

Resolutions Results

2023–2024

Resolutions often lead to substantive, province-wide changes, though they can sometimes take years to be realized. These are some of the actions and changes related to resolutions since the 2023 UBCM Convention.

Topic	Related Resolutions	Action
Community Safety – Climate Emergencies and Disaster Management	2023–EB26, 2022–EB34, 2020–SR1, 2020–EB38, 2019–B11, 2019–B104, 2018–B100, 2018–B107, 2017–B86, 2017–B86, 2016–B56, 2015–B5, 2015–B7, 2015–B77, 2015–B78, 2014–B76, 2013–B44, 2012–B114	The Provincial Budget 2024 provides \$252 million in new funding over four years to bolster capacity to prepare for and respond to future climate emergencies and disaster management.
Community Safety – Emergency Management Legislation	2023–EB26, 2022–EB34, 2020–SR1, 2020–EB38, 2019–B11, 2019–B104, 2018–B100, 2018–B107, 2017–B86, 2017–B86, 2016–B56, 2015–B5, 2015–B7, 2015–B77, 2015–B78, 2014–B76, 2013–B44, 2012–B114	In November 2023, the new provincial emergency management legislation: Emergency and Disaster Management Act came into force, replacing the Emergency Program Act. The new legislation has been designed to address many recent challenges, including the increasing frequency and severity of climate-related disasters and emergencies. It also acknowledges and incorporates several new principles and provincial commitments, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and BC’s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act; 2) The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and its “all of society” approach that recognizes the role played by all stakeholders; 3) A focus on all four phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery) as well as the role of climate change.
Community Safety – BC Flood Strategy	2021–EB6, 2020–SR1, 2020–NR16, 2019–B12, 2018–B123, 2018–B94, 2018–B37, 2016–B56, 2015–B97, 2015–B7, 2014–B76, 2013–A1, 2013–A2, 2012–B3, 2012–B4, 2011–B11, 2011–B12, 2011–B79, 2010–B8, 2009–B3, 2008–B69, 2007–A1	In March 2024, the Province introduced, From Flood Risk to Resilience: a BC Flood Strategy to 2035. The BC Flood Strategy outlines the Province’s direction for flood management, and includes 25 concepts to improve flood resilience. The 25 concepts are organized into four pathways: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Understanding flood risk; 2) Strengthening flood risk governance; 3) Enhancing flood preparedness, response and recovery; 4) Investing for flood resilience.
Community Safety – Next Generation 911	2022–EB42	UBCM is administering \$60 million in funding to support local preparedness for the implementation of Next Generation 911 and to provide funding to eligible recipients to support the transition of existing 911 services to NG911. Base funding, allocated at \$45,000 per local government and Treaty First Nation, is intended to support local preparedness for the transition to NG911.
Environment – Aquatic Invasive Species	2023–EB36, 2021–EB26, 2021–EB27, 2020–RB50, 2017–B27, 2016–B60, 2015–B60, 2014–B21, 2013–B76, 2012–LR2	As of May 17, 2024, it is illegal to transport watercraft in BC with the drain plug still in place. Before transporting a boat or other watercraft the drain plug must be removed and drain all water on dry land, including all internal compartments such as ballasts, bilges and live wells. This will help to prevent further spread of invasive mussels and whirling disease in BC waterways.

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Environment – BC Hydro Capacity	2023–NR43	In May 2024, the Province passed Bill 24 – Energy Statutes Amendment Act to ensure that British Columbians benefit from clean, affordable electricity. Electricity demand in BC is expected to increase by 15% or more between now and 2030 due to population growth, housing construction, increased industrial development, and people and businesses switching from fossil fuels to clean electricity, among other factors. Measures include restricting cryptocurrency mining which is very energy intensive. As well, in April 2024, BC Hydro issued a request for proposals to acquire approximately 3,000 GWh/y per year of clean electricity. This is BC Hydro’s first competitive call for power in 15 years and includes requirements for a minimum 25% First Nations equity ownership in projects.
Environment – Heat Pump Rebates Federal	2023–EB20	On May 13, 2024 the federal government announced a federal investment of up to \$103.7 million from Canada’s Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Oil to Heat Pump Affordability (OHPA) program to support climate action in BC and help people with low or middle incomes reduce their energy costs when they switch to a heat pump.
Environment – Heat Pump Rebates Provincial	2023–EB20	BC Budget 2024 includes \$40 million of additional heat pump rebates for low and middle–income households. On May 13, 2024 the provincial government announced an investment of up to \$151 million from the province to help British Columbians switch to heat pumps.
Environment – Plastics Life Cycle	2020–EB53	The Government of Canada is implementing an evidence–based and comprehensive plan to reduce plastic waste and pollution and move toward a circular plastics economy through a range of complementary actions across the plastics life cycle. The plastics life cycle includes extraction of raw materials; design and production; packaging and distribution; use and maintenance; and recycling, reuse, recovery or final disposal.
Health and Social Development – Child Care	2023–NR2	In 2024, the Province named two new grant funding streams for child care: major capital grants and minor capital grants. Major capital funding helps build, renovate and expand child care centres, with requests of more than \$500,000. Minor capital projects are renovations and equipment–only projects anticipated to be complete within one year, with requests of up to \$500,000. The New Spaces Fund is jointly supported by provincial investments and federal funding under the 2021–22 to 2025–26 Canada–British Columbia Canada–wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement.
Health and Social Development – Mental Health for Youth	2023–NR7	In the Spring of 2024, Vancouver Coastal Health and BC Healthy Communities developed guides for local governments to help to strengthen awareness and action to promote the mental well–being of children and youth. The guides focus on four key protective factors: Play, Social Connections & Belonging, Participation, and Safety.
Health and Social Development – Minimum Wage	2013–B56, 2010–B51, 2009–B55, 2007–B198	In March 2024, the Province passed Bill 2 – Employment Standards Amendment Act that will ensure minimum wage automatically increases each year based on inflation. These changes will provide greater predictability for businesses and ensure BC’s lowest–paid workers do not fall behind. On June 1, 2024, minimum wage increased to \$17.40 per hour.
Housing – Addressing Homelessness	2023–NR26, 2022–NR64, 2021–LR5, 2020–NR70, 2019–B68, 2019–B183, 2015–B46, 2013–B54, 2012–B94, 2009–C28, 2008–A3, 2007–B24, 2006–B81, 2004–B2, 2004–B30	The federal government is providing an additional \$1 billion over four years for the Reaching Home initiative, a strategy to address homelessness. This program provides funding to urban, Indigenous, rural and remote communities to help them address their local homelessness needs with the goal of reducing chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027 to 2028. The Province has expanded their complex care housing supports, and 20 communities now have complex care facilities. As part of Belonging in BC, the Province HEART & HEARTH MOUs with the cities of Prince George, Kelowna, Abbotsford, Nanaimo and Victoria.

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Housing – Affordable Housing	2023–EB17, 2023–NR21, 2022–EB24, 2022–EB25, 2022–NR14, 2018–B56, 2015–B47	While both the federal and provincial governments have taken a variety of recent actions with complex implications for local planning and development finance, they have also made significant investments in affordable housing. For example, the federal government introduced a new housing plan that includes wide ranging elements including a new Rapid Housing Stream of the Affordable Housing Fund. And the Province continues to roll out funding for affordable and middle-income housing under their Homes for People plan.
Housing – Flipping Tax	UBCM's 2018 Housing Strategy, 2017–A2, 2015–B47	The Province introduced a flipping tax in Budget 2024. Effective January 1, 2025 a tax on profit from homes sold within two years of purchase. Revenue from the tax will go towards building affordable housing.
Housing – Mass Timber Construction	2023–NR89, 2022–EB30	In Spring 2024, the Province updated the BC Building Codes to enable taller mass timber buildings, as many as 18 storeys for residential and office buildings, instead of the current 12-storey limit.
Housing – Protections for Renters including Protections Against Renovictions	2023–EB17, 2020–EB85, 2017–B53, 2016–B137	In May 2024, the Province passed Bill 14 – Tenancy Statutes Amendment Act to make a variety of amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act and Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act to deter bad faith evictions.
Housing – Purpose Built Rental Housing Incentive	2023–EB13	The Provincial Budget 2024 commits to a property transfer tax exemption for new, eligible purpose-built rental buildings between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2030.
Housing – Rental Protection Fund	2022–NR14, 2021–NR54	The federal government introduced a \$1.5 billion Canada Rental Protection Fund, partly modeled on BC's Rental Protection Fund, which contributes funding for non-profits to buy affordable market rental buildings when they go up for sale, thereby protecting against redevelopment or renoviction. At the same time, BC's Rental Protection Fund has started to purchase existing rental housing buildings.
Housing – Supporting Low Income Renters	2023–EB17	In April 2024, the Province announced a one-time rental benefit of \$430 for renters with low incomes who are receiving a rent subsidy through the Rental Assistance Program (RAP) and Shelter Aid for Elderly Rentals (SAFER) Program.
Housing – Tenant Protection Bylaws	2020–EB84, 2017–B126	In April 2024, the Province passed Bill 16 – Housing Statutes Amendment Act which in part gives local governments authority to enact Tenant Protection Bylaws which will allow municipalities to require developers to provide added support for tenants facing displacement in cases of redevelopment, including financial assistance, assistance with finding a new place to live and opportunities for right of first refusal on units in a new building.
Housing – Inclusionary Zoning	2022–NR16	In April 2024, the Province passed Bill 16 – Housing Statutes Amendment Act which, among other things, enables local governments to implement inclusionary zoning to require affordable housing in new developments.
Indigenous Relations – Addressing Racism	2023–EB73, 2021–EB76, 2020–SR11, 2018–B149	In May 2024, the Province passed Bill 23 – Anti-Racism Act. The legislation requires the Province to strengthen checks and balances in its programs and services in hospitals, schools, courts and other public spaces. A new anti-racism committee will draw up a whole-of-government action plan to address systemic racism and, for the first time, public institutions will be required to critically evaluate day-to-day operations and remove policies and practices that harm Indigenous and racialized people. It will also advance the recruitment, hiring, retention and advancement of Indigenous, Black and racialized public servants to ensure that public sector workers in BC reflect the population they serve.
Land Use – Forest Management	2023–EB55, 2021–SR2, 2019–B36, 2017–B66, 2017–B103, 2016–C27, 2008–B46, 2006–B46	In May 2024, the Province released a new report, titled From Review to Action – A Report Out on Actions Towards Resilient Ecosystems, Communities and Economies in BC. This report is the Province's response to an earlier, independent report titled A New Future for Old Forests. The action plan in this new report describes the steps already taken to implement the recommendations and charts a path forward, organized into three goals: 1) Expand stable and inclusive land governance; 2) Stewardship for healthy ecosystems; and 3) Support the changing system.

Topic	Related Resolutions	Action
Land Use – LiDAR	2023–EB56	The Province is investing in a six year program to collect LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging data) elevation data for all of BC and will make it publicly available. LiDAR is an active remote sensing technology used to map the earth's surface. It delivers highly detailed and accurate three-dimensional mapping of landscapes that can be used for a variety of government, commercial and academic applications.
Transportation – Active Transportation	2020–EB24, 2020–NR24, 2019–B16, 2018–B15, 2013–B99	BC Budget 2024 includes \$20 million in active transportation grants to communities.
Transportation – Electric Kick Scooters	2022–NR59	In December 2023, the Province passed regulations to allow the piloting of electric kick scooters in participating communities for four more years. Enhancements to the program were made based on lessons learned from the original pilot project. The enhancements included improved flexibility for communities to join, optional bylaw-making authority to set additional criteria beyond the regulatory framework in place for the pilot project, and simplified reporting to the Ministry of Transportation.
Transportation – Electric Vehicle Charging	2023–NR80.1, 2022–EB74, 2020–EB28, 2019–B144, 2017–B116, 2017–B132	The Provincial Budget 2024 announced \$30 million for the implementation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
Transportation – Highway Widening	2020–EB25	In the summer of 2024, the Province started widening Highway 1 between 216th and 264th streets and upgrade another essential crossing at 232nd Street.
Transportation – Rail Crossings	2016–B11, 2015–B56	In November 2023, Transport Canada presented an information session for local governments on railway grade crossing safety, and the regulatory requirements of the federal Grade Crossings Regulations (GCR), which sets comprehensive and enforceable safety standards for grade crossings.
Transportation – Vulnerable Road User Safety	2021–EB16	In April 2023, the Province introduced Bill 23 to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to improve safety for vulnerable road users (who include people cycling, walking or using motor-assisted cycles), including penalties for unsafe behaviour around vulnerable road users and minimum safe passing distances for drivers passing people cycling.
UBCM Act – Legislative Amendments	2022–ER1	In March 2024, the Province introduced Bill 4 – Municipal Affairs Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act with amendments to the UBCM Act to modernize the language, update the bill to reflect modern processes, and add reference to regional districts, First Nations and Islands Trust as UBCM members, not just municipalities.