycling and walking for transportation, yet relatively few roads in BC have bike lanes or shoulders, and many do not have sidewalks, directing cyclists and pedestrians to share roads with high-speed motor vehicle traffic, which can result in close passes, poses potentially fatal crash risks, and discourages active transportation;

And whereas over 40 jurisdictions across North America, including the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador, have all enacted “safe passing distance” legislation designed to protect vulnerable road users by requiring motor vehicle operators to maintain a minimum distance when passing vulnerable road users, thus creating a better understanding of and expectation for road safety:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* to better support safe active transportation by requiring drivers to provide 1 metre of space at speeds 50 km/h or less, and 1.5 metres of space at speeds in excess of 50 km/h, when passing people cycling or walking.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB17 Abandoned Vehicles on Crown Land

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas enforcement of abandoned vehicles on Crown Land, Provincial rights of way and road dedications may involve a number of agencies but little coordinated action;

And whereas members of the public have difficulty knowing who to contact to initiate a complaint of an apparent abandoned vehicle:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province designate one Ministry or coordinating body to be responsible for abandoned vehicle complaints on Crown Land, Provincial rights of way, and road dedications.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB18 Strengthening Rail Safety in BC

NCLGA Executive

Whereas many BC communities are seeing a significant increase in hazardous goods being transported by rail through their communities;

And whereas those hazardous goods pose a real threat to the environment and communities along the rail corridor:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM request that Transport Canada review and consult with local governments on the safe transport of hazardous goods by rail in BC, in order to strengthen safety requirements and reduce the risk to BC communities and the environment in the event they are faced with a rail emergency.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB19 Vacant Land Property Tax

Lillooet

Whereas some municipal councils in jurisdictions have the authority to set tax rates on vacant land at a higher rate than non-vacant land (such as the authority provided for in the s. 616 vacancy tax provision of the *Vancouver Charter*);

And whereas some municipal councils with the requisite authority choose to set tax rates on vacant land at a higher rate to encourage owners of vacant property to either develop the property or sell the land which may result in the development of the property under new ownership:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia conduct a review of the *Community Charter* to amend the legislation to grant municipal councils' authority to add a 'vacant land' property tax.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB20 Provincial Tax Sharing and Local Fuel Tax

Courtenay

Whereas costs, regulations, and responsibilities for local governments are increasing at an unsustainable rate;

And whereas some traditionally provincial or federal funded responsibilities have shifted to local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to work with local governments towards sharing:

- Sales Tax
- Liquor Tax
- Property Transfer Tax

And be it further resolved that the Province support and simplify the creation of local fuel taxes for local governments as an additional revenue stream.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB21 Flexibility of Grant Programs

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas local governments in BC are increasingly reliant on a wide variety of grant programs to support the delivery of services, programs and projects in their jurisdictions;

And whereas the administrative burden of managing increasingly complex criteria and requirements, from application to final reporting, can be overwhelming, time consuming and sometimes prohibitive for some local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the governments of British Columbia and Canada to coordinate their efforts across all grant program streams to establish more consistent and flexible application criteria and deadlines, simplified reporting requirements and provide funding for the general administration of grant programs.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB22 COVID-19 Funding Allocation Deadline

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas regional districts must fully allocate COVID-19 safe restart grant for local governments funds to an appropriate regional and local service before December 31, 2021, but municipalities do not have the same allocation deadline requirement;

And whereas regional districts would like the discretion to hold back some COVID-19 safe restart grant for local governments funding for allocation to an appropriate regional or local service in a future year:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province provide regional districts the same COVID-19 safe restart grant for local governments allocation and reporting requirements afforded to municipalities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB23 Funding Support to Manage Post COVID-19 Pandemic Tourism

Pemberton

Whereas in the summer of 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province moved to Phase 3 of BC's Restart Plan which resulted in Destination BC focusing on encouraging residents to Explore BC as a way to promote domestic tourism;

And whereas the Explore BC has been so successful that unprecedented number of residents and visitors have sought ways to experience the Province's natural environment and these numbers are expected to continue beyond the active pandemic phase:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government provide funding to the provincial ministries responsible for managing parks, crown lands, and recreation sites and to local governments to assist in establishing sustainable tourism policies and programs to ensure that visitor use of lands and natural resources is done in a manner that protects the natural environment in perpetuity.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB24 Income Tax Credit/Deduction for Workers in Isolated Areas

Port Hardy

Whereas it is challenging to attract and retain employees in isolated communities due to a lack of services and the extra cost to obtain these services elsewhere;

And whereas the provincial government has recognized the need to compensate provincial employees through an isolation allowance, which includes additional pay and vacation allowances for employees who work in posted isolated location points:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide a tax credit/deduction to workers living in communities that are included in the Province's list of posted isolated location points.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB25 Development Cost Charges for Local Government Facilities Lantzville

Whereas the *Local Government Act*, Section 559, authorizes a local government to impose, by bylaw, development cost charges on every person who obtains approval for development, for the purpose of providing funds to assist the local government to pay the capital cost of providing, constructing, altering or expanding sewage, water, drainage and highway facilities, and providing and improving parkland to service, directly or indirectly, the development for which the charge is being imposed;

And whereas in the same manner that development results in a capital cost burden on a local government for sewage, water, drainage, highway facilities, and parkland, the burden of providing, constructing, altering or expanding local government facilities is also incurred by a local government as a result of development:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be requested to contact the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to propose that the *Local Government Act*, Part 14, Division 19 [Development Costs Recovery] be amended to authorize a local government to impose a development cost charge for local government facilities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB26 Protection of Waterways from Aquatic Invasive Species Sicamous

Whereas Canada is home to 20 percent of the world's fresh water, and the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) poses irreparable environmental, social and economic threats that will cost Canadian taxpayers billions of dollars in lost tourism and economic opportunities, and other unknown costs;

And whereas the spread of AIS is largely connected to human activity, including the unsafe transport of watercraft and floatplanes between bodies of water;

And whereas current government efforts through fines for failing to stop at a BC watercraft inspection station, there is a lack of specific provincial or federal regulation and enforcement that is directed at watercraft owners who fail to prevent the spread of AIS by cleaning, draining, and drying their watercraft before transport:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments adopt increased and stricter enforcement measures for watercraft and floatplane owners including the introduction of a significant fine for watercraft and floatplane owners that fail to clean, drain and dry their watercraft or floatplane before transporting it to another body of water and an increase in the fine issued to motorists who fail to stop at a watercraft inspection station.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB27 Invasive Asian Clams Sicamous

Whereas invasive Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) are known to threaten the natural biodiversity of lakes by competing with native species for sustenance and space, cause biofouling to water treatments systems, alter water chemistry, and potentially reduce the quality of drinking water;

And whereas the spread of Asian clams will have significant environmental, social, and economic consequences for our waterways, wildlife and communities;

And whereas the Controlled Alien Species Regulation exists under the *Wildlife Act* to enforce controls for species that pose a risk to people, property, wildlife, and wildlife habitat:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to designate invasive Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) as a Prohibited Aquatic Invasive Species under the Controlled Alien Species Regulation under the *Wildlife Act*.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB28 Watershed Stewardship in British Columbia

Vanderhoof

Whereas watershed management lacks provincial oversight and capacity resulting in inadequate watershed management and consideration in the landscape level planning within BC;

And whereas local governments and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) do not have the jurisdictional authority, capacity and resources needed to properly manage watersheds to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of watershed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to work with local governments and NGOs to define the authorities and responsibilities while providing adequate resources needed to ensure proper watershed stewardship.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB29 Drinking Water Protection and Private Managed Forest Land

Cumberland

Whereas the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* identifies the protection of drinking water, both during and after harvesting, as a management objective;

And whereas private managed forest land located within and adjacent to community drinking water systems limit the ability of local governments to protect and control drinking water supply areas;

And whereas the Province of BC enacted the *Drinking Water Protection Act* to ensure the provision of safe drinking water, and local governments have improved treatment of community drinking water with significant financial support of senior government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia establish programs for local governments to work with private managed forest landowners to assess risks to drinking water systems and priority land acquisition for lands where harvesting is identified as a significant risk to the provision of safe drinking water.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB30 Illegal Dumping

Chilliwack

Whereas illegal dumping of waste on private and crown land continues to be an issue across the Province resulting in unsightly, unsanitary and potentially dangerous refuse deposits in natural rural areas that should be protected and preserved for public enjoyment in 'supernatural British Columbia';

And whereas the problem of illegal dumping is an area of shared jurisdiction between multiple Provincial Ministries including Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, which results in decreased accountability and gaps in service:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to designate a single Ministry as responsible for regulation of illegal dumping in the Province, including enforcement of said regulations and cleanup and removal of dumped waste;

And be it further resolved that UBCM respectfully request that the Province provide adequate funding to the designated Ministry to ensure minimum staffing levels can be maintained in all areas of the Province to address the issue of illegal dumping.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB31 Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas illegal dumping on Crown land continues to be an increasing concern in rural and backcountry locations, resulting in hazardous conditions;

And whereas local governments and non-profit community groups contribute significant resources to address illegal dumping, even though the Province has the mandate for enforcing illegal dumping on Crown land;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to increase resources and strategies to address illegal dumping in rural and backcountry areas and on Crown land and strengthen its partnerships with local governments to more effectively combat this growing problem.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB32 Illegal Dumping in Electoral Areas

Nanaimo RD

Whereas illegal dumping of waste on Crown land and provincial rights-of-way continues to be a growing problem, particularly in rural locations, resulting in unsightly and dangerous refuse deposits in natural areas;

And whereas local governments contribute significant resources to mitigate illegal dumping, and the Province has the mandate for illegal dumping enforcement on Crown land:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to report out on the action of the provincial working group, review resources and strategies for addressing illegal dumping and optimize partnerships with local governments to more effectively combat this problem.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB33 Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector Recyclables

East Kootenay RD

Whereas the BC Recycling Regulation does not include Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) recycling in requirements for Extended Producer Responsibility programs, and therefore recyclables are not accepted in the Recycle BC system or other stewardship programs;

And whereas packaging and paper products utilized in the ICI sectors form a significant proportion of recyclable materials in our communities, and continue to result in significant collection and recycling costs borne by local governments, and recyclable materials potentially destined for landfills:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the Recycling Regulation to require inclusion of the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB34 Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program in BC

Kent

Whereas agriculture uses plastics to aid in crop production, protection, improve food quality and minimize water usage;

And whereas thousands of tonnes of agricultural plastics are dumped at the landfill by farmers after its use:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to set priority in resolving this problem by establishing a Plastics Recycling Program for agricultural plastics.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB35 Help Cities Lead

LMLGA Executive

Whereas emissions by buildings account for 40-60 percent of a community's green-house gas (GHG) emissions, and current actions in British Columbia to reduce GHG emissions from buildings are insufficient to achieve the province's GHG targets for 2030 and 2050;

And whereas the November 2020 mandate letters to ministers include direction to provincial ministries to move forward with three of the five policy measures included in the Help Cities Lead campaign to drive GHG reduction in British Columbia's building sector:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to immediately introduce legislation supporting the three measures identified by Help Cities Lead and addressed in ministerial mandate letters: GHG requirements for new buildings, PACE financing, and home energy labelling;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to introduce empowering legislation to permit local governments who so choose to implement the remaining two measures identified in the Help Cities Lead's campaign: GHG requirements for existing buildings and building energy benchmarking.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB36 Property Tax Assisted Clean Energy (PACE)

Fernie

Whereas retrofitting buildings across BC is crucial to reducing green-house gas (GHG) emissions and meeting our provincial climate targets;

And whereas upfront costs of retrofitting homes and businesses for climate resilience are cost prohibitive to many of our property owners, and Property Tax Assisted Clean Energy (PACE) lowers barriers to implementing GHG reductions, adding value to buildings and making them more desirable places to live or work;

And whereas PACE BC is working with interested municipalities across BC to assist in the establishment of a successful province-wide PACE program that meets the needs of residents and that local governments of all sizes can participate in with minimal start up costs or staff time;

And whereas PACE and the resulting ecosystem of retrofitting programs would create well-paying green jobs during a just recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and a just transition away from fossil fuel infrastructure-related jobs:

Therefore be it resolved that UCBM ask the Ministry of Environment, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Housing and PACE BC to support BC legislation enabling PACE by third-party administration.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

EB37 Developing a Vision to End Energy Poverty

Powell River

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has a legislated target of reducing poverty in British Columbia by 25 percent by 2024 as part of the TogetherBC plan;

And whereas there are over 270,000 households in British Columbia that experience energy poverty, struggling to afford basic energy services like heating, lighting and cooking, and experiencing negative health, social and economic impacts as a result:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to set a clear vision and targets to end energy poverty in BC within the next ten years, taking action on the three key drivers of energy poverty: low incomes, high energy costs, and poor energy efficiency in homes.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB38 BC Circular Economy Strategy

**Nanaimo City,
Victoria**

Whereas the provisioning and management of goods and food consumed by BC communities produces excessive and unnecessary quantities of waste, pollution and carbon emissions that threatens environmental health;

And whereas the concept of a Circular Economy provides a vision and framework to design out waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use and regenerate natural systems to help BC communities move towards Zero Waste;

And whereas the Province has yet to develop a comprehensive strategy to transition BC's economy to a circular one:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province of BC develop a provincial Circular Economy strategy.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB39 Community Climate Action Plans

Comox Valley RD

Whereas 493 local governments across Canada, including dozens in BC, have adopted climate emergency declarations;

And whereas there is an urgent need for local governments to develop community climate action plans with clearly articulated targets, but local governments lack the financial resources to effectively implement such plans to mitigate the impacts of climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government provide sustained financial support for local community climate action planning and implementation that serves to meet the goals of CleanBC.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB40 CleanBC Support for Northern and Rural Communities

Kitimat

Whereas CleanBC is a pathway to a more prosperous, balanced, and sustainable future;

And whereas northern, remote, and rural communities face barriers to work towards the goals outlined in CleanBC due to lack of resources, training, and capacity at a local and regional level, such as Energy Step Code Certified Energy Advisor and dealerships providing options for electric vehicles:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM lobby the Province of BC to provide greater support of resources, training, and capacity-building for northern, remote, and rural communities as they work towards meeting the CleanBC Plan goals, in particular the aspects of Cleaner Transportation and Better Buildings.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB41 New Provincial Trails Strategy

Revelstoke

Whereas the provincial government is in the process of endorsing and updating the Trails Strategy for British Columbia (trails strategy) with many proposed changes recommended by the Provincial Trails Advisory Body including:

- making a commitment to implementing the Trails Strategy for BC;
- updating the vision and guiding principles;
- increasing Indigenous representation in trail planning and development under the Trails Strategy;
- providing opportunities and benefits for all; and
- developing a world-class trail system; and, ensuring a sustainable network of trails;

And whereas the implementation of an updated trails strategy presents a significant opportunity for the Province to support local governments in a number of ways including through the development of standards and tools, and potentially new funding opportunities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the provincial government, as part of the process to approve and update the trails strategy for British Columbia, implement the following measures:

Adopt the recommendations from the Provincial Trails Advisory Body.

- Confirm adequate provincial support for the implementation of the trails strategy.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB42 Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in BC

Sicamous

Whereas many local governments and communities rely on meaningful outdoor recreation for economic stability and development and, at the same time, those local governments and communities care about maintaining existing Recreation Sites and Trails Management and/or Partnership Agreements with the Province of British Columbia for respectful stewardship of the lands;

And whereas the BC government has established broad *Forest Range Practices Act* (FRPA) objectives under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) for ten of the eleven FRPA values - they have not established an objective for recreation - which makes recreation the only value without a FRPA objective and leaves recreation out of planning processes;

And whereas only the BC government can set objectives within the *Forest Range Practices Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC government to allocate the necessary resources to create the following objective under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation Part 2 Division 1:

The objective set by government for recreation is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts to any recreation site, trail or facility that exists on Crown land.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB43 Local Control of Land Use Practices

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas local governments are provided with statutory responsibility for land use planning within their jurisdictions and provincial government crown land planning processes, including resource and watershed management, generally involve local governments as referral agencies only at late stages of those planning processes;

And whereas early and on-going local government involvement in provincial land use processes would provide an opportunity for improved intergovernmental collaboration and better informed decision-making:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Government of BC initiate a process intended to establish improved government-to-government collaboration with local governments regarding land use planning initiatives on crown land.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB44 Risk Assessments of Potential Threats to Natural Assets

Gibsons

Whereas local governments are working to prepare their communities for the impacts of climate change including increased severity of rain events, floods, fires, landslides and droughts, by working to develop co-governance and management plans and investing in the assessment, monitoring and, where appropriate, restoration of natural assets such as forests and creeks that provide vital ecosystems services;

And whereas the provincial government issues forestry and mining operating licenses and permits for the industrial activity taking place on Crown Lands and where these projects could have a potentially negative impact on the downstream communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to, in their consideration of these projects, include a referral to affected local governments and undertake risk assessments to identify and assess any potential threats to the natural assets that communities rely on to provide essential services such as drinking water and flood mitigation.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB45 Watershed Security

LMLGA Executive

Whereas watershed security is recognized as central to the health and well-being of British Columbians with over 80 percent asserting that ongoing access to abundant clean fresh water in their regions is essential to health, food security, salmon, fire safety, jobs, economic well-being, and overall quality of life, both today, and in the years to come;

And whereas the Province of BC has committed to lead work to protect clean water through the creation of a Watershed Security Strategy and Watershed Security Fund;

And whereas the Watershed Security Fund is an essential mechanism for implementing the Watershed Security Strategy and to:

- support local Watershed Boards and regional partnership initiatives;

- create good, sustainable local jobs in restoration, monitoring, technology and community planning;
- support education and training in the watershed sector;
- build a connection between communities and their watersheds;
- support local tourism and recreation;
- provide sustainable, long-term funding for Indigenous capacity and community resilience, and advance DRIPA through co-governance partnerships with First Nations.

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests that the Province of BC create a dedicated, sustainable, annual funding source for the Watershed Security Fund that provides \$75 million annually for community driven watershed security initiatives.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB46 Amendments to the Aquaculture Act

Campbell River

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

And whereas the proposed Aquaculture Act must ensure decisions are based on scientific facts and technology, and take into consideration all stakeholder input:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Province to lobby the federal government to ensure that the proposed Aquaculture Act include language which ensures that all decisions on the management of aquaculture on the BC Coastline are based on science and evidence-based information with clear understanding of the advancement in technology and include all representatives of local or regional communities as stakeholders.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB47 Ensuring Access to Broadband and Cellular Services in BC

Cariboo RD

Whereas broadband and cellular services are essential components of sustainable, resilient, and vibrant communities;

And whereas there are still considerable impediments to overcome in looking to the private sector providing meaningful, cost effective service to rural and remote communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the federal and provincial governments to directly invest in the ownership and development of the needed capital infrastructure to facilitate effective, efficient and cost effective broadband services in rural and remote communities where a private sector business case does not exist.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB48 Rural Broadband Connectivity

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas provincial and federal funding programs to improve rural broadband connectivity require an applicant to have experience building and operating broadband infrastructure networks, rendering many local governments dependent on private Internet service providers to select which project areas can apply for funding;

And whereas there is a lack of telecommunications industry transparency around levels of service, leading to mapping discrepancies on the National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map, which creates significant challenges when applying for funding:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal government funding programs for universal broadband Internet should directly engage with local government to prioritize the areas of greatest need when awarding funding for broadband projects;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments, in their efforts to make broadband Internet access universally available, require Internet service providers to make public to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada which properties are served to ensure projects can be more easily implemented and do not face unnecessary barriers.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB49 BCUC Regulatory Regime and Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities

Vancouver

Whereas the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) - grounded in 20th-Century needs and priorities, with its core function as a traditional “economic regulator” enforcing the “regulatory compact” (balancing services, rates and investor returns) - established an inquiry, by Order G-177-19, dated August 1, 2019, to examine the regulation of energy utilities affiliated with municipalities and regional districts (including exploring the regulatory status of different ownership structures and operational arrangements and the current municipal exclusion under the *Utilities Commission Act*);

And whereas in the event an outcome of the inquiry is BCUC oversight of municipal and regional energy utilities, this may have adverse impacts that do not serve the public interest including (1) duplication of current responsibilities that elected officials already have over municipal or regional district energy utilities; (2) adding unnecessary financial and regulatory burden, and regulatory risk; and (3) limiting the ability of municipal or regional district energy utilities to be flexible in how they respond to local needs or support the achievement of public policy goals – such as municipal strategies to mitigate the climate crisis, or a just transition of our carbon-based economy into one that is sustainable:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to:

- (a) re-design the regulatory regime for British Columbia’s energy sector, to provide a comprehensive, 21st-Century framework that is grounded in today’s urgent priorities and harmonizes fully with the priorities of our communities and their municipal representatives, and
- (b) maintain or expand the current municipal utility exemption and autonomy to pursue local solutions to local and societal needs, and to enhance the benefits they bring to our communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB50 BC Hydro Pole Rental Sales

East Kootenay RD

Whereas high-speed internet is essential for the social and economic well-being of smaller rural communities and being without it brings significant challenges in today’s digital economy;

And whereas hydro poles reach the majority of homes in rural communities, internet service providers (ISPs) often rent space on infrastructure such as poles owned by BC Hydro to attach and carry the transmission lines to provide service to their customers;

And whereas pole rental fees are often cost prohibitive in the business model for rural broadband and are harming broadband deployment, network upgrades, and competition in rural areas, contributing to the digital divide between urban and rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia, and BC Hydro as a crown corporation, establish affordable pole rental rates in a fair and equitable manner to accelerate the roll-out of broadband connectivity in rural communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB51 Wood Fiber Availability for Value Added Manufacturing Facilities Spallumcheen

Whereas there is a shortage of available wood fiber supplies in British Columbia for value added manufacturing facilities;

And whereas the province has indicated that value added products are vital to the future of our forest industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to increase the availability of wood fiber for value added manufacturing facilities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB52 Tree Management in Electoral Areas Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional districts have limited regulatory authority for tree management except in relation to protection from certain natural hazards;

And whereas electoral areas have similar concerns and objectives as municipalities in terms of other important aspects of tree management including maintaining tree cover and protecting heritage trees and watershed health;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to amend the *Local Government Act* to provide broader tree management authority to regional districts equivalent to the authority granted by legislation to municipalities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB53 Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas legislation does not provide regional districts authority to enforce regulatory bylaws on Crown Land and Road Rights-of-Way in Electoral Areas;

And whereas clarity on responsibility for enforcement in rural areas is required for constituents for issues that may cross federal, provincial, First Nation and/or regional district jurisdiction;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to develop a formal multi-jurisdictional process for working in conjunction with lead agencies and governing bodies (including local governments) to resolve outstanding regulatory enforcement issues, by joint cooperation of the various government agencies.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

EB54 Mental Health and Addictions Support During the Pandemic Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the negative mental health and addiction impacts on British Columbians associated with the COVID-19 pandemic have further intensified the pre-existing challenges faced by community mental health services to keep pace with the needs of our communities, as evidenced by several past UBCM endorsed resolutions;

And whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has created a need for additional provincial funding resources to support the increased demand on already-stretched community services, including emergency services and front line workers:

Therefore be it resolved that the Government of BC increase funding for additional community mental health and addiction resources to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB55 Additional Resources for Mental Health

Grand Forks

Whereas substance abuse is considered to be a pandemic mental health disorder across Canada;

And whereas there are insufficient services available to assist those suffering through this pandemic who want to detox and rehabilitate themselves:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Provincial Ministry of Health to provide additional resources to fund more services and beds for rehabilitation.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB56 Opioid Crisis

Capital RD

Whereas it is understood that opioid addictions continue to cause an ever growing record number of heart breaking deaths and debilitations across the country;

And whereas while we understand the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia have recognized these impacts, it remains critically important to advocate for a national public health emergency through the municipal voices provided by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia declare the overdose crisis a national public health emergency and develop appropriate comprehensive, holistic Pan-Canadian overdose action plans that include the legislative and funding frameworks for decriminalization, de-stigmatization, safe supply, suitable medical treatments and thereby function to holistically address the opioid crisis, mental health issues and their connections to homelessness and overdose deaths in municipalities across Canada.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB57 Streamlined Funding – Overdose Prevention

Chetwynd

Whereas overdose from illicit drug toxicity is now the leading cause of unnatural death in BC and the BC Center for Disease Control advises that “wide access to harm reduction and development of a comprehensive system of care remain key goals for saving and improving lives”;

And whereas the Province of BC has made funding grants available to eligible agencies to provide initiatives for harm reduction and access to treatment centres for those at risk of drug overdose:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the Province of BC to streamline, expedite and increase the grant funding process to enable eligible agencies to more easily access funds for harm reduction and access to treatment centres for those at risk of drug overdose.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB58 Improved Access to Detox and Treatment Centres

Port Alberni

Whereas there are extensive wait lists and limited access for individuals seeking entry to provincially funded residential detox and recovery treatment centres;

And whereas individuals struggling with addiction are often required to complete medical detox prior to accessing/obtaining rehabilitation treatment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to improve access to and reduce wait times for individuals seeking treatment for their addictions through medical detox and rehabilitation treatment centres.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB59 Detox and Treatment Beds, and Sobering Centres

Kamloops

Whereas local governments across BC work with business and neighbourhood associations, health authorities, social service providers, and provincial organizations to identify resources or programs that will support a safe and secure community for all;

And whereas many local governments are in need of more detox beds, treatment beds and a sobering centres in their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions address the need for an increase in detox beds and treatment beds, and sobering centres that include treatment for addictions and mental health issues.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB60 Regional Model for Mobile Crisis Response Car Program

White Rock

Whereas a Mobile Crisis Response Car Program, such as is the Car 67 model which pairs an RCMP officer with a mental health care provider to address mental health calls, has been in place for some local governments for decades and has been well received;

And whereas an integrated robust health care regional model would have value, eliminating jurisdictional policy lines (based on local government boundaries) for a regional model that follows Health Authority boundaries:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to provide an integrated health care regional model for a Mobile Crisis Response Car Program.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB61 Emergency Health Services – Adequate Staffing in Communities

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the residents of the Province of British Columbia deserve timely and professional emergency health care services when health emergencies occur;

And whereas many rural communities lack after hour and weekend access to medical clinics or hospitals in their communities;

And whereas the BC Emergency Health Services prioritization model often takes ambulance crews from smaller rural communities to provide service to larger communities, leaving rural communities with limited or no ambulance resources within the community, significantly increasing ambulance response times:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia and BC Emergency Health Services to establish a staffing model that ensures adequate staffing levels are in place and remain within the rural community boundary before the BC Emergency Health Services prioritization model can be enacted.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB62 BC Ambulance Rural Service

East Kootenay RD

Whereas BC Emergency Health Service (BCEHS)'s ambulance service is a vital component of life safety and access to healthcare for those who live and work in small rural communities, often a significant distance from fully-equipped hospitals;

And whereas the BC Ambulance Service within rural BC is under critical paramedic shortage and often there is not adequate availability of paramedics, leading to significant shift vacancies and underserved ambulance for prolonged period of times. This concern is a long standing issue, demonstrating that the current model is unsustainable due to the high degree of training and certification required and lack of meaningful and adequate compensation provided:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to undertake a review of the BC Ambulance Service, specifically in the rural areas, to find a solution and systematic way of managing recruitment and retention of paramedics and delivery of service in rural communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB63 Primary Care Network Funding

Oliver

Whereas many British Columbians in the province do not have appropriate access to primary care services;

And whereas the Province introduced team based primary care clinics to serve and build inter-disciplinary primary care teams in each community to ensure patients are at the center of health care delivery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Health to establish team based primary care clinics in all BC communities.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB64 Cost-Sharing Model for Funding Hospital Capital Projects

Nanaimo RD

Whereas under the current funding model the Province provides funding for capital projects related to building and maintaining hospital infrastructure that is equivalent to a proportion not exceeding 60 percent of the cost, with 40 percent being cost-shared by the regional hospital districts;

And whereas this formula results in increases to local property taxation for regional hospital districts at levels that are unsustainable, given the diverse and growing demands on taxation dollars faced by local governments and the increasing costs of capital infrastructure projects:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government review the cost-sharing model for funding hospital capital projects and consult with regional hospital district boards with a view to reducing

the reliance on property tax funding at the local government level, enabling local governments to implement sustainable taxation approaches for a realistic portion of the costs associated with hospital capital projects.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB65 Aging in Place

Kaslo

Whereas “aging in place” keeps seniors close to home, where their partner, family or friends are better able to provide loving support, which improves quality of life for all;

And whereas the gap between rural health care needs and capacity is growing;

And whereas concentrating health services in regional centers transfers a significant economic burden to individuals in the form of transportation costs, increased energy consumption and housing in-affordability;

And whereas our elderly, and all patients, deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, not as “users”:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Government of British Columbia to recognize the importance and benefits of aging in place in rural communities by committing to increase the number of care beds through the expansion or building of facilities to meet the growing need.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB66 Increased Seats for Medical Students in BC

Williams Lake

Whereas there is a shortage of general physicians (GP's) throughout Canadian communities, especially rural communities, and the current number of medical school graduates are not able to meet the needs for GP's in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to engage or support our universities in increasing seats for medical students in British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB67 Implement Early Childhood Education Provincial Wage Grid

Saanich

Whereas affordable, quality child care provides the foundation for lifelong success and benefits to society overall, and child care is important for the economy and quality of life for British Columbians;

And whereas one of the greatest barriers to increasing child care spaces is the lack of qualified Early Childhood Educators:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to support the Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia and the coalition of Child Care Advocates' proposal to implement a competitive, publicly funded Early Childhood Education Provincial Wage Grid, made possible by a significant increase in operation subsidies for child care facilities, as a step towards their plan for a universal child care system.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB68 Increase Supported Child Development Funding

Saanich

Whereas the Supported Child Development community-based program funded by the Ministry of Children and Development provides extremely valuable assistance for families of children with extra support needs to access inclusive child care;

And whereas the funding for this program is inadequate to meet family needs resulting in years-long waitlists:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to increase the Supported Child Development funding.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB69 Dental Health Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas dental health is a critical component to health and a key indicator of healthy childhood development, while 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 for all residents of British Columbia, while the provincial government has made statements of their support for this resolution in the past:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Health commit to add basic dental care to Medical Services Plan coverage as soon as possible.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB70 Farmers' Markets as Essential Services During Local Emergencies Cumberland

Whereas farmers' markets are a key resource in addressing food security during an emergency by providing access to food quickly and efficiently;

And whereas it has been demonstrated that farmers' markets can replace disruptions to food supply chains at the local community level and in times of emergency, for instance in the case of the Quesnel Farmers Market during the 2017 Cariboo Chilcotin wildfires and the closure of Highway 97 over multiple days:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province take the necessary steps to ensure farmers' markets are identified as an essential service during all provincial and local states of emergency.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB71 Long-term Strategy to Address Homelessness Terrace

Whereas homelessness is an undesirable situation in every community in BC;

And whereas homelessness is a complex issue which may involve mental illness, addictions, systemic racism, and lack of appropriate housing options and supports:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to develop a long-term strategy to eliminate homelessness, and in the meantime, fund year-round day programming and drop in spaces for the homeless population.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB72 Enhanced Communications to Address Homelessness Related Issues Courtenay

Whereas there has been limited communication with local governments regarding provincial COVID-19 response initiatives to ensure the health and safety of individuals experiencing homelessness and local

governments play an integral ongoing role in supporting individuals experiencing homelessness through the support of non-profits, emergency response services, pursuing long-term affordable housing options, and formal communication between governments is vital to enhance homelessness response and support initiatives;

And whereas homelessness response actions undertaken by the provincial government have a direct impact on local government resources such as bylaw enforcement, policing, fire response, land use planning, and the maintenance of public space to ensure safe enjoyment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to consult with local governments when planning new housing and facilities to support homeless people.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB73 Extreme Weather Response Shelters

Oliver

Whereas the Province, through BC Housing, supports emergency shelters and temporary winter shelters that are operational from November 1 to March 31, but not outside of that period:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to re-establish extreme weather response shelters funding to enable local governments to open an extreme weather response shelter for homeless and vulnerable populations, when Environment Canada issues an extreme weather alert for any conditions including cold or heat.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

EB74 Unauthorized Camping Crisis

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas unauthorized camping has affected in negative ways residents, businesses, the environment and, in many cases, those experiencing homelessness throughout the province;

And whereas the COVID-19 Pandemic has exacerbated the effects of, and very significantly increased the occurrences of, unauthorized camping:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to prioritize working with local governments in understanding the effects of unauthorized camping on all parties and actively participate in mitigating those that are deleterious to the health and welfare of people, to the environment and to business.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB75 Housing in Rural British Columbia

Vanderhoof

Whereas housing shortages impede the livability of British Columbians and impact a rural community's ability to attract and retain professional talents and labour thereby negatively affecting the economy;

And whereas there has been a demonstrated need, transferred social responsibility and pressure on rural local governments that lack the financial capacity and professional expertise to develop lands suitable for various forms of housing to encourage small scale developers to construct such housing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to create funding programs to encourage small scale developers to provide much needed housing in rural BC.

On motion, with amendment as recommended, was Endorsed

EB76 Black Lives Matter

Saanich

Whereas the federal and provincial governments have stated that their work at the federal and provincial levels is underway to address the elements of institutional racism across Canada and the Province of British Columbia;

And whereas there is a systemic disadvantage imposed on Black members of our community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Prime Minister, the Premier of British Columbia, and all federal and provincial ministers responsible for education, employment, housing, mental health, and policing to review and report on elements of institutional racism that may be found to exist in the areas of education, employment, housing, mental health, policing and other sectors.

On motion, was Endorsed

EB77 Provincial Support for TRC, MMIWG2S and UNDRIP

Victoria

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are integral for the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada Calls to Action, Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People, (MMIWG2S) Calls for Justice, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), but have the least resources to do the work meaningfully;

And whereas local governments are committed to advancing truth, justice, and reconciliation, and understanding that each Indigenous community has different and diverse histories, making local context and consultation critical to meaningful action:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to provide support and equitable access to funding for trauma-informed, Indigenous-led education, training, and policy guidance for local governments and associated law enforcement and emergency services to implement local government-specific recommendations from the TRC, MMIWG2S, and UNDRIP.

On motion, was Endorsed

Section NEB

Councillor Brian Frenkel assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section NEB resolutions.

Councillor Frenkel commenced consideration of Section NEB resolutions.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Not Endorse Block be endorsed, was endorsed.

The resolutions in the Section NEB block were as follows:

NEB1 Support for a Provincial Code of Conduct for Local Government Elected Officials

Port Moody

Whereas there is no current legislation to hold elected officials, across the province, to a consistent set of standards of accountability for their behavior and actions;

And whereas elected officials should have a right to a respectful and safe workplace;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to develop a code of conduct, which is informed by a review of elected official experiences and with input from equity seeking groups, that

is overseen by the Province, so that all elected officials have access to a consistent, formal set of standards and process for complaint against other elected officials.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NEB2 Acceptance of Regional Growth Strategy

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the *Local Government Act* requires that a regional growth strategy (RGS) be accepted by affected local governments as defined in Section 436(3), including the board of a regional district that is adjoining the area to which the RGS is to apply;

And whereas by virtue of their relative proximity to the area to which the RGS is to apply, municipalities within the adjoining regional district may be more directly affected or have interests greater than those of the regional district as a whole, but are not directly consulted or required to accept the RGS:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to add a requirement for adjacent municipalities to accept a proposed Regional Growth Strategy, or amendment thereto, in addition to the board of the adjacent regional district.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NEB3 Provincial Changes in Emergency Management

Vernon

Whereas the provincial government is modernizing elements of the emergency program that directly affects local authorities' ability to meet legislated emergency management responsibilities;

And whereas Emergency Management BC's publication of the Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs, A Guide for BC First Nations and Local Authorities (2020), demonstrates the need for and lack of meaningful consultation with, and consideration of, local authorities' role in emergency management and of the relationship as defined in the *Community Charter*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM establish a permanent committee for emergency management and request the Province direct all emergency program initiatives affecting local authorities through this committee as part of their final review;

And be it further resolved that the Province postpone implementation of the revised Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs Guide, and all other proposed Emergency Program administrative and financing amendments until such times as affected municipalities are meaningfully consulted.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NEB4 Varied Residential Tax Rates

Saanich

Whereas the Province of British Columbia through the *BC Assessment Act - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation* BC Reg. 438/81 specifies that there is one assessment class for all types of residential properties and the *Community Charter* outlines that a municipal bylaw to establish the property value taxes each year under section 197 (3) specifies there is a single rate of each property class;

And whereas multi-family housing offers a more sustainable building form that is less infrastructure intensive than single-detached dwellings:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia amend the *BC Assessment Act* and the *Community Charter* to allow the residential class to be split into more flexible residential sub-

classes so that a different rates may be applied to each type of residential property to allow for more equitable taxation that better reflects the infrastructure needed to sustain these land uses.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

Section 2020-NR

Mayor Maja Tait assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section 2020-NR resolutions.

Mayor Tait commenced consideration of Section 2020-NR resolutions.

2020-NR1 Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government

Maple Ridge

Whereas the UBCM Working Group on Responsible Conduct (WGRC) has been working extensively to support local government initiatives to address less-than-responsible local government conduct by providing local government council and board members with a set of principles and general standards of conduct that can be used to develop their own code of conduct;

And whereas the WGRC continues to work on potential legislative change that focuses on the importance of councils and boards turning their minds to codes of conduct in a standardized and consistent manner:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to establish an Independent Office of Integrity to serve the public, elected officials and local government officials in an advisory, educational and investigative role in the development, application and enforcement of codes of conduct.

On motion, was Endorsed

2020-NR2 Request to Amend *Jury Act*

Fort St. John

Whereas the *Jury Act* disqualifies Members of the Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament from jury duty, but does not include local government elected officials;

And whereas local government elected officials actively lobby for legislative amendments, oversee their RCMP Detachment work plans and are privy to sensitive information that could create a real or perceived conflict of interest if required to participate on a jury in their local government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be asked to lobby the provincial government to amend the *Jury Act* to disqualify local government elected officials from jury duty.

On motion, was Endorsed

2020-NR3 Benefits of Public Car Insurance

Burnaby

Whereas public car insurance creates local jobs and significant investments in municipalities through road safety and improvement, grants-in-lieu, and community grants while providing greater control to municipalities to plan for risks and costs;

And whereas jurisdictions with only private insurance options have experienced significant rate hikes year after year while accident benefits dramatically decline:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM will call on the provincial government to preserve public car insurance, including jobs and local investments, in British Columbia.

On motion, was Endorsed

Section NR

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg assumed the Chair and reviewed the procedures for handling Section NR resolutions.

Councillor Roodenburg commenced consideration of Section NR resolutions.

NR1 Parental Leave for Elected Officials

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter* do not provide maternity and parental leave rights to elected officials;

And whereas the absence of maternity and parental leave for local elected officials specifically disadvantages young and female candidates running for office and, hence, is a systemic barrier to attracting more diverse and representative candidates to local government:

Therefore, be it resolved that prior to the next local government elections in 2022, UBCM work with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Gender Equity Office to amend the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* to establish common minimum entitlements for maternity and parental leave for elected officials in BC following the birth or adoption of a child, but allows flexibility for local governments to exceed said minimum entitlements should they choose to.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR2 Improved Efficiencies in the Prosecution of Criminal Offences

Prince George

Whereas the BC Crown Counsel Policy Manual's guidelines regarding charge assessment states that unless impracticable to do so, police will lay an Information charging a person with an offence only after approval of charges by Crown Counsel has been given;

And whereas police responsibilities regarding disclosure in criminal and regulatory offence proceedings is defined in the Disclosure Memorandum of Understanding between the BC Prosecution Service, the Public Prosecution Service of Canada (BC) and all BC police agencies, Crown Counsel's responsibility in accordance with the *Crown Counsel Act*, is to "examine all relevant information and documents and, following the examination, to approve for prosecution any offence or offences that he or she considers appropriate";

And whereas the costs and hours required to prepare a fulsome disclosure before charges are approved by Crown Counsel, can result in delays in charges being laid:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the BC Prosecution Service to work with all police agencies in British Columbia to improve efficiencies in disclosure and information management practices in order to reduce delays in charges being laid for the prosecution of criminal offences.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR3 Stronger Sentencing/Monitoring for Prolific/Repeat Offenders

Williams Lake

Whereas Williams Lake has repeatedly called for stronger sentencing for prolific and repeat offenders being released into the community;

And whereas the judiciary has consistently failed to adequately ensure community safety when releasing prolific and repeat offenders on conditions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial and federal governments to enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, including consistent use of electronic monitoring when released on conditions.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR4 Criminal Justice Reform for Repeat, Convicted Offenders

Lillooet

Whereas the RCMP are overworked and understaffed in the Province of BC;

And whereas many BC residents are frustrated with the low sanction sentences imposed by the Provincial Court criminal justice system;

And whereas criminals may not choose the path to recovery as provided for by various provincial, federal, or First Nations government-created mental health programs, Indigenous court systems, reform programs, safe injection sites, methadone, or Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) clinics;

And whereas many thefts and drug-related crimes are perpetrated by criminals who are “well known to police” and have multiple or long criminal records:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC and the BC’s Attorney General immediately begin working with the Government of Canada to address issues with Canada’s and British Columbia’s justice system including the proposed imposition of weightier consequences and greater accountability for repeat offenders, thereby supporting the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities.

On motion, was Withdrawn by the Sponsor

NR5 Comprehensive Training Model for RCMP Members

Prince George

Whereas RCMP costs are borne by local governments, as well as the provincial and federal governments;

And whereas the Municipal Police Services Agreement between BC and Canada includes costs for RCMP training;

And whereas local governments have different policing and training needs based on factors such as crime rates and patterns, population size, and cultural, social and economic circumstances;

And whereas law enforcement officers have increased needs for specialized training to safely respond to complex and challenging situations in multi-cultural urban and rural environments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that both the provincial and federal governments increase funding and training specific to the provision of mental health resources (such as Health IM app) and the development of a comprehensive training model for RCMP members that includes components applicable to a detachment’s service region and/or local government.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR6 RCMP Costs for Municipalities

Fort St. John

Whereas municipalities between 5,000 and 14,999 in population pay 70 percent of RCMP costs and municipalities over 15,000 in population pay 90 percent of RCMP costs which is the largest cost centre in a local government’s operating budget;

And whereas RCMP contract policing wage increases are imminent with the implementation of a unionized workforce within the next two years which will place an additional financial burden on municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to implement a police funding formula that fairly and equitably distributes RCMP expenses to all governments throughout the province.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NR7 Equitable Police Funding Model

Creston

Whereas the current RCMP policing model sees BC municipalities over 5,000 in population pay the full provincial cost share (either 70 percent or 90 percent depending on the size), while unincorporated areas, and municipalities under 5,000 in population pay the provincial police tax rate, which covers up to 50 percent of the estimated cost of policing;

And whereas due to this system there is an inequity perceived by municipalities and their taxpayers due to the Province subsidizing policing costs for some taxpayers and not others:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to review the current model of funding RCMP police services with consideration given to equitable funding of police services through a provincial police tax based on the assessed value of improvements for the areas served by the detachments.

And be it further resolved that any provincial contribution towards policing be shared equally with all police taxpayers.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

End of First Resolutions Session

At 11:59 am, the resolutions Chair, Councillor Roodbenburg called for an end to debate and concluded the resolutions session.

Address by the Interim Leader of the Opposition, MLA Shirley Bond

At 1:00 pm UBCM President Councillor Brian Frenkel introduced the Interim Leader of the Official Opposition, MLA, Shirley Bond. MLA Bond addressed delegates and First Vice President Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg thanked her for her remarks.

Concurrent Workshops

At 1:20 pm the following concurrent workshops were held:

- **Housing Prospects, Trends & Key Issues**

This session brought together three housing experts to provide their perspectives on the current housing challenges facing BC and identified key trends and issues. Presenters included:

- **Jill Atkey**, CEO, BC Non-profit Housing Association
- **Dr. Penny Gurstein**, Professor, University of British Columbia
- **Dr. Alina Turner**, Co-President & Co-Founder, HelpSeeker Technologies

- **Meeting the Need: Shared RD Services**

This workshop highlighted best practices by Regional Districts on the provision of services for their communities in an effort to save on costs, improve access to expertise, provide consistency and increase collaboration among partners. Presenters included:

- **Meriko Kubota**, Regional Social Planner, City of Powell River
- **Kai Okazaki**, Social Planner, City of Burnaby
- **Steve Botham**, Manager of Information Technology, Fraser-Fort George Regional District
- **Russell Dyson**, Chief Administrative Officer, Comox Valley Regional District
- **Shawn Tomlin**, Chief Administrative Officer, Regional District of East Kootenay
- **Pamela Shaw**, Planning Consultant, K'omoks First Nation

Results of Elections for Second Vice-President and Director At Large

At 2:35 pm, the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mayor Maja Tait, assumed the Chair and presented the election results for:

Second Vice President:

- Mayor Ange Qualizza, City of Fernie

Director At Large:

- Councillor Sadie Hunder, City of Kamloops
- Councillor Gord Klassen, City of Fort St John
- Councillor Amy Lubik, City of Port Moody
- Mayor Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake
- Mayor Gaby Wickstrom, Town of Port McNeill

A motion, duly moved and seconded, to destroy the ballots, was endorsed.

Concurrent Workshops

At 3:00 pm the following concurrent workshops were held:

- **Tourism Recovery Through Collaboration**
This session focused on tourism recovery, specifically noting the policies, development funding, and marketing levers to support community tourism in both the short and long term. Best practices were identified for strengthening community support for tourism, leveraging investments in destination development to support recovery, and opportunities for tourism to be a sustainable community economic generator and community resilience builder. Presenters included:
 - **Honourable Melanie Mark**, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
 - **Ingrid Bron**, Director of Community Economic Development, City of Revelstoke
 - **Allison Colthorp**, Executive Director, Tourism Chilliwack
 - **Krista Vandersteen**, Regional Development Officer, Northern Rockies Regional District
- **Global Warning: Lessons from the 2021 Heat Wave**
This workshop highlighted the impacts and lessons learned from the 2021 heat wave experienced throughout British Columbia. In addition to discussing the causes and immediate impacts, presenters also examined ways to prepare for future extreme weather events in the face of worsening climate change and global warming. Presenters included:
 - **Honourable Adrian Dix**, Minister of Health, Province of BC
 - **Patrick Johnstone**, Councillor, City of New Westminster
 - **Barbara Roden**, Mayor, Village of Ashcroft
 - **Dr. Sarah Henderson**, Scientific Director, Environmental Health, BC Centre for Disease Control
 - **Dr. Bonnie Henry**, Provincial Health Officer, Province of BC
 - **Johanna Wagstaffe**, Meteorologist/Science Reporter, CBC News Vancouver

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Principal Policy Session – Resolutions

The Resolutions session began at 9:00 am with Mayor Maja Tait, Chair of the UBCM Resolutions Committee, in the Chair.

Policy Paper

Mayor Maja Tait introduced the blue-covered Policy Book #1. Mayor Tait commenced consideration of Policy Paper #2.

Policy Paper #2 Primer on Climate Action and the Municipal Pension Plan UBCM Executive

On motion, was Endorsed

Section NR

Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg assumed the Chair and resumed consideration of Section NR resolutions, beginning with NR8.

NR8 Invoicing for Required Officer Attendance at Hospitals White Rock

Whereas the RCMP are required under the *Mental Health Act* (MHA) to remain at the hospital with a person that has been apprehended under the MHA until they can be presented to a physician;

And whereas wait times can range from two and one-half (2.5) hours to six (6) hours during which time a person suffering from a mental health condition is in the custody of the police, contributing to further stigmatization, and preventing the police officer from taking any other emergency calls for the provision of their services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province implement a provision permitting local governments to invoice their local health authority for police officers that are required, under the *Mental Health Act*, to wait with hospital patients for more than 30 minutes, similar to the framework used for BC Ambulance Services.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR9 Funding for Independent Fire Services Cariboo RD

Whereas many of our smaller and remote rural communities are served by independent fire services;

And whereas many local governments are receiving legal advice that offering funding or other supports to independent fire services can expose the local government to legal and financial risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government for specific legal and statutory measures designed to remove any and all legal or financial risk from local government for providing financial or other supports to independent fire services.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR10 Agroforest Specific Tenure License

Nelson

Whereas work is underway throughout the Province of BC to reduce wildfire risk to communities through prescribed fuel treatment on Crown land forests;

And whereas much of this work involves shared fuel break or fuel reduction in areas that are commonly restricted from a timber harvesting perspective;

And whereas agroforestry practices can maintain a state of low flammability in these areas and allow for economic benefit to area residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC develop an Agroforest Specific Tenure License.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR11 911 Dropped Calls

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas statistics indicate an increased number of identified abandoned 911 calls;

And whereas the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) do not have access to current personal information to respond effectively to abandoned 911 calls;

And whereas the RCMP response to abandoned 911 calls is labour intensive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Justice work with the Federal Government of Canada to make available current personal information collected by provincial and national telecommunication carriers to police communications centres and 911 public safety answering points within British Columbia to assist with tracking dropped 911 calls.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR12 Updating BC's Wrongful Death Law

Fruitvale,
Vancouver

Whereas tragically, hundreds of British Columbians will experience the loss of a loved one each year, and in the event of a wrongful death, many will discover they cannot access legal representation or recourse because Wrongful Death Law in BC is legislated by the *Family Compensation Act* and provisions in the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act* in determining the "worth" of a deceased family member; and currently, access to the courts requires that the deceased was a breadwinner, and otherwise precludes opportunities for independent investigation, recourse, or accountability that could avail justice, system change, economic or non-economic damages;

And whereas the *Family Compensation Act* is antiquated legislation that's had no significant or meaningful updates since the 1800s, and British Columbia is the last remaining province in Canada to modernize its wrongful death legislation to provide a fair standard of human value, dignity, and protection under the law.

And whereas BC's *Family Compensation Act* discriminates against children, the elderly and many people with disabilities when killed by the recklessness and harm of another;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of British Columbia and Attorney General modernize and reform wrongful death law in British Columbia to ensure access to justice, accountability, and compensation in British Columbia for the surviving family members of those wrongfully killed.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR13 Dangerous Dog Legislation in British Columbia

Kitimat

Whereas *Santics v. Vancouver (City) Animal Control Officer*, 2019 BCC 294 sets out that there is no longer discretion of the Courts to provide conditional orders to rehabilitate dangerous dogs, and that Courts must decide whether a dangerous dog poses an unacceptable risk to the public and must be destroyed or released back to its owner;

And whereas animal control officers can create individualized remedies, but cannot require seizure and rehoming of dangerous dogs:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM petition the Province of BC and relevant Provincial Ministries to amend legislation in the *Community Charter* with regards to dangerous dogs to allow for conditional orders by judges, which would provide the Courts alternative means of dealing with dangerous dogs if they are deemed to not be an unacceptable risk to the public, and to also allow animal control officers additional powers to seize and re-home dangerous dogs, and to determine destruction when a serious injury and/or death has occurred.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR14 Aftermarket Exhaust Systems

West Vancouver

Whereas police departments and their respective boards in British Columbia have identified that aftermarket exhaust systems can create unnecessary noise that disturbs the public;

And whereas there are no current provisions in the *Motor Vehicle Act* Regulations that address standards associated with the installation of these aftermarket exhaust systems and the sound pressure level that they have the capacity to produce;

And whereas although s.7A.01 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* Regulations provides enforcement provisions specific to unnecessary noise, these provisions do not specifically address the issue relating to the installation of these aftermarket exhaust systems:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* Regulations to prohibit the use or installation of aftermarket exhaust systems that exceed legal noise limits, so that this issue can be regulated and enforced by peace officers in British Columbia.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NR15 Off-Site Tasting Rooms

Penticton

Whereas BC wineries and liquor manufacturers are not able to sell their products at an owner-operated secondary or offsite location;

And whereas land-based wineries are required to locate their tasting room and retail facility at their manufacturing establishment, which in turn must be located on the agricultural land where their vineyard is located; while commercial wineries may locate their tasting room and retail facility in a town or city only if their manufacturing facility is located on the same property;

And whereas allowing BC wineries and liquor manufacturers to establish off-site tasting room and retail facilities would attract visitors who are increasingly interested in regional, craft and artisanal products to communities around the province, creating significant economic development opportunities for smaller rural communities and limiting pressure on the development of agricultural land for non-agricultural uses:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General revise Division 5 of the BC Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (dealing with Manufacturer's Licenses) and the Manufacturer License Terms and Conditions such that manufacturers may apply to establish a tasting room and retail facility off-site, either on an individual basis or in concert with one or more other manufacturers; together with associated lounge, patio and picnic-area endorsements.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR16 Expanding Definitions and Responsibilities of Digital Campaigns Vancouver

Whereas Elections BC regulates and defines online advertising as election advertising that has or would normally have a placement cost, but this does not specifically or explicitly include all digital campaigns or data collection;

And whereas sophisticated data analytics, weapons-grade communication technology, artificial intelligence and machine learning, alongside under-regulated online campaign and engagement tools have emerged to use psychographic profiling and predicting techniques to identify voter behaviour and persuade the persuadables using a variety of online engagement methods including but not limited to news, profiles, groups, memes and shareables;

And whereas the use of deceptive and coercive digital campaigns have been implicated in manipulating electoral outcomes in developing nations, and more recently the Trump campaign in the United States, Brexit in the UK (Cambridge Analytica) and in BC's 2017 provincial and 2018 local elections (AIQ):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of British Columbia to expand the definition of advertising to cover digital political campaigns and tools, and mandate their disclosure of how and when data is being collected and used, and by whom.

On motion, was Endorsed

Councillor Pete Fry assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section NR, resuming with resolution NR17.

NR17 Partnerships for Fare-Free Public Transit Victoria

Whereas equitable access to mobility is fundamental to full and meaningful participation in local communities, including access to education, employment, services, recreation, culture and community life, and noting that emissions from transportation generate a majority of community-based emissions in many communities, meaning that changes in transportation options have the potential to have a substantial impact in reducing green-house gas emissions;

And whereas forward-looking jurisdictions around the world from Kingston, Ontario to Kansas City, Missouri, to Luxembourg and Estonia are eliminating user-fee barriers to public transit ridership, with residents paying for transit services through the tax system rather than at the fare box:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to work with local governments to introduce fare-free public transit services where communities support the elimination of user-fee barriers to public transit ridership.

On motion, was Not Endorsed

NR18 BC Provincial Sales Tax on Non-Medical PPE

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas the BC Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General under the *Emergency Program Act* has issued Ministerial Order M012 effective January 8, 2021 mandating that non-medical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) be worn inside indoor public spaces to assist in reducing the spread of Covid-19 pandemic;

And whereas this mandate has resulted in an increased financial cost for the residents of British Columbia during the Covid-19 pandemic:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the BC provincial government eliminate the 7 percent Provincial Sales Tax applied to non-medical, disposable or reusable PPE applied to these items at the point of sale.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR19 5.25 Percent Provincial Collection Fee on Rural Area Property Tax

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas rural area property taxes are collected from the Province's Surveyor of taxes on behalf of Regional Districts;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia charges a 5.25 percent administration fee on the taxes collected which the property owner pays as part of their property taxes, and this increases the tax burden on electoral area residence:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia reduce the provincial collection fee on rural area property taxes, so that the tax burden on the rural property owners may be reduced.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR20 Regional District Requisitions to Municipalities

Parksville

Whereas section 386 of the *Local Government Act* requires a municipality to charge out the regional district requisition on an assessment base or as a parcel tax;

And whereas when the service is billed to the municipality based on something other than assessment base, the municipality should have the option to bill said charge out based on volume flow or based on assessment and not mandated to use only the assessment base:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting a change be made to the *Local Government Act* section 386 (1) (c) notwithstanding section 386 (1) (a), in the case of an amount to be recovered where the charge to be recovered is itself based on a volume flow charge, the option is available to impose a fee based on the flows used or consumed by the tax base.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR21 COVID Safe Restart Grant Inequity for Electoral Areas

Capital RD

Whereas the Capital Regional District, received a funding allocation of \$1.421M under the safe restart grant based on two per capita amounts formulae: \$8.13 for rural populations and \$3.10 for all populations, and a flat funding amount;

And whereas the safe restart program takes into account the unique structure of regional districts as a service provider, with differing per capita amounts, there is a significant disparity between the per capita allocation for Electoral Areas versus local municipalities with a similar population:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to provide more equitable safe restart grant funding to Regional District Electoral Areas in comparison to the funding provided to local municipalities.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR22 Audited Financial Statements for Municipally-Owned Corporations Powell River

Whereas the Inspector of Municipalities requires that new business corporations mandate the preparation of audited financial statements in their corporate articles;

And whereas municipally-owned corporations may consider business ventures or partnerships with other business corporations for which the articles of incorporation may not include the requirement for audited financial statements:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to legislate changes to mandate the preparation of audited financial statements in the articles of incorporation for municipally-owned corporations and the entities for which the municipally-owned corporations hold significant influence or control.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR23 Fair Taxation from Railway Operations Pitt Meadows

Whereas section 5(e) of the *Assessment Act* - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 mandates that land or improvements used for transporting of products or used for the storage of products are classified as Class 5 Light Industry, but specifically exclude land or improvements held for purposes ancillary to the business of transportation from railway operations;

And whereas this legislation creates unfair taxation from railway operations because they are reflective of a Class 5 Light Industrial use and require high level local government service support including fire services and road infrastructure use:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to repeal section 5(e) from the *Assessment Act* - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 in order to create fair taxation from railway operations.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR24 Review of the BC Assessment Appeal Framework and Process Coquitlam

Whereas BC Assessment is a provincial Crown Corporation that classifies and values properties and local governments rely on this information to annually set property taxation rates;

And whereas local governments have been increasingly impacted by the growing number of property assessment appeals submitted to BC Assessment and the Property Assessment Appeal Board and the significant period of time that can elapse between the submission of an appeal and a final decision being reached and local governments subsequently having to refund previously collected taxes from multiple years at once:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government review the BC Assessment property assessment appeals' framework and process to minimize the impacts to local governments' finances due to appeal decisions by ensuring decisions are reached in a timely manner and also increasing the transparency of settled appeals.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR25 Fair Taxation from Industrial Parks

Pitt Meadows

Whereas section 5(f) of the *Assessment Act* - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 mandates that land or improvements used for transporting of products or used for the storage of products are classified as Class 5 Light Industry, but specifically excludes land or improvements being used principally as an outlet for the sale of a finished product to a purchaser for purposes of his or her own consumption;

And whereas this legislation creates unfair taxation from industrial parks which are a heavy burden on local government infrastructure through heavy trucking activity and movement of product:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to repeal section 5(f) of the *Assessment Act* - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 to create fair taxation from industrial parks.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR26 Incentivizing Green Energy Production

Logan Lake

Whereas the production of low carbon-emitting energy is important to meeting climate action goals and should be encouraged;

And whereas local governments do not have the authority to incentivize low carbon-emitting energy production within the current BC Assessment property tax structure:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that a new classification be created by BC Assessment Authority to recognize low carbon-emitting energy production in BC.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR27 Reform of the BC Utilities Commission

Powell River

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and municipalities share common goals of:

- reducing carbon emissions through electrification of buildings and transportation
- improving energy affordability and reducing the incidence of poverty, and
- enhancing local energy resilience and self-sufficiency in municipalities and Indigenous communities;

And whereas the British Columbia Utilities Commission is currently governed by outdated legislation that limits its ability to guide the transformation of BC's energy system and its ability to direct utilities to realign their activities in line with the objectives stated above:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to amend and modernize the *Utilities Commission Act*, expanding the scope of the BCUC's mandate and giving it clear direction to consider environmental, equity, resilience, and reconciliation objectives in its decision-making.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR28 Green Energy

Nakusp

Whereas Division One, Section 8(2) of the *Community Charter* states “A municipality may provide any service that the council considers necessary or desirable, and may do this directly or through another public authority or another person or organization”;

And whereas BC Hydro purchases green energy from municipalities and corporations such as Silversmith Power and Light Corporation, and that municipalities should have the option to obtain and use green energy within their communities to reduce the increasing energy costs applied by BC Hydro for the operation of their facilities and, in addition, to provide an alternate option that has low impact on aquatic eco-systems, habitat, land and communities;

And whereas the Council for the Village of Nakusp has adopted a proclamation to obtain certified green energy produced locally for all Village owned buildings and infrastructure at a competitive price and that the option to purchase green energy be provided to all municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the BC Utilities Commission be required to provide availability and options for municipalities to obtain green energy through BC Hydro, a cooperative, municipal utility, or other means, and to work with BC Hydro and municipalities with regulatory needs required to meet these goals.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR29 Clean and Renewable Energy Regulatory Framework

Cumberland

Whereas local governments are required to set greenhouse gas reduction targets and transition towards becoming more compact, complete and energy-efficient communities;

And whereas communities may have opportunities to create clean and renewable energy projects, such as micro-hydro, geothermal, tidal and solar power;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia explore changes to the regulatory framework to support communities in partnering with BC Hydro to provide safe reliable clean energy and to generate revenue sources to support local economies.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR30 Issuance of Water Licenses

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas local governments can be reliant on surface water sources to support development;

And whereas water licenses can take the province years to issue:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development to provide clarity on what is causing delays in the issuance of water licenses.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR31 Contaminants Released from Wastewater Treatment Plants

Powell River

Whereas contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) are found in the sewage sludge of wastewater treatment plants and are then dispersed to the environment and food chain through aerosolization, marine discharge, and land application of biosolids;

And whereas CECs have been found to have negative effects on human and wildlife health:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to establish sampling protocols and introduce specific measures for monitoring and reducing levels of contaminants of emerging concern from wastewater treatment plants in order to prevent adverse impacts to human and wildlife health in three receiving environments: air, water and land.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR32 Renewed Vision for Fraser River Estuary

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the Fraser River Estuary is a diverse and productive ecosystem, supporting over 100 species at risk, including salmon and southern resident killer whales, and, is under increased development pressure and impacts of climate change, including flooding of industrial and agricultural lands, and would benefit from a regional planning approach that balances the needs of the ecosystem, people and the economy;

And whereas Indigenous people have lived in and stewarded the Fraser River Estuary since time immemorial, and know the various species, habitat, and ecosystems as integral to their existence and identity, and are integral to the planning and governance of the of the Fraser River Estuary:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the federal and provincial governments to allocate the necessary resources and appropriately fund and support a renewed Fraser River Estuary Management planning process that will collectively protect the ecosystem of the Estuary through inter-agency collaboration;

And be it further resolved that the planning process includes, but is not limited to: First Nations, federal government and provincial governments.

On motion, was Endorsed

Councillor Brian Frenkel assumed the Chair and continued consideration of resolutions in Section NR, resuming with resolution NR33.

NR33 Funding for Compliance with Landfill Operation and Closure Legislation

Central Coast RD

Whereas provincial legislation governing solid waste management in British Columbia has increasingly tightened over the past several years to address important environmental concerns and thereby downloaded new costs onto local governments who must operate or retire their landfills in compliance with new provincial priorities;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia has not developed an equitable or effective fiscal strategy to resource local governments to meet these new landfill operation and closure costs, thereby forcing some local governments to operate, and consider retiring their landfills, under “grandfathered”, outdated, and environmentally unsound legislative criteria in order to cope with the substantial and unforeseen costs of compliance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to provide the necessary resources to local governments for landfill compliance related projects so that landfills may be operated and retired in an environmentally sound manner and obligations to First Nations may be better met in acknowledgment of Indigenous rights and title to impacted lands and water.

On motion, was Endorsed

**NR34 Provincial Authorization and Compliance of Landfills
In British Columbia**

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas the *Environmental Management Act* authorizes a regional district to manage solid waste in accordance with its Solid Waste Management Plan, which is approved by the Ministry of Environment;

And whereas the Authorizations Division of the Ministry of Environment is responsible to review and receive a landfill facility's design and operation plan and issue the operational certificate required for a local government to operate a landfill facility to receive solid waste;

And whereas the Compliance Division of the Ministry of Environment is responsible to inspect a local government operated landfill facility to ensure it is operating in accordance with its issued operational certificate;

And whereas the Authorizations Division of the Ministry of Environment works through a necessary application to update an existing Operational Certificate, the Compliance Division of the Ministry of Environment holds local government owned landfill facilities out of compliance against the existing Operational Certificates and issues landfill non-compliance letters to local governments containing threats of significant monetary penalties and even imprisonment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to request that the Ministry of Environment Compliance and the Authorizations Divisions act proactively and reasonably with each other and local government landfill owners to ensure landfill compliance with Operational Certificates without threats of imprisonment or substantial monetary fines.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR35 Construction and Demolition Waste Strategy

North Vancouver District

Whereas construction and demolition waste comprises approximately 2.8 million metric tonnes of materials annually in British Columbia, and about one-third of municipal solid waste disposed in the Province;

And whereas the materials disposed could have been resold, reused or recycled, they represent sources of embodied carbon, and deconstruction provides six times more job opportunities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy develop a plan, including changes to regulations, provincial procurement policy, and economic and industrial policy, to significantly reduce construction and demolition waste.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR36 Single-Use Item Regional Regulation

New Westminster

Whereas enactment of bylaws to regulate single-use items by individual municipalities could lead to a mosaic of regulations across the region and in BC, which may lead to confusion and inconsistency for residents and businesses in the sale or distribution of these items;

And whereas greater consistency could be achieved by implementing a regional approach;

And whereas regional districts do not have the authority to establish bylaws or regulations in relation to the sale or distribution of single-use items:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to engage with regional governments to develop legislation which would provide regional districts with the legislative authority to restrict the sale and distribution of single-use items.

On motion, was Endorsed

NR37 Right to Repair Legislation

North Vancouver District

Whereas the longevity of items is decreasing because manufacturers are deliberately designing products to be disposable;

And whereas residents and businesses are deterred from repairing their belongings by companies that claim ownership over the intellectual property in their products, fail to provide parts or other aspects that make it hard to repair items:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to draft and enact Right to Repair legislation.

On motion, was Endorsed

End of Resolutions Session

Mayor Maja Tait assumed the Chair and at 12:00 pm called for an end to debate and concluded the resolutions session.

She noted that any resolution for which the Resolutions Committee had provided no recommendation would be referred automatically to the UBCM Executive, to be considered at their meeting in November 2021.

The disposition of the remaining Section NR resolutions is as follows:

NR38 Standard Procedure for Wildlife Rehabilitation

Rossland

Whereas the current process for making decisions to rehabilitate or euthanize all species of juvenile wildlife is inconsistent throughout the Province of BC and is left to various local authorities' personal opinion, some of whom lack training or experience in wildlife rehabilitation or assessment;

And whereas people have a responsibility because the most common reason for orphaned wildlife is human-caused (road kill, hunted, habitat interference), and the general public does not want orphaned wildlife to be left to die or shot as is often the current practice:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC provincial government support the work and informed decision making by Conservation Officers to consider (not require) orphaned and /or injured juvenile wildlife for rehabilitation, by providing up-to-date information on licensed rehabilitation facilities located in the Province;

And be it further resolved that the BC provincial government work with licensed wildlife rehabilitators in BC, wildlife biologists, veterinarians, and conservation officers to develop a standardized procedure for the assessment of suitability for rehabilitation, capture, emergency treatment, and transfer to a wildlife rehabilitation facility for orphaned and injured wildlife.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR39 Moratorium on Recreational Wolf Hunting

Oak Bay

Whereas the public and wildlife conservation organizations are concerned about provincial regulations for recreational wolf hunting practices and believe that these practices should be re-examined for scientific and ethical reasons;

And whereas very little scientific evidence exists about the size of the wolf population or the sustainability of impacts of unrestricted harvesting levels on bio-diversity related to habitats and wildlife ecology, especially at the regional level:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to implement a moratorium on recreational wolf hunting pending the completion of a scientific, data-driven and evidence-based study that includes consultation with Indigenous communities, to re-examine the efficacy of unrestricted wolf harvesting practices and their impacts on bio-diversity, wildlife ecology and sustainability of the wolf population.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR40 “Urban Interface Areas” to Address Current Misuse of Toxic Rodenticides North Vancouver District

Whereas ongoing reliance on rodenticide does not control pests in the long term, is expensive and creates unnecessary exposure pathways to toxic chemicals in addition to the suffering of target wildlife, and the documented killing of non-target wildlife;

And whereas current legislation prevents municipalities from enacting bylaws to regulate the use of rodenticides in and around buildings on private property:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to create a new category of applicable land- use sector called "Urban Interface Areas" (in addition to the existing "Forestry" and "Agriculture");

And be it further resolved that changes to other applicable legislation be made to allow local governments to enact bylaws regulating rodenticide use in the newly created Urban Interface Areas.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR41 Alternatives to Agricultural Burning

Chilliwack

Whereas exposure to particulate matter in smoke can cause chronic and acute impacts to cardiovascular and respiratory systems;

And whereas open burning is a significant source of particulate matter emissions in BC, and is commonly used by the agriculture industry as a convenient and affordable way to dispose of unwanted vegetative debris;

And whereas the BC Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation requires people “to ensure that every reasonable alternative for reducing, reusing or recycling vegetative debris is used in order to minimize the amount of the vegetative debris to be open burned”:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province develop and fund a program for the agriculture sector to support and incentivize the implementation of alternatives to the burning of agricultural vegetative debris.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR42 Protection for Established Snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails Sicamous

Whereas many local governments and communities rely on the \$299 million dollars the snowmobile industry provides to rural communities in British Columbia for economic stability and development;

And whereas communities and snowmobile clubs care about maintaining existing meaningful Recreation Sites and Trails Partnership Agreements with the Province for respectful stewardship of the lands, and in particular BC Snowmobile Federation member Snowmobile Clubs are the largest partner of established Recreation Sites and Trails in BC;

And whereas site level objectives under Section 56 of *Forest Range Practices Act* (FRPA) have not been established for snowmobile trails in BC resulting in a lack of communication or need to include consideration in Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP);

And whereas only a BC government authorized designated decision maker can set Individual Recreation Objectives for an established recreation trail (site):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC government to allocate the necessary resources to establish the following site level objectives on all new and existing established snowmobile sites under Section 56 of FRPA:

1. The alpine and coniferous forest features along recreation sites or trails will be retained to preserve the outdoor recreation experience and prevent early season melt on snowmobile trails.
2. Forest planning will include safety considerations for recreational access during the winter months and after harvesting is complete. This will include harvest planning consideration above and below a recreation site or trail to ensure that new exposures and avalanche paths are not created. Or that any new avalanche paths are mitigated by terrain modifications such as deflection berms.
3. This recreation site or trail is part of the working forest, and as such, activities that are likely to impact access or the recreation experience need to be communicated with the Designated Partner on the trail (site) at least six months in advance.

And be it further resolved that UBCM ask the BC government to allocate the necessary resources to establish the following site level objective on all new and existing snowmobile sites that are established under Section 56 of FRPA and that are considered to be high value forest recreation sites and trails, by Recreation Sites and Trails BC or identified as an important recreational area by the FLNR Regional Executive Director:

1. Opportunities for snowmobiling, viewing and exploring must be provided on this designated snowmobile trail (site) during the snowmobile operating season of December 1 to March 31.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR43 BC Hydro Universal Net Metering for Municipalities Fort St. John

Whereas most local governments in BC have accounts with BC Hydro with several meters and several locations, and they are invoiced for the aggregate consumption of electricity on those meters;

And whereas many local governments have undertaken power generation initiatives through BC Hydro's net metering program which limits reimbursement to only the connected meter and prohibits the application of any excess power generation capacity to the aggregate invoice;

And whereas the BCUC's June 23, 2020 decision on BC Hydro's application to amend Net Metering Service under Rate Schedule 1289 encouraged, but did not require BC Hydro to consider how virtual net metering might be achieved that would allow this transfer to take place:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to enforce the BCUC's June 23, 2020 Decision on BC Hydro's application to amend Net Metering Service under Rate Schedule 1289 and direct BC Hydro to develop and implement virtual net metering.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR44 Opioid Crisis

Capital RD

Whereas it is understood that opioid addictions continue to cause an ever growing record number of heart breaking deaths and debilitations across the country;

And whereas while we understand the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia have recognized these impacts, it remains critically important to advocate for a national public health emergency through the municipal voices provided by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia declare the overdose crisis a national public health emergency and develop appropriate comprehensive, holistic Pan-Canadian overdose action plans that include the legislative and funding frameworks for decriminalization, de-stigmatization, free and safe supply, suitable medical treatments and thereby function to holistically address the opioid crisis, mental health issues and their connections to homelessness and overdose deaths in local governments across Canada.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR45 Inclusion of Allied Health Workers to Help Combat the Opioid Crisis

New Westminster, Victoria

Whereas the opioid crisis and mental health challenges affect at least 1 in 5 BC residents and has been compounded by the COVID-19;

And whereas evidence shows that access to upstream services such as counselling related specialties and physical/occupational therapy decreases opioid use and/or provides better health intervention outcomes, but these are not accessible to many residents as they are not covered and are much too expensive through fee for services;

And whereas communities are currently struggling to meet the needs of our residents, between funding of community programs and increased mental health calls for first responders, which already comprise between 20-30 percent of local government expenditures and are not often the most appropriate service to support people in crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province expand access to and funding for allied health professionals, particularly mental health counselling specialties and physical/occupational therapy related specialties, through expansion of team-based care through not-for-profit delivery including community health centres, available to all BC residents regardless of their immigration status and income, throughout the province;

And be it further resolved that the Province increase support and funding for Peer Navigators as part of the BC Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR46 Health Records Sharing for Allied Health Professionals

Williams Lake

Whereas there is lack of reasonable online access to health records such as x-rays and other diagnostics to allied health professionals, which includes, but is not limited to: physiotherapists, occupational therapists, medical imaging, psychologists, recreational therapists, respiratory therapists, social workers, speech language pathologists and audiologists, dietitians, perfusionists, nurse practitioners and chiropractors;

And whereas access to health history is important in providing quality health care for British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to urge all the health authorities in the province to grant online access to health records for allied health professionals in BC.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR47 Long Term Care Homes – COVID-19

Oliver

Whereas long term care services are for people who can no longer be cared for in their own homes or in an assisted living residence in a protective and supportive environment;

And whereas the significant coronavirus death rate of long-term care residents is attributed to residing in facilities with shared rooms/spaces, inadequate ventilation systems, limited access to isolation rooms, and limited supports for residents with dementia or complex cognitive and physical needs at the expense of their health safety, privacy and dignity in their end of life care:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of BC put a moratorium on the construction of new long term care facilities that do not offer single rooms which will support and care for residents to ensure that the spread of COVID-19, flu like viruses and other diseases are minimized;

And be it further resolved that current long term care facilities be renovated to accommodate patient care in single rooms.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR48 Paid Sick Leave for Workers

Victoria

Whereas one year into a global pandemic that has killed thousands of British Columbians and millions of people worldwide, there is no legislation ensuring adequate, employer-paid sick days with the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit being temporary, sometimes inaccessible, and not of use for the crucial first few days of an illness;

And whereas if paid sick day legislation had been in place before the global pandemic, lives would have been saved because infection rates would have been reduced;

And whereas the lack of legislated paid sick days has especially hurt Black, Indigenous, workers of colour and women workers who are over-represented in frontline jobs, with low pay, few benefits, and without the ability to work from home:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to legislate a minimum of ten (10) accessible, universal, and permanent, paid sick days for all workers and additional days during public health outbreaks.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR49 Internet Access in Health Care

qathet RD

Whereas reliable, accessible high speed internet access has been determined as essential for a basic quality of life in our society;

And whereas internet access can be unreliable or inaccessible for citizens confined to a health care facility which often leaves them disconnected from their loved ones and their community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM should advocate for the provincial government to ensure reasonable, reliable and accessible high speed internet access for patients confined to health care facilities across the province.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR50 Clarifying Criteria of MCFD New Spaces Fund for Child Care

**Pemberton,
Squamish**

Whereas the Province of BC has committed to supporting universal childcare and launched the New Spaces Fund to create thousands of new childcare spaces across BC;

And whereas many rural and remote communities in BC face higher-than-average construction costs, including additional hazard mitigation and flood construction level requirements, also face a high unmet community demand for safe, affordable, and licensed childcare facilities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Minister of State for Child Care work with the Ministry of Children and Family Development to define exceptional circumstances within the New Spaces Funding criteria to include consideration of the impacts of the following:

- Demonstrated high need for more child care spaces
- Flood and other hazard mitigation construction costs
- Higher than average land, labour and construction costs
- Limited availability of public lands fit for child care use
- Low commercial vacancy rates
- High cost of commercial spaces
- to enable the approval of applications that exceed the current \$40,000 per space threshold.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR51 Organ Donation – Presumed Consent

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas the population of British Columbia is 5.071 million but only 1.555 million British Columbians have registered their organ donor decision;

And whereas one organ donor can save up to 8 lives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia enact provincial legislation whereby an individual is deemed to consent to the individual's organs and tissues being used for transplantation activities, with the inclusion of an "opt-out" provision, similar to the *Presumed Consent Organ Transplant Act* passed by the Province of Nova Scotia.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR52 Inclusion of Brain Injury in Titled Office – Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions

Powell River

Whereas in April 2016, the province of BC declared a public health emergency related to the rise of opioid overdose deaths. A growing number of individuals who have survived a non-fatal overdose are living with an anoxic/hypoxic brain injury. Survivors of Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) following non-fatal overdose are falling through the cracks at an alarming rate and delayed neurological consequences after an overdose results in greater potential of missed diagnosis and treatment;

And whereas acquired Brain Injury is a condition that affects the cognition, personality, mental and physical health, and future of British Columbians. There are currently over 1.5 Million Canadians living with an acquired brain injury; 180,000 of these in British Columbia, with brain injury often being the underlying cause of mental health, addictions and overdoses, incarceration, violence, and suicide. Sixty (60) people in British Columbia will acquire a brain injury today;

And whereas the current system of post-acute acquired brain injury supports is non-existent or has barriers to access the much-needed wrap around supports. An early intervention system will provide a greater chance to maintain support networks, reduce overdose deaths, reduce mental health issues, and allow government to redirect funds:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the British Columbia Provincial Government to change the name of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to the Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Addictions with proper financial support;

And be it further resolved that the Province work with grassroots organizations and the federal government to create a National Strategy for Acquired Brain Injury that is adequately funded for this National crisis.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR53 Transfer of a Portion of Speculation and Vacancy Tax Revenue to Local Governments

Burnaby

Whereas the Speculation and Vacancy Tax generated an estimated \$81 million in revenue for the Province during the 2019/2020 fiscal year to be directed towards affordable housing initiatives;

And whereas local governments are taking on a greater role in addressing affordable housing needs in their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to distribute directly back to each municipality a portion of the revenue collected, up to the amount collected from each local government, under the Speculation and Vacancy Tax to further affordable housing initiatives within those jurisdictions.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR54 Acquisition of Apartment Buildings for Affordable Housing

Victoria

Whereas communities face acute challenges around housing affordability and housing availability, undermining the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities;

And whereas purpose-built rental apartment buildings from previous decades are an essential component of the current rental housing supply, meaning that future renewal of these properties poses substantial opportunities and risks or current occupants as well as local communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to work with local communities, the not-for-profit sector and other partners on a program of land banking purpose-built rental apartment buildings, to preserve and renew this essential component of the affordable rental housing supply.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR55 Public Sector Essential Service Personnel Housing

Lillooet

Whereas there is insufficient attainable housing availability for those who seek to live and work in many communities;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia has acknowledged the lack of attainable housing as a “Housing Crisis”;

And whereas there is both a great need for, and lack of, housing for various personnel such as Royal Canadian Mounted Police and medical staff in communities in BC;

And whereas the cost and availability of housing is prohibitive for needed personnel that would otherwise move for work:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia fund public sector essential service personnel housing.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR56 Funding for Regional Housing

Nelson

Whereas effectively addressing housing on a regional scale requires a collaborative effort between regional municipalities and regional districts;

And whereas since the provincial government mandated regional housing assessments must be completed every 5 years it is more important than ever that local governments are supported financially so they can implement these mandates:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to implement a consistent and sustainable funding model for municipalities and regional districts for the implementation of findings of regional housing assessments, so as to increase housing availability across BC in both municipalities and regional districts.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR57 Housing Needs Reports

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas Bill 18 - 2018 amended the *Local Government Act* (LGA) to require all local governments to complete Housing Needs Reports by April 2022, and every five years thereafter;

And whereas all local governments will have differing access to resources to undertake Housing Needs Report updates, and differing requirements or use for this information;

And whereas promoting sprawling residential development into rural areas contradicts sustainable planning principles:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask British Columbia to amend the *Local Government Act*, Division 22, Section 585.11 to make Housing Needs Reports discretionary in the future, rather than mandatory.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR58 Outcomes of Supportive Housing

Kamloops

Whereas BC Housing develops, manages, and administers a wide range of subsidized housing options across the province. BC Housing works with the ministry responsible for housing to address critical gaps across the housing continuum, which range from emergency shelter to rent assistance in the private market to affordable home ownership;

And whereas a number of non-profit and charitable organizations support communities across BC as housing providers for vulnerable populations;

And whereas many BC communities are working with the Province and BC Housing to determine if sufficient wrap-around services are being implemented to support those in need of housing and the impacts of these housing projects on the community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Attorney General and Minister for Housing, the Minister of Health, and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions engage a third party consultant to review the outcomes of the current supportive housing projects, the impacts of the housing projects on communities, and the outcomes of individuals who have accessed these housing options and associated support programs;

And be it further resolved that the consultant review opportunities for building a stronger partnership between communities and BC Housing for future, long-term housing projects.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR59 Residential Tenancy Act – Landlord Protection

Oliver

Whereas the *Residential Tenancy Act* is intended to establish and protect the rights of landlords and tenants from unwarranted eviction;

And whereas a landlord may seek early termination of a tenancy agreement for cause and the protections contained within the Act enable the occupant to refuse vacating the premises, which have been enhanced due to COVID-19:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to undertake a broad review of landlord protections to increase confidence in entering the rental market to grow the number of rental properties better suited to families.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR60 Wildfire Risk Prevention in BC Building Code

Okanagan Similkameen RD

Whereas the frequency and intensity of wildfire activity is a rapidly increasing hazard posing a threat to the public across the province;

And whereas certain changes to the BC Building Code are urgently needed as part of the response to reduce the risk of wildfire threat to the public:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to amend the BC Building Code to restrict the use of untreated wood shake roofing to reduce the risk to life and property due to wildfire activity.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR61 Community to Community Forum Grants

Port Hardy

Whereas the importance of open and continuing conversation between local governments and First Nations governments is critical to further reconciliation;

And whereas UBCM's Regional Community to Community Forum (C2C) program is an important resource to assist with these dialogues, it is also important that governments be allowed the flexibility to access this funding when it is most beneficial to the communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM allow the Regional Community to Community Forum grants not be subject to specific deadlines but be made available throughout the year;

And be it further resolved that those granted funds be available for a full calendar year.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR62 Funding for Small Communities to Attend UBCM

Central Coast RD

Whereas the costs for travel to and attendance at in-person UBCM conventions for very small and remote local governments constitutes a significantly higher percentage of their budgets compared to larger and more urban local governments;

And whereas the number of elected officials who can attend from small and remote communities is therefore significantly impacted and often reduced:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM consider creating a fund to support local governments who experience significant challenges allocating funds to send representatives to the UBCM annual convention.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR63 UBCM Resolutions Session

Lumby

Whereas UBCM is the primary way that all local governments in BC interact with the provincial government as a unified group;

And whereas resolutions brought forward from area associations to UBCM have been debated at area association AGMs, as well as reviewed by the UBCM resolutions committee prior to convention:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM convention focus on allowing enough time for all resolution debate and voting as a priority over plenary sessions and presentations so that ALL resolutions can be debated and voted at convention;

And be it further resolved that the UBCM convention schedule resolution debate and voting times to not be concurrent with ministerial meeting schedules so that all delegations bringing resolutions can be present when their resolution reaches the convention floor.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

NR64 International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

**Langley City,
White Rock**

Whereas the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is a landmark global agreement which entered into force on January 22, 2021, calling on national governments to abandon nuclear weapons of war;

And whereas local governments form a close and active link with their constituents and local social movements and the lives of Canadian residents in local governments may be impacted through any nuclear exchange with potential issues of global climate change, world food production and national or global economic order:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Cities Appeal and request that the federal government take decisive steps toward the global elimination of nuclear weapons and sign and ratify the TPNW.

No Recommendation – was Referred to the UBCM Executive

Keynote Address: Rick Mercer in Conversation with Jody Vance

At 1:00 pm Councillor Craig Hodge introduced Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond and Chair of the Municipal Finance Authority, as the sponsor for UBCM's keynote address. Following Mayor Brodie's remarks, Councillor Hodge introduced Rick Mercer and welcomed Jody Vance, a born and raised Vancouverite who's spent thirty years in both local and national broadcast media. Ms. Vance proceeded to interview Mr. Mercer on a number of issues current to the local government context. After the interview, Ms. Vance facilitated a question and answer session. The session concluded with Councillor Hodge thanking Mr. Mercer and Ms. Vance for the informative and inspirational conversation.

Address by the Leader of the Green Party, Sonia Furstenau, MLA

At 2:30 pm the First Vice President, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg introduced Sonia Furstenau, MLA and Leader of the Green Party, who then addressed delegates. Following her address Councillor Roodenburg thanked her for her remarks.

Concurrent Workshops

At 2:45 pm the following concurrent workshops were held:

- **Modernizing Forest Policy in BC**

This workshop provided delegates with an overview of the Province's policy intentions with respect to forest policy in BC as outlined in the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper. Presenters included:

- **Mike Pedersen**, Executive Director, Modernizing Forest Policy Engagement, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Rachael Pollard**, Director, Resource Practices Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Ariel Taylor**, Manager, Indigenous Consultation & Negotiation, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Brian Bawtinheimer**, Executive Director, Resource Stewardship Division, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Margaret Gibbs**, Director, Provincial Stewardship Strategies, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Patrick Russell**, Manager, Timber Tenures, Ministry of Forests, Lands Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

- **Is Your Local Government Safe from a Cybersecurity Attack?**

This workshop gave delegates the opportunity to hear from a BC local government that has experienced a cyberattack. Panelists discussed steps that local governments can take to minimize risk, including a

practical example of an organization that is currently undertaking a security audit. The workshop was general in nature, but asked the questions of “is your local government’s digital infrastructure safe from an attack?” and “as an elected official, are you asking the right questions of your staff and dedicating an appropriate level of resources to this evolving threat?” Presenters included:

- **Maryam Z. Serkat**, Chief Risk Officer & Legal Counsel, MIABC
- **Gareth Lewis**, Vice-President, Claims, Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada
- **Todd Pugh**, Executive Director, CivicInfo BC
- **Danny Francisco**, Information Services Manager, Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

Friday, September 17, 2021

Concurrent Cabinet Town Halls

At 9:30 am the following concurrent Cabinet Town Halls were held:

- **Planning and Building for Growth**

This Town Hall was focused on planning and servicing growing communities. Together with local governments, the Province has committed to supporting regional growth planning by building more liveable communities with affordable housing, green transportation infrastructure, health care buildings and a strong education system. Presenters included:

- **Minister Rob Fleming**, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
- **Minister Jennifer Whiteside**, Minister of Education
- **Minister David Eby**, Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing
- **Minister Adrian Dix**, Minister of Health

- **A Stronger BC for Everyone**

This Town Hall focused on the work the Province is undertaking to establish a stronger B.C. through the development of a long-term economic plan to steer the province through the post-pandemic era. Presenters included:

- **Minister Ravi Kahlon**, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery
- **Minister George Heyman**, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- **Minister Katrina Chen**, Minister of State for Child Care
- **Parliamentary Secretary Andrew Mercier**, Parliamentary Secretary for Skills Training, Ministry of Advanced Education

- **Supporting Resilient Communities**

This Town Hall was focused on supporting community resiliency in an ever-changing world. Presenters, citing the work of their ministries, outlined strategies and examples on how to improve resiliency, including but not limited to building FireSmart communities; improving connectivity to broaden educational and economic opportunities; and, adapting to climate change through improved forestry management practices. Presenters included:

- **Minister Josie Osborne**, Minister of Municipal Affairs
- **Minister Katrine Conroy**, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- **Minister Mike Farnworth**, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- **Minister Lisa Beare**, Minister of Citizens’ Services

Installation of President-elect

At 11:00 am the President, Councillor Brian Frenkel introduced President-elect, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg from the City of Quesnel.

Port of Vancouver Prize Draw

President-elect, Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg introduced Peter Xotta, Vice President, Planning and Operations of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. A short clip from the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority was also shown as the sponsor of the Delegate Draw Prize. Mr. Xotta and Councillor Roodenburg drew the name of the prize winner: Chair Peter Luckham, Islands Trust.

Address by the Premier of British Columbia, Honourable John Horgan

At 11:15 am the President, Councillor Brian Frenkel introduced Premier John Horgan, MLA. Mr. Horgan shared a recorded message with delegates, and then joined Councillor Frenkel on the stage to take questions live from UBCM delegates. Following the question and answer period Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg thanked Premier Horgan for his remarks.

Convention Closing

Councillor Brian Frenkel closed the Convention. The Convention adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Certified Correct

Gary Maclsaac

Executive Director

President's Address: Laurey-Anne Roodenburg's Interview with Councillor Brian Frenkel

LR: Brian, I want to begin by saying how good it is to see you in person. This is UBCM's second virtual convention - how has it been getting ready for this year's event?

BF: Well, it still feels a little weird. I am glad to be sitting face to face with you today, Laurey, but I have to admit that I wish we were seeing a thousand other faces right now.

Back in the spring when we reached our "fish or cut bait" point for this year's meeting, BC's health orders were nowhere close to allowing conventions the size of UBCM's. So, the decision to going virtual was about respecting the guidance of the Provincial Health Officer, which we were glad to do.

Staff have done a fantastic job developing this year's platform and building the agenda, so I know this will be an excellent week. But I miss the buzz and energy of delegates in the convention centre. Hopefully our circumstances continue to improve and we are back to normal in 2022.

COVID & UBCM

LR: The pandemic factored large in UBCM's advocacy in 2020 - how has it impacted the work this year?

BF: Many of us come to this year's meeting thinking about the small businesses in our communities, and the challenges they face. We are all thinking about recovery, and the theme of economic recovery is one of the threads running through the Local Government Finance paper that is part of this year's agenda.

The health orders, which for months has required so many to work and study virtually, has also strengthened the case we are making for improved broadband connectivity in BC and the need for better data on internet speeds.

We know that COVID-19 has intensified the increasing number of drug overdose fatalities, so it is a factor in our continued advocacy with regard to the opioid crisis.

It is also front and centre in some of the new funding that UBCM is administering, like the *Strengthening Communities* program and the *FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund*. As you can see, it continues to shape multiple aspects of our work.

UBCM Funding Programs

LR: The last time you engaged with the membership broadly was during the Area Association meetings in the Spring. What are some key elements of UBCM's work since then?

BF: I want to start with our program delivery.

Many members are aware that we administer the Canada Community-Building Fund – the renamed Gas Tax Fund. That program has been in place since 2005, and has now delivered over *\$4.3 billion* for thousands of local government projects in BC.

But UBCM also delivers funding through another branch which quite frankly deserves more recognition than it gets.

Local Government Program Services primarily delivers provincial funding, and got its start following the 2003 Okanagan wildfire. Since that time, the province has approached UBCM to take on additional new programs that address local government needs.

Over the past year, our staff managed intakes for 14 different programs – which includes funding for things like:

- Development approval process innovation;
- Housing needs reports;
- New supports for homeless populations; and
- Asset management projects

It is an impressive set of programs. Our team prides itself in the speed with which it processes applications and gets the money out. And as always, the programs are administered by staff, which means projects are adjudicated on merit alone.

These programs are funding innovation and strengthening the overall system for local government.

It says a lot about the degree of collaboration between the provincial government and local government that UBCM is administering these programs. That's not the case in most other provinces, and it reflects well on the situation in BC.

Local Government Finance paper

LR: Let's turn our attention to advocacy. What is the main focus of UBCM's work right now?

BF: Without a doubt the biggest investment of resources has gone into the *Select Committee on Local Government Finance*, and the policy paper they have developed for this Convention.

I want to thank the Co-Chairs of the Committee, Mayor Lynn Hall and EA Director Al Richmond for guiding the process, and the whole committee that worked with them. I was glad to be part of this process from beginning to end, and I can tell you that I learned a lot.

Difference from Strong Fiscal Futures

LR: UBCM has been down this road before with the 2013 policy paper *Strong Fiscal Futures* – what's different about this policy paper?

BF: It builds on the previous work, but narrows the focus to cost containment in three key areas: attainable housing; community safety; and climate change.

The report also factors in the reality of the changing economy, which is increasingly focused on non-tangible elements such as services, ideas, intellectual property and underpinned by digital technology.

In order to address either of these areas effectively, we need to work closely with the province. The 20 recommendations in the report provide what we hope are win-win options.

Recommendations: Attainable Housing

LR: Can you take us through some of the recommendations?

BF: On the attainable housing front, we are asking the province for new taxation powers to increase the funding available to build housing and to incent the use of residential properties for housing. The powers we are proposing include modifications to the property transfer tax to discourage flipping, and taxation on short term rentals.

The recommendations also address something that has become a consistent refrain for both local government and development industry, which is the need to improve the current development approval process. It's time to bring all parties together – local government, the province and industry- to come up with something better.

We are also asking the Province to partner with UBCM and local governments to reverse a generation of downloading with regard to housing through the implementation of a province-wide homelessness strategy.

In some cases we are already engaged with the province on these points.

Back in the spring we established an Advisory Group on Short Term Rentals. UBCM staff worked directly with staff from the Ministry of Attorney General and Housing, with input from several other ministries as well. The report is now complete, and we are preparing with the province for its release in the next two or three weeks. This has been a very collaborative process, and I look forward to hearing the views of the membership once the report is made public.

Recommendations: Community Safety

LR: Community safety has been a major cost driver for local governments – what is the Select Committee suggesting in that area?

BF: The big ask is also about downloading. We need the province and other stakeholders to work with local government to reverse the effective downloading of mental health and addiction services on local governments. To accomplish this, we believe that we need a comprehensive strategy for mental health and addiction patients.

Mental health and addictions and its impact on the delivery of protective services has featured in our advocacy with the province for several years now. Earlier this year the province announced new funding for community action teams to provide supports to address the opioid and mental health crises. I take that as a sign government is listening and recognizes the need for more resources for British Columbians who are in crisis.

Some of the themes in this area also informed our submission to the province's Police Act Review earlier this year.

Recommendations: Climate Action

LR: Climate action, of course is the other key cost area. One the workshops later today will focus on the heat dome, and the tragic legacy of that extreme heat event. What does the report have to say about local government cost pressures as a result of climate change?

BF: This area of the report is really backstopped by the Special Committee on Climate Recommendations. There has been a welcome reception of those recommendations by the province, and it is evident there is strong alignment between local government and provincial objectives when it comes to climate change.

Among other things, their work has helped reenergize the Green Communities Committee to provide support to local governments taking action on reduction and adaptation initiatives – I believe Minister Osborne will be saying more about this later.

A key climate action request in the Finance report is for the Province to direct a percentage of the Carbon Tax annually to local governments, to support mitigation and adaptation actions.

This would be augmented with a funding stream dedicated to supporting the development and implementation of local adaptation plans.

As we can see from the events of this summer, we have a generational challenge ahead of us, and there is an urgent need for provincial support for local efforts.

Property Taxation and Fairness

LR – This has been a deep dive into the substance of the report, but there is one last thing I want to touch on, and that's the question of the property tax and fairness and the changing economy. Can you say more about how that features in the report?

BF: Historically, we have talked about property tax fairness from a taxpayer perspective. In a nutshell, the property tax disproportionately places more burden on the lower income earners.

The policy paper expands on this concept to include the increased burden on residential property taxation in the New Economy as we will see decreasing commercial property value relative to residential and continued high housing prices.

We recognize that the solution may not be one tool, but a suite of tools. We will have to look at all options including improvements to:

- the property tax system,
- user charges,
- local and regional service delivery
- province wide revenue sharing and
- uploading of services to the Province.

Forest Policy Modernization

LR: One of the things I know about your work on the Executive is that you have been UBCM's forestry point person for a number of years. What do you think about the province's current process to modernize forest policy?

BF: This has been an area of interest for me both professionally and through UBCM.

One of the things that I have been struck by during this most recent phase is that local governments are better consultation with the province on matters of forest practice than we have seen in some time.

From the perspective of our membership, there are a number of things in the modernization paper that speak directly to resolutions that we have endorsed. I am talking about things like:

- increasing fibre access for local value-added manufacturers;
- improving accountability in tenure management;
- a compensatory framework to redistribute forest tenures to Indigenous Nations, forest communities and small operators;
- and a continued commitment to act on the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review.

Delegates can explore these details and more during the workshop tomorrow. My basic message to membership is that there are positive developments underway, and we need to stay engaged and make sure that we provide feedback during this next round of consultation.

Indigenous relations Reconciliation

LR: Brian, I would like to bring today's discussion to conclusion in reference to the work of reconciliation, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions call to action, and UBCM advocacy in relation to UNDRIP.

BF: Let me begin by thanking our panelists who will lead today's plenary session. Murray Sinclair, Chair Jack and Andrea Reimer will give us much to consider in terms of the implications of the TRC calls to action at a local government level.

In terms of UNDRIP, we have continued to convey to the province the need for local government engagement during implementation activities where local government jurisdiction is impacted. The work of reconciliation is broad, but it is also very local, and in my view, it weakens reconciliation efforts if local government don't have a voice in the process. UBCM delivered a submission to the DRIP action plan just a month ago to convey these concerns. The renewal of the MOU between the province UBCM on engagement with UBCM and local governments that outlines responsibilities for consultation and information sharing on First Nations negotiations & other Indigenous Initiatives is a positive step in direction we need to go.

The fact that the first mass grave on the site of a former residential school was discovered in BC, and with the likelihood of other similar discoveries in our province, should be a matter of unique significance for those of us who lead local communities. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission shared this information five years ago, but it took the discovery of a specific place, with the remains of at least 215 children to shatter our collective indifference. This awakening is an opportunity for us to go further along the road to reconciliation, and I hope that it is so.

LR: Thank you for your comments this morning Brian.

BF: Thank Laurey – glad to have this opportunity to report out to our members.

Appendix B Report on Virtual Attendance at the 2021 Convention

The registration for the One Hundred Eighteenth Annual Convention of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities held virtually, September 14 – 17, 2021, was as follows:

UBCM Members

	Represented at Convention	Voting Delegates	Non-voting Delegates	Total
53 Cities	50	178	27	205
52 Districts	45	142	23	165
14 Towns	14	28	3	31
42 Villages	34	79	16	95
28 Regional Districts	28	112	22	134
8 First Nations	1	6	1	7
197 Members	172	545	92	637

Non-Members

	Non-voting Delegates
Federal MPs or Senators	2
Provincial Ministers and MLAs	80
Provincial or Federal Staff	85
Observers	75
Sponsors	86
UBCM Staff or Contracts	32
Students	5
	365

Appendix C Resolutions Not Admitted for Debate

Section C2

C1	Safe Passing Distance for All Road Users	Vancouver
C2	Provincial Climate Action Funding After CARIP	Richmond
C3	Provincial Climate Action Funding After CARIP	Saanich
C4	CARIP Termination	Langley Township
C5	Termination of Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)	Nanaimo RD
C6	Postpone Termination of CARIP Funding	AVICC Executive
C7	Circular Economy Strategy	Nelson
C8	Provincial Circular Economy Strategy	North Vancouver District
C9	Request to Advocate for Community Climate Action Planning Funding	Port Moody
C10	Help Cities Lead	Courtenay, North Vancouver District
C11	Province-Wide Strategy to Manage Construction and Demolition Waste	Nanaimo City, Nelson
C12	Right to Repair	Nanaimo City, Nelson, Victoria
C13	Immediate Protection of All At-Risk Old Growth Forests in BC	Lantzville
C14	Immediate Protection for All At-Risk Old-Growth Forests in BC	Comox
C15	Protection of Old Growth Forests	North Vancouver District
C16	Old Growth Logging	Port Moody
C17	Forestry	Squamish-Lillooet RD
C18	Support for Working Forests in British Columbia	Port McNeill
C19	Support Working Forests on Vancouver Island and in British Columbia	Gold River

Section C3

C20	Accelerated South of the Fraser Transit Service Improvements	Langley Township
C21	Emergency Medical Response and Better Pre-hospital Care for Our Residents	Port Moody
C22	Housing Models for Seniors	Terrace

2021 – 2022 UBCM Executive

President	Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg	Quesnel
First Vice President	Councillor Jen Ford	Whistler
Second Vice President	Mayor Ange Qualizza	Fernie
Third Vice President	Councillor Claire Moglove	Campbell River
Past President	Councillor Brian Frenkel	Vanderhoof
Vancouver Rep.	Councillor Pete Fry	Vancouver
Metro/GVRD Rep.	Councillor Craig Hodge	Coquitlam
Small Community Rep.	Councillor Sarah Fowler	Tahsis
Electoral Area Rep.	Director Grace McGregor	Kootenay Boundary RD
Vancouver Metro Area Representatives	Councillor Trish Mandewo Mayor Val van den Broek	Coquitlam Langley City
AKBLG	Mayor Clara Reinhardt	Radium Hot Springs
AVICC	Director Ian Morrison	Cowichan Valley RD
LMLGA	Councillor Laura Dupont	Port Coquitlam
NCLGA	Councillor Cori Ramsay	Prince George
SILGA	Councillor Lori Mindnich	Lumby
Directors at Large	Councillor Sadie Hunter Councillor Gord Klassen Councillor Amy Lubik Mayor Sarrah Storey Mayor Gaby Wickstrom	Kamloops Fort St. John Port Moody Fraser Lake Port McNeill