

2025 Resolutions Book



Resolutions to be Considered at the 2025 UBCM Convention

Victoria Conference Centre Victoria, BC

The resolutions sessions are presently scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 24

10:30am to 11:50am

Extraordinary Resolution

Special Resolutions

Endorse Block of Resolutions

Not Endorse Block of Resolutions

No Recommendation Resolutions (*time permitting*)

Thursday, September 25

8:50am to 11:10am

No Recommendation Resolutions (*cont'd*)

Friday, September 26

8:00am to 9:00am

9:30am to 10:45am

Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline (*Policy
Book 1 blue cover*)

No Recommendation Resolutions (*cont'd*)

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

Report of the 2025 Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee is pleased to welcome members to Convention. We look forward to the lively debate of this year's resolutions.

Resolutions

Two hundred and seventy resolutions were received from the members by the June 15 deadline and have been included in the Resolutions Book. The UBCM Executive are putting forward one Extraordinary Resolution (ER) and five Special Resolutions (SR) for consideration. This makes a total of 276 resolutions in 2025.

This year, approximately 75 per cent of resolutions were submitted to the five Area Associations prior to being submitted to UBCM. The Resolutions Committee credits members for submitting resolutions to their Area Associations for consideration at annual spring conventions, and reminds members that Area Association endorsement lends weight to a resolution when it is later considered at UBCM. Under each resolution there is a notation indicating if the resolution was endorsed at an Area Association or submitted directly to UBCM.

The resolutions are indexed by both resolution number and by sponsor. They are placed into one of 15 categories. We continue the use of icons to represent the 15 categories to make the Resolutions Book more visual and less text heavy.

Extraordinary Resolution

This year the Committee is putting forward an Extraordinary Resolution (ER) seeking to streamline the resolutions process. In addition to the ER, there is an accompanying backgrounder that provides further explanation of the Extraordinary Resolution. The backgrounder can be found in the Appendix at the back of this Resolutions Book. Members are encouraged to read both the ER and the backgrounder.

Advance Preparation

The Resolutions Committee is committed to facilitating efficient and effective policy debate over the three days allotted to resolutions. Resolution sponsors should be ready to speak to their

resolution and provide information that clarifies the request made by the resolution. Delegates are also respectfully requested to limit repetitive debate, in order to make it possible to consider as many resolutions as time permits. We also remind delegates that amendments must be provided in writing to staff at the front of the room, prior to speaking to them.

Order of Debate

Debate will begin with the consideration of an Extraordinary Resolutions (ER).

Followed by the individual consideration of the Special Resolutions (SR).

Next, members will consider the two consent agenda blocks of resolutions, the Endorse Block (EB) of resolutions and the Not Endorse Block (NEB) of resolutions.

Finally, individual consideration of resolutions in the No Recommendation (NR) section.

If time constraints prevent all resolutions from being considered, policies ensure that resolutions not considered by the Convention will be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Resolutions received after the deadline are handled as Late Resolutions, in accordance with the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions. These are printed in the "Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline" which will be posted to the UBCM web site and Convention App just prior to the start of Convention.

The Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions detail the step-by-step handling of each category of resolution. Members are encouraged to read the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions that follow this introduction.

2025 UBCM Resolutions Committee

Councillor Pete Fry, Chair
Councillor Cori Ramsay, Vice-Chair
Councillor Gord Klassen
Councillor Jenna Stone

Organization of Resolutions in the Resolutions Book

Section	Description	Handling
EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTIONS (ER)	Extraordinary resolutions—to amend the UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the <i>UBCM Act</i>	Considered individually
SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS (SR)	UBCM Executive resolutions on priority issues	Considered individually
ENDORSE BLOCK (EB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that support established UBCM policy Recommendation: Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment 	Considered as a block
NOT ENDORSE BLOCK (NEB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that are contrary to established UBCM policy Recommendation: Not Endorse 	Considered as a block
NO RECOMMENDATION (NR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues Recommendation: No Recommendation or No Action Required 	Considered individually
REFERRED RESOLUTIONS (RR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions referred to similar resolutions found elsewhere in the Resolutions Book Resolutions referred to policy papers and/or special sessions held at Convention Resolutions to be referred back to the sponsor or Area Association Resolutions recommended Refer to UBCM Executive 	Not admitted for debate

Classifications in the Resolutions Book

Outlined below are the subject area classifications used in the Resolutions Book.



Health and Social Development

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



Housing

Resolutions that address housing legislation and regulation such as *Residential Tenancy Act*, *Strata Property Act* and BC Building Code. These resolutions also address housing issues, such as renters' rights, secondary suites, homelessness and BC Housing.



Community Safety

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



Environment

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



Regional Districts

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



Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Resolutions that focus on Indigenous issues and matters of reconciliation.



Finance

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



Land Use

Resolutions regarding planning issues such as parkland, development cost charges, siting,

Agricultural Land Reserve, Crown lands, and matters falling under Part 14 of the *Local Government Act*.



Taxation

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



Transportation

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



Legislative

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



Assessment

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



Community Economic Development

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



Elections

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



Selected Issues

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

Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions

General Rules

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

Voting Rules

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

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

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

In the event that electronic voting is not available or not functioning, the Chair may call for a standing vote, whereupon the Chair shall again put the same question to the Convention to be decided by a count of those standing in favour of and against the motion. In the event that the result of the standing

vote is questioned by fifty or more voting delegates then present, or at any time at the discretion of the Chair, the Chair shall order that the matter before the Convention be determined by ballot, and the result of such ballot shall be final. [Bylaw s. 13(a)]

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

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

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

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

Rules of Procedure

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

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

13. A delegate wishing to move, second or speak to a motion shall address the Chair and shall wait until they are recognized before speaking. Delegates must announce their name, local government office and membership or other qualifications each time they wish to speak [Bylaw s. 22(c)]

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

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

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

17. Motions to vary the agenda are permitted in the following circumstances:

a) a motion to adjust the order in which the No Recommendation (NR) resolutions will be considered.

A delegate may put forward a motion on the Convention floor to amend the order of debate of NR resolutions. The motion will require a seconder. If seconded, the Chair will put the question: "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for debate?" – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. If a favourable vote is achieved, the NR resolution will be dealt with immediately, but not before the Extraordinary Resolutions and Special Resolutions have been considered.

A simple majority is required to endorse an NR resolution that has been admitted for debate.

b) a motion to consider a Referred Resolution (RR), which are not considered at Convention.

A delegate may put forward a motion on the Convention floor to request that an RR resolution be considered. The motion will require a seconder. If seconded, the Chair will put the question: "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for debate?" – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. If a favourable vote is achieved, the RR resolution will be dealt with immediately, but not before the Extraordinary Resolutions and Special Resolutions have been considered.

A simple majority is required to endorse an RR resolution that has been admitted for debate.

c) a motion to consider a resolution received after the deadline (late resolution) that was not recommended admit for debate.

A delegate may put forward a motion on the Convention floor to request that a late resolution be considered. The motion will require a seconder. If seconded, the Chair will put the question: "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for debate?"

– and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. If a favourable vote is achieved, the late resolution will be dealt with on Friday morning, immediately following the consideration of any late resolution(s) deemed emergency and recommended for debate, as found in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution received after the deadline (late resolution) that has been admitted for debate.

d) a motion to consider a resolution not included in the Resolutions Book or in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline ("off the floor" resolution). (Conference Rules and Procedures s. 56)

A delegate may put forward a motion on the Convention floor to request that an "off the floor" resolution, which is defined as a resolution not included in either the Resolutions Book or Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, be considered. The motion will require a seconder. If seconded, the Chair will put the question: "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for debate?" – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. If a favourable vote is achieved, the "off the floor" resolution will be considered on the Friday of Convention, immediately following consideration of the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline.

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution not included in the Resolutions Book ("off the floor" resolution) that has been admitted for debate.

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

Order of Resolutions: Resolutions Book and Convention Debate

Resolutions will be organized as follows:

19. EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTIONS: Those which will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate. These are prefixed "ER" and are included in the first section of the Resolutions Book. Extraordinary Resolutions will be considered individually by the membership. Extraordinary

Resolutions are sponsored by the UBCM Executive and are seeking membership approval to amend UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the *UBCM Act*. [Bylaw s. 19]

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

21. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS: Those which will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate. These are prefixed “SR” and are included in the second section of the Resolutions Book. Special Resolutions will be considered individually by the membership, following consideration of all Extraordinary Resolutions.

Special Resolutions are sponsored by the UBCM Executive and address priority issues of the membership.

22. RESOLUTION BLOCKS: Resolutions may be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate in one of two blocks being an Endorse Block or a Not Endorse Block as follows:

a) ENDORSE BLOCK OF RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that include:

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

These resolutions are in-line with existing policy positions and are all recommended as Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment. These are prefixed “EB” and are included in the third section of the Resolutions Book. They will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate as a block. The Endorse Block of Resolutions will be considered in one vote by the membership, following consideration of all Special Resolutions.

b) NOT ENDORSE BLOCK OF RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that include:

- resolutions with proposed policy positions that contradict current policy positions; or
- previously considered, but not endorsed resolutions.

These resolutions are contrary to existing policy positions and are all recommended as Not Endorse. These are prefixed “NEB” and are included in the fourth section of the Resolutions Book. They will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate as a block. The Not Endorse Block of resolutions will be considered in one vote by the membership, following consideration of the Endorse Block.

23. NO RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that include:

- resolutions on topics not previously considered;
- resolutions where there is no action required; or
- resolutions with proposed policy positions that do not align with current UBCM policy position.

These resolutions are neither in exact alignment with existing policy, nor contrary to existing policy positions and are all recommended as No Recommendation. These are prefixed “NR” and are included in the fifth section of the Resolutions Book.

The No Recommendation resolutions will be considered individually, following consideration of the Not Endorse Block.

Any NR resolutions that are not considered during Convention will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration following Convention. Sponsors will be notified of the decision made by Executive regarding their resolution.

24. REFERRED RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that include:

- referred to a similar resolution in an Endorse Block or Not Endorse Block;
- referred to a similar No Recommendation resolution;
- referred to a Special Resolution to be put forward at Convention;
- referred to policy papers and/or special sessions held at Convention;
- deemed too regional in nature and will be referred back to either the sponsor or the Area

Association; or

- recommended Refer to UBCM Executive.

These are prefixed “RR” and are included in the sixth section of the Resolutions Book and cross-referenced for delegates’ information.

Referred Resolutions will not be admitted for debate during Convention, unless a favourable motion to vary the agenda is achieved in accordance with the “Rules of Procedure”. (Rules s. 17b)

Handling of Resolutions: Step-by-Step Rules for Extraordinary Resolutions

25. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

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

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

28. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from UBCM, the sponsor, to introduce the resolution. [Bylaw s. 23(b)ii]

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

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

Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the “Rules of Procedure”. (Rules s. 11-18)

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

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

A three-fifths majority is required to endorse an Extraordinary Resolution.

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

Step-by-Step Rules for Special Resolutions

31. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

32. The resolution will after reading be properly

before the Convention and will not require a mover or a seconder. [Bylaw s. 23(a)]

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

34. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from UBCM, the sponsor, to introduce the resolution. [Bylaw s. 23(b)ii]

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

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

Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the “Rules of Procedure”. (Rules s. 11-18)

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

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

A simple majority is required to endorse a Special Resolution.

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

Step-by-Step Rules for the Endorse Block of Resolutions

37. The Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the Resolutions Committee’s recommendations for all Endorse Block resolutions as a block.

38. The Endorse Block will require a mover and a seconder.

i) A voting delegate who wishes to have an Endorse Block resolution entered for individual discussion, because they disagree with the recommendation or wish to propose an amendment, shall, after being recognized by the Chair, put forward a motion to remove the resolution from the block and have the resolution entered for discussion.

ii) If duly seconded, the Chair shall put the question – “Shall the resolution be removed from the block and admitted for discussion?” – and such question shall require a simple majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. [Bylaw s. 23(d)]

iii) If the motion passes, then the Chair will remove the resolution from the Endorse Block and it will be

considered immediately following the Endorse Block of resolutions.

iv) The Chair will ask for the endorsement of the Endorse Block as amended.

v) After the Endorse Block has been considered, any resolution(s) removed for individual consideration will be entered for consideration.

A simple majority is required to endorse the Endorse Block of resolutions, either as amended, or unamended.

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution(s) pulled from the Endorse Block for individual consideration.

Step-by-Step Rules for the Not Endorse Block of Resolutions

39. The Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Not Endorse Block resolutions as a block.

40. The Not Endorse Block will require a mover and a seconder.

i) A voting delegate who wishes to have a Not Endorse Block resolution entered for individual discussion, because they disagree with the recommendation or wish to propose an amendment, shall, after being recognized by the Chair, put forward a motion to remove the resolution from the block and have the resolution entered for discussion.

ii) If duly seconded, the Chair shall put the question – "Shall the resolution be removed from the block and admitted for discussion?" – and such question shall require a simple majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. [Bylaw s. 23(d)]

iii) If the motion passes, then the Chair will remove the resolution from the Not Endorse Block and it will be considered immediately following the Not Endorse Block of resolutions.

iv) The Chair will ask for the endorsement of the Not Endorse Block as amended.

v) After the Not Endorse Block has been considered, any resolution(s) removed for individual consideration will be entered for consideration.

A simple majority is required to endorse the Not Endorse Block of resolutions either as amended or unamended.

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution(s) pulled from the Not Endorse Block for individual consideration.

Step-by-Step Rules for No Recommendation Resolutions

41. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of each resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

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

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

44. The Chair shall then call on a delegate from the sponsoring municipality, regional district or First Nation to introduce the resolution. [Bylaw s. 23(b)ii]

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

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

Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure". (Rules s. 11-18)

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

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

A simple majority is required to endorse a No Recommendation resolution.

No Recommendation resolutions will be dealt with on the Convention floor in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book, unless a favourable motion to vary the agenda is achieved in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure". (Rules s. 17a)

For Resolutions Received After the Deadline

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

48. Resolutions received after the deadline shall be available for discussion after Extraordinary Resolutions and Special Resolutions have been

considered, but not before the time included in the Convention Program.

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

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

(b) Resolutions recommended to be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action (note that the Resolution Committee's recommendation for action will be included in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline).

(c) Resolutions not recommended to be admitted for Plenary discussion.

50. Resolutions received after the deadline are classified as "Emergency" and therefore appropriate for Plenary only if the topic is such that it has arisen since the regular deadline date for submission of resolutions.

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

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

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

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

53. The Resolutions Committee's Report on resolutions Received After the Deadline shall be distributed at Convention.

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

55. The Emergency Resolution will after reading be properly before the Convention and the procedures for handling No Recommendation resolutions will apply. (Rules s. 41-46)

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution received after the deadline (Emergency Resolution) that has been admitted for debate.

For Resolutions Not Included in the Resolutions Book or in the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline

56. A delegate may put forward a motion on the Convention floor to request that an "off the floor" resolution, which is defined as a resolution not included in either the Resolutions Book or Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, be considered. The motion will require a seconder. If seconded, the Chair will put the question: "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for debate?" – and such question shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put forward for discussion by the Convention. If a favourable vote is achieved, the "off the floor" resolution will be considered on the Friday of Convention, immediately following consideration of the Report on Resolutions Received after the Deadline.

A simple majority is required to endorse a resolution not included in the Resolutions Book ("off the floor" resolution) that has been admitted for debate.

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

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

Table of Contents

Section ER

ER1	Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws to Streamline the Resolutions Process	UBCM Executive	24
-----	---	----------------	----

Section SR

SR1	Regional Approach to Homelessness	UBCM Executive	27
SR2	Negotiation of New RCMP Police Services Agreement	UBCM Executive	28
SR3	Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue	UBCM Executive	31
SR4	Supports for United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation	Tla'amin First Nation, UBCM Executive	33
SR5	Infrastructure Funding	UBCM Executive	35

Section EB

EB1	Addressing Temporary Emergency Room Closures	Delta	39
EB2	Streamlining Licensing for Out-of-Province and International Healthcare Professionals	Fort St. John	39
EB3	Health System Modernization Engagement	Nanaimo RD	40
EB4	Provision of Free Adrenaline Auto-Injectors	Chetwynd	41
EB5	Volunteer Fire Department Funding Model	Sunshine Coast RD	42
EB6	Reimbursing Local Governments for Medical Services Provided by Local Government Fire and Rescue Services	Merritt	42
EB7	BC Ambulance Service	Prince George	43
EB8	Rural Health Transportation	Nelson	43
EB9	Implementation of Provincially Mandated Accessibility and Inclusion Plans	West Kelowna	44
EB10	Enhancing a Collaborative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Approach to Food Security and Well-Being	Langley City	45
EB11	Continue Funding Programs for Local Poverty Reduction Initiatives	Burnaby	46
EB12	Strengthening Supported Child Development	Mission	46
EB13	Mental Health and Addictions Resources for Youth	Parksville	47
EB14	Strategy for Rehabilitation, Homelessness and Public Safety	Castlegar, Nelson, Trail	48
EB15	Funding Off-Site Works for Affordable Housing	Smithers	49
EB16	Housing Requires Urgent Action	Victoria	50
EB17	Long-Term Supported Housing	Maple Ridge	50
EB18	The Village Model of Housing	Duncan	51

EB19	Advancing Home Relocation and Deconstruction in British Columbia	North Vancouver District	52
EB20	Speculation Housing and Vacancy Tax in Rural Communities	Nelson	52
EB21	Speculation and Vacancy Tax	Kitimat	53
EB22	Increase Funding for Wildfire Prevention	Chase	53
EB23	FireSmart and Wildfire Mitigation Funding	West Kelowna	54
EB24	Initial Fire Attack Crew Relocation	Chetwynd	55
EB25	Referendum for the Replacement of Fire Apparatus	Salmo	56
EB26	Fire Inspections and Investigations	Comox Valley RD	57
EB27	Implementation of the BC Flood Strategy to Protect Flood-Prone Communities	Kent	57
EB28	Modernize the Police Cost Sharing Formulas	Merritt	58
EB29	Managing Policing Contract Costs Through Engagement In RCMP Collective Bargaining	Terrace	59
EB30	Police Services Funding Model	Langley City	60
EB31	Funding for 911 Services	Sooke	60
EB32	Addressing Repeat Offenders	Nelson	61
EB33	Victim Services Program Funding	Merritt	62
EB34	Motor Vehicle Response – Compensation Model	Elkford	62
EB35	British Columbia Conservation Officer Service Capacity	Revelstoke	63
EB36	Moose Habitat Considerations in Landscape Planning	Burns Lake	63
EB37	Non-Migratory Resident Canada Geese	Metchosin	64
EB38	Increased Defence Against Invasive Mussels	Sicamous	65
EB39	Controlling Invasive Scotch Broom	Cowichan Valley RD	66
EB40	Conserving BC Landfill Capacity	Nanaimo RD	66
EB41	Provincial Circular Economy Strategy	Nanaimo RD	67
EB42	Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector Recyclables	East Kootenay RD	68
EB43	Producer Responsibility for Sustainable Packaging in BC's Recycling Regulation	Comox Valley RD	69
EB44	Inclusion of Agricultural Plastics Under Recycling Regulation	Thompson-Nicola RD	70
EB45	Biodiverse Climate Resilient Ecosystems	Bulkley-Nechako RD, Fraser-Fort George RD	70
EB46	Tackling Energy Poverty and Increasing Workforce Capacity by Working with Youth Climate Corps	Port Moody	71
EB47	Incentives to Invest in Low-Carbon Power Generation	Nakusp	72
EB48	Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems	Comox Valley RD	73
EB49	Modernization of Municipal Wastewater Regulations and Sewerage System Regulation	Coldstream, Columbia Shuswap RD, Lake Country,	74

		Vernon	
EB50	Supporting Rural Contractors for Effective Home Retrofits	Central Kootenay RD, Nelson	75
EB51	Including Rail-Related Activities in the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> Scope	Terrace	76
EB52	Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities	Cowichan Valley RD	77
EB53	Sustainable Growing Communities Fund	Nanaimo RD, Parksville	78
EB54	Provincial Oversight of Water, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas	Sicamous	79
EB55	Efficient Resource Permitting	Fort St. John, Peace River RD	79
EB56	Expedite Municipal Applications for Crown Lands	Smithers	80
EB57	Approval of Aggregate Activities	Summerland	81
EB58	Provincial Funding for Archaeological Costs Borne by Local Government	Lillooet	81
EB59	Strengthening Agricultural Land Commission Enforcement Capabilities	Delta	82
EB60	Unpaid Fines by Transfer to Property Taxes	East Kootenay RD	83
EB61	Taxation of Utility Companies	Sooke	84
EB62	BC Port Tax Cap	North Coast RD	84
EB63	BC Ferry Advisory Committees	North Coast RD	85
EB64	Equitable Status and Funding for Inland Ferries as Essential Infrastructure	Columbia Shuswap RD	86
EB65	Accessible Public EV Charging Stations Central	Saanich	86
EB66	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for Remote Communities	qathet RD	87
EB67	Emergency Road Network Planning	Sunshine Coast RD	87
EB68	Forest Service Road Closures	Mackenzie	88
EB69	Road Access to Provincial Parks	Maple Ridge	89
EB70	Highway Speed Limits	Revelstoke	90
EB71	Saving Money and Saving Lives: Empower Municipal Default Speed Limits	Saanich	90
EB72	Twinning of Highway 16	Bulkley-Nechako RD, Fort St. James	91
EB73	Active Transportation Infrastructure on Rural Highways	Williams Lake	92
EB74	Enhancing Rural Transit Systems	Nelson	92
EB75	Increasing Transit Service Expansion	Cowichan Valley RD	93
EB76	Small Community Transit Service Fund	Merritt	94
EB77	Provincial Consultation on Legislative Changes	Parksville	95

EB78	Provincially Funded WorkSafe BC Coverage – Elected Officials	Daajing Giids	96
EB79	Unruly Behaviour – Development of Task Force	Nakusp	96
EB80	Review of the BC <i>Library Act</i>	Taylor	97
EB81	Bylaw Enforcement Notice Penalty Increase for Development Violations	Coquiltam	98
EB82	Assessment Data Amendments and Municipal Financial Impact	Burnaby	98
EB83	Forest Sustainability	Powell River	100
EB84	Forestry Industry and Fibre Decline	Port Alberni	100
EB85	Support for Additional Dead Wood Salvage	Williams Lake	101
EB86	Engagement Protocols in Resource Development Processes	NCLGA Executive	102
EB87	Inclusion of Rural and Resource Communities in Provincial Economic Decision-Making	Campbell River	102
EB88	Consultation on Removal of Crown Land	Mackenzie	104
EB89	Increased Ministry Funding for Agriculture	Pitt Meadows	104
EB90	Industrial Electrification Expansion	Fort St. John, Peace River RD	105
EB91	Investment in Recreational Tourism	Nelson	106
EB92	Rural-Focused Immigration Policy	Nelson	106
EB93	Increased Funding and Requirement for Civics Education	Nelson	107
EB94	BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Representation in Rural BC Communities	Burns Lake	108
EB95	Lobbyist Registration	Saanich	109

Section NEB

NEB1	Primary Care Clinic Space	Port Moody	111
NEB2	Personal and Defamatory Attacks on Local Government Leaders	Osoyoos	112
NEB3	Provincial Government Water Panel	Lake Country	113

Section NR

NR1	Ensuring Equitable Access to Child Care Funding	Nelson	115
NR2	Child Care Licensing Requirements	Oak Bay	115
NR3	Hiring More Qualified Medical Professionals	Nakusp	116
NR4	Strengthening Rural Healthcare Through Scope-Based Compensation Models	Alberni-Clayoquot RD	117
NR5	Addressing Rural Physician Shortages Due to Practice Ready Assessment-BC and Longitudinal Family Physician Changes	Dawson Creek	118
NR6	Local Voices, Stronger Healthcare: Enabling Healthcare Collaboration Frameworks in Rural BC	Alberni-Clayoquot RD	119
NR7	Expanding Career-Life Connections with Rural	Alberni-Clayoquot RD	120

	Practicum Program		
NR8	Emergency Room Closure Notification	Harrison Hot Springs	121
NR9	Rural Foundry Centres	Mackenzie	122
NR10	Strengthening the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy	Port Moody	123
NR11	Mental Health Support for Local Government Officials	Coquitlam, Maple Ridge	124
NR12	Health and Wellbeing of BC's Public Safety Personnel	North Vancouver City	124
NR13	Advancing Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices	NCLGA Executive	125
NR14	Support for Communities with Correctional Facilities	Maple Ridge	126
NR15	Free Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy as part of Postpartum Care in British Columbia	Langford	127
NR16	Adequate Public Sanitary Facilities and Toilets	Kamloops	128
NR17	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Langford	129
NR18	Homeless Encampments within City Limits on Provincial Land	Revelstoke	130
NR19	Mandatory Good Neighbour Agreement	Sechelt	130
NR20	Supportive Housing Targets and Treatment	Victoria	131
NR21	Enhancing Housing Stability through Preventive Measures and Supportive Programs	Langley City	132
NR22	Simplifying Access to Public Land for Housing	Squamish	133
NR23	Co-op Housing Program and Sustainable Funding for Housing	Fort St. John	134
NR24	Lowering Financial Barriers for Community Housing Projects	Smithers	134
NR25	Amenity Cost Charges and Affordable Housing	Victoria	135
NR26	Provincial Development Cost Charges Deferment Program	Coquitlam	136
NR27	Property Transfer Tax Exemption for Local Government Housing Corporations	Creston	137
NR28	Discharging Restrictive Land Covenants to Support Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing	Squamish	138
NR29	Provincial Reform on School Planning	Port Moody	138
NR30	Supporting Climate-Resilient and Infrastructure-Ready Housing Targets	Parksville	139
NR31	Preventing Deaths from Extreme Heat by Amending Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing Legislation	Burnaby	140
NR32	Response to Extreme Heat Events	Vancouver	141
NR33	Provincially Backed Affordable Home Insurance	Fernie	142
NR34	Protecting Homeowners Access to Insurance and Mortgages in the Wake of <i>Emergency and Disaster Management Act</i> Implementation	Daajing Giids	142
NR35	Income Tax on Secondary Suites and In-Home Rentals	Nelson	143
NR36	<i>Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act</i> Exemption Flexibility for Small Communities	NCLGA Executive	144

NR37	Maximum Municipal Bylaw Ticket Fines	Whistler	145
NR38	Ending Residential Tenancies due to Income Eligibility	Burnaby	146
NR39	Advocating for Pet-Friendly Rental Housing	Vancouver	146
NR40	Tiny Homes and Recreational Vehicles	Nanaimo RD	147
NR41	The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification in BC Buildings	Saanich	148
NR42	Request to Repeal the Single Exit Stairway Building Code	Burnaby	149
NR43	Installation of Early Wildfire Detection Technology	Coldstream	150
NR44	FireSmart Policy Crown Lands	Thompson-Nicola RD	150
NR45	Fire Resilient Forest Practices	Nanaimo RD	151
NR46	Shift of Provincial Wildfire Response Responsibilities onto Regional Districts	Columbia Shuswap RD	152
NR47	Financial Support for Implementation of the <i>Fire Safety Act</i>	Pemberton	153
NR48	Emergency Social Services Grant Funding for Capital Costs	Smithers	154
NR49	Protections and Support for Emergency Support Services Volunteers	Golden	154
NR50	Provincial Disaster Debris Plan	Nanaimo RD	155
NR51	Disaster Financial Assistance Insurance Eligibility	Thompson-Nicola RD	156
NR52	Interim Diking Policy Updates	Squamish	157
NR53	Major Planned Events Advocacy	Comox Valley RD	158
NR54	Addressing RCMP Staffing and Contract Costs	Fort St. John	158
NR55	Creation of Regional Crime Prevention Officer Positions for Rural BC	Dawson Creek	159
NR56	Release of Prolific Offenders in Communities	Williams Lake	160
NR57	Human Trafficking, Gender Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic	Prince George	161
NR58	Mailing Illegal Substances via Canada Post	Lumby	162
NR59	Sharing Fentanyl Precursors Information with Law Enforcement	Qualicum Beach	162
NR60	Regulating Vape Shops	New Westminster	163
NR61	Creating Safer Streets through Provincial Bear Spray Legislation	Burnaby	163
NR62	Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas Clean-up Funding	Fraser Valley RD	164
NR63	Provincial Waste Hauler Licensing	Nanaimo RD	165
NR64	Solid Waste Management Approvals	Nanaimo RD	165
NR65	Sustainable Funding for Landfill Gas Regulation Compliance	Comox Valley RD	166
NR66	Balanced Emissions Policies	Peace River RD	166
NR67	Nuclear Energy in BC	Mackenzie	167
NR68	BC Building Code Amendment to Include Natural Gas	Spallumcheen	167
NR69	Legislating the BC Coastal Marine Strategy	Langford,	168

	Saanich	
NR70 Standardized Wake Surfing Regulation	East Kootenay RD	169
NR71 Financial Incentives for Residential Rainwater Catchment Systems	Tofino	170
NR72 Emergency Water Treatment Plants	Lions Bay	170
NR73 Ministerial Oversight of Proposed Sewerage (Septic) Systems	Coldstream	172
NR74 Support for Natural Asset Inventory Development	Pemberton	172
NR75 Mobile Live Animal Programs	Port Moody	173
NR76 Hybrid Wolfdogs	Nanaimo RD	174
NR77 Provincial Support for Addressing Feral Rabbits	Saanich	174
NR78 Allocation of Wildlife Revenues to Conservation	Kitimat-Stikine RD	175
NR79 Regulation of Mushroom Harvesting Industry	NCLGA Executive	176
NR80 Remove Cigarette Butts from Environment	Powell River	177
NR81 Strengthening Regional Emergency Management Capacity	Lions Bay	177
NR82 Two-Year Term for Regional District Chairs and Vice Chairs	Capital RD	178
NR83 Establishment of a Framework for Intergovernmental Relations with First Nations	Port Alberni	179
NR84 Equitable Distribution of Non-Casino Gaming Revenue	Port Moody	180
NR85 Agricultural Land Reserve Boundary Review	Cariboo RD	181
NR86 Accessory Dwellings in the Agricultural Land Reserve	Cariboo RD	181
NR87 Permit Vacation Rentals within the Agricultural Land Reserve	Okanagan-Similkameen RD	182
NR88 Small-Scale Farm-to-Table Restaurants in the Agricultural Land Reserve	Central Saanich	183
NR89 Soil and Other Material Tracking	Richmond	184
NR90 Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement Ticketing	Richmond	185
NR91 Private Managed Forest Lands	Nanaimo RD	186
NR92 Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Associations	Bulkley-Nechako RD, Fraser-Fort George RD	187
NR93 Dedicating Water Rental Fees to Watershed Security	Cumberland	188
NR94 Provincial Financial Support for Municipal Industrial Land Planning	Squamish	188
NR95 Updated Ancillary Uses for Airports Located on Crown Land	Okanagan-Similkameen RD, Oliver	189
NR96 Supporting Housing Affordability Through Taxation Changes and Financial Commitment	Port Moody	190
NR97 Burden of Delinquent Property Taxes	Merritt	190
NR98 Localized Input on Highway Maintenance Contracts	Elkford	191
NR99 Commercial Transport Training Standards	Thompson-Nicola RD	192
NR100 Saving Money and Saving Lives: Provincial Default 30 km/h	Saanich	193

for Local Streets with No Centre Line		
NR101 Ministry of Transportation and Transit Approval on Minor Rezoning Applications	Kamloops	194
NR102 Updating the Name of the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>	Saanich	194
NR103 Traffic Controls at Inactive Railroad Crossings	Qualicum Beach	195
NR104 Priority Ferry Boarding for Livestock and Agricultural Products	Alberni-Clayoquot RD	195
NR105 Payment In Lieu of Works and Services for Land Development	Nanaimo City	196
NR106 Balanced Approach to Building Code Updates	Central Kootenay RD	197
NR107 Leaves of Absence Provisions for Elected Officials	Cariboo RD	198
NR108 Codes of Conduct	Whistler	199
NR109 More Formalized Property Assessment Processes for Communities in BC	Houston	199
NR110 Forestry Industry and Sustainable Fibre	Port Alberni	200
NR111 Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas Strategy	Fort St. John, Peace River RD	201
NR112 Economic Impact and Resource Revenue Sharing	Terrace	202
NR113 Local Government Response to US Imposed Tariffs	Lake Country	202
NR114 Canada-First Local Government Procurement Strategy	NCLGA Executive	203
NR115 Eliminating Interprovincial Trade Barriers	NCLGA Executive	204
NR116 Ranked Voting for Mayoral Elections	Nelson	204
NR117 Aligning the By-Election Provisions of the <i>School Act</i> with those of the <i>Local Government Act</i>	Coquitlam	205
NR118 Reinstatement of Federal Funding for Settlement Programs	Richmond	206
NR119 Safe Welcome Communities	Squamish	207
NR120 BC Human Rights Tribunal	Sooke	207
NR121 Adopting European Elevator Standards to Improve Accessibility and Affordability	Saanich	208
NR122 Municipal Infrastructure Plan Library	Sicamous	208

Section RR – Part One

RR1 Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials	Fernie, Sparwood	211
RR2 Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials	Cariboo RD	211
RR3 Expand Alert Ready Program	Nakusp	211
RR4 Implement a Regionally Balanced Approach to Supportive Housing	Penticton	212
RR5 Regional Approach to Homelessness	Nelson	212
RR6 Equitable Distribution of Emergency Shelter Beds	Chilliwack	213
RR7 Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Vancouver	213

RR8	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Burnaby	213
RR9	Housing as a Human Right	Nanaimo City	214
RR10	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Saanich	214
RR11	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	North Vancouver City	215
RR12	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Victoria	215
RR13	Declaring Housing as a Human Right	Langley City	215
RR14	Housing as a Human Right	Port Moody	216
RR15	RCMP Cost Sharing	Kamloops	216
RR16	Municipal Costs of Contract RCMP Services Beyond 2032	Pemberton	217
RR17	Compensation for Road Rescue Services	Sicamous	217
RR18	Catch and Release of Repeat Offenders	Kamloops	217
RR19	Provincial Reforms to Bail Administration	Sicamous	218
RR20	Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems	Fraser-Fort George RD	218
RR21	Support for BC Conservation Officer Services	Elkford	219
RR22	Conservation Officer Advocacy	Prince George	219
RR23	Enforcement and Education for Use of Crown Land	Elkford	220
RR24	Aligning Housing and Homelessness Initiatives with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Williams Lake	220
RR25	Provincial Funding for Public Libraries	Hudson's Hope, Prince George	220
RR26	Increased Core Funding for Public Libraries	Creston, Grand Forks, Nelson	221
RR27	Increased Capital Funding for Libraries	Smithers	221
RR28	Provincial Funding for Public Libraries: Overdue	North Vancouver City, Squamish, Surrey	222
RR29	Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries	Powell River	222
RR30	Importance of Inland Ferry Service	Central Kootenay RD, Nakusp	223
RR31	Essential Service Levels of Inland Ferries	Bulkley-Nechako RD	223
RR32	BC Ferry Advisory Committees	North Coast RD	224
RR33	Support and Resourcing for Active Transportation Projects	Cowichan Valley RD	224
RR34	Removal of the BC Port Tax Cap	North Coast RD	224
RR35	Highway Road Maintenance Agreements – Addressing Regional Adaptation	Pouce Coupe	225
RR36	Lobbyist Registration	New Westminster, Vancouver	225

RR37	Financial Support for Infrastructure Costs	Canal Flats	226
RR38	Infrastructure and Capital Projects Requiring Electoral Approval	Nanaimo City	226
RR39	Unmet Demands on Social and Community Infrastructure as a Result of Provincial Housing Targets	Fraser Valley RD	226
RR40	Infrastructure Support for Specified Municipalities – <i>Housing Supply Act</i>	Abbotsford	227
RR41	Funding Support for Infrastructure Upgrades Required Due to Bill 44	Revelstoke	227
RR42	Consistent and Predictable Funding for Housing, Infrastructure and Rural Economic Development	Nakusp	228
RR43	Allocation of Provincial Sales Tax for Infrastructure Renewal	Nakusp	228

Section RR – Part Two

RR44	Improvement Districts Policy Revision	qathet RD	229
------	---------------------------------------	-----------	-----

Section RR – Part Three

RR45	Enhanced Wraparound Supports and Second-Stage Housing for Individuals in Recovery in Rural Northern Communities	Chetwynd	231
RR46	Quesnel North-South Interconnector	Cariboo RD	232
RR47	Blood Plasma Donor Centre for Northern BC	NCLGA Executive	232
RR48	Psychiatric Hospital for Northern BC	Fort St. James, Vanderhoof	233

Section RR – Part Four

RR49	UBCM Voting Schedule	Vernon	235
RR50	Commercial Rent Control	Victoria	235

Appendix A – Extraordinary Resolution Backgrounder			237
---	--	--	------------

Sponsor Index of Resolutions

Abbotsford	RR40	Fraser-Fort George RD	EB45, NR92, RR20
Alberni-Clayoquot RD	NR4, NR6, NR7, NR104	Golden	NR49
Bulkley-Nechako RD	EB45, EB72, NR92, RR31	Grand Forks	RR26
Burnaby	EB11, EB82, NR31, NR38, NR42, NR61, RR8	Harrison Hot Springs	NR8
Burns Lake	EB36, EB94	Houston	NR109
Campbell River	EB87	Hudson's Hope	RR25
Canal Flats	RR37	Kamloops	NR16, NR101, RR15, RR18
Capital RD	NR82	Kent	EB27
Cariboo RD	NR85, NR86, NR107, RR2, RR46	Kitimat	EB21
Castlegar	EB14	Kitimat-Stikine RD	NR78
Central Kootenay RD	EB50, NR106, RR30	Lake Country	EB49, NEB3, NR113
Central Saanich	EB65, NR88	Langford	NR15, NR17, NR69
Chase	EB22	Langley City	EB10, EB30, NR21, RR13
Chetwynd	EB4, EB24, RR45	Lillooet	EB58
Chilliwack	RR6	Lions Bay	NR72, NR81
Coldstream	EB49, NR43, NR73	Lumby	NR58
Columbia Shuswap RD	EB49, EB64, NR46	Mackenzie	EB68, EB88, NR9, NR67
Comox Valley RD	EB26, EB43, EB48, NR53, NR65	Maple Ridge	EB17, EB69, NR11, NR14
Coquitlam	EB81, NR11, NR26, NR117	Merritt	EB6, EB28, EB33, EB76, NR97
Cowichan Valley RD	EB39, EB52, EB75, RR33	Metchosin	EB37
Creston	NR27, RR26	Mission	EB12
Cumberland	NR93	Nakusp	EB47, EB79, NR3, RR3 RR30, RR42, RR43
Daajing Giids	EB78, NR34	Nanaimo City	NR105, RR9, RR38
Dawson Creek	NR5, NR55	Nanaimo RD	EB3, EB40, EB41, EB53, NR40, NR45, NR50, NR63, NR64, NR76, NR91
Delta	EB1, EB59	NCLGA Executive	EB86, NR13, NR36, NR79, NR114, NR115, RR47
Duncan	EB18	Nelson	EB8, EB14, EB20, EB32, EB50, EB74, EB91, EB92, EB93, NR1, NR35, NR116, RR5, RR26
East Kootenay RD	EB42, EB60, NR70	New Westminster	NR60, RR36
Elkford	EB34, NR98, RR21, RR23	North Coast RD	EB62, EB63, RR32, RR34
Fernie	NR33, RR1	North Vancouver City	NR12, RR11, RR28
Fort St. James	EB72, RR48	North Vancouver District	EB19
Fort St. John	EB2, EB55, EB90, NR23, NR54, NR111		
Fraser Valley RD	NR62, RR39		

Oak Bay	NR2
Okanagan-Similkameen RD	NR87, NR95
Oliver	NR95
Osoyoos	NEB2
Parksville	EB13, EB53, EB77, NR30
Peace River RD	EB55, EB90, NR66, NR111
Pemberton	NR47, NR74, RR16
Penticton	RR4
Pitt Meadows	EB89
Port Alberni	EB84, NR83, NR110
Port Moody	EB46, NEB1, NR10, NR29, NR75, NR84, NR96, RR14
Pouce Coupe	RR35
Powell River	EB83, NR80, RR29
Prince George	EB7, NR57, RR22, RR25
qathet RD	EB66, RR44
Qualicum Beach	NR59, NR103
Revelstoke	EB35, EB70, NR18, RR41
Richmond	NR89, NR90, NR118
Saanich	EB71, EB95, NR41, NR69, NR77, NR100, NR102, NR121, RR10
Salmo	EB25
Sechelt	NR19
Sicamous	EB38, EB54, NR122, RR17, RR19

Smithers	EB15, EB56, NR24 NR48, RR27
Sooke	EB31, EB61, NR120
Spallumcheen	NR68
Sparwood	RR1
Squamish	NR22, NR28, NR52, NR94, NR119, RR28
Summerland	EB57
Sunshine Coast RD	EB5, EB67
Surrey	RR28
Taylor	EB80
Terrace	EB29, EB51, NR112
Thompson-Nicola RD	EB44, NR44, NR51, NR99
Tla'amin First Nation	SR4
Tofino	NR71
Trail	EB14
UBCM Executive	ER1, SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5
Vancouver	NR32, NR39, RR7, RR36
Vanderhoof	RR48
Vernon	EB49, RR49
Victoria	EB16, NR20, NR25, RR12, RR50
West Kelowna	EB9, EB23
Whistler	NR37, NR108
Williams Lake	EB73, EB85, NR56, RR24

Section ER Resolutions

Section ER resolutions are Extraordinary Resolutions and they seek to amend the UBCM Bylaws or the provincial *UBCM Act*. A three-fifths majority is required to endorse an Extraordinary Resolution.

Included in Section ER are resolutions numbered:

ER1

Section ER

ER1 **Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws to Streamline the Resolutions Process**

UBCM Executive

Whereas the large number of resolutions submitted by UBCM members—more than 200 annually— results in a wide range of policy positions, rendering it challenging for UBCM to focus its advocacy efforts;

And whereas a reduction in the number and breadth of policy positions adopted annually by the membership would enable UBCM to advocate more effectively, by focusing time and resources on issues with significant province-wide impact on local governments and member First Nations:

Therefore be it resolved that Section 15(c) of the UBCM Bylaws be amended by adding the text in bold type as follows, to enable the Resolutions Committee to apply filters to determine which resolutions may be included for consideration by the membership at Convention:

15. COMMITTEES (Other than Nominating Committee):

(c) The Resolutions Committee:

- shall examine all Annual Resolutions regularly submitted to the Convention;
- **shall determine which Annual Resolutions will be included for consideration by the membership at Convention;**
- shall recommend in favour of or against the Annual Resolutions respectively;
- may correlate Annual Resolutions; and
- may recommend amendments.

Any Annual Resolution may be referred by the Convention to the Resolutions Committee either alone or with new resolutions for study and report to the Convention.

Any Annual Resolution that falls under one or more of the following criteria, as determined by the Resolutions Committee, will be excluded from consideration by the membership at Convention:

- **Resolution is existing UBCM policy (as set by the membership endorsing or not endorsing a previous resolution or policy paper);**
- **Resolution is outside of the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations;**
- **Resolution is within the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations, but does not meet UBCM criteria for format or clarity; or**
- **Resolution is regional in focus.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee is seeking membership approval of this Extraordinary Resolution to reduce the volume of resolutions received and considered each year and improve the quality of resolutions considered.

Lens #1 - Resolutions that reaffirm existing policy

The Committee proposes that any resolution that aligns with resolutions already endorsed or not endorsed by the membership should be received rather than put forward for further consideration by the membership. The current intent of the Resolutions Committee is that a 5 year window would be adopted to establish existing policy under this lens.

Lens #2 - Resolutions outside of local government scope

The Committee suggests that limiting resolutions for consideration to those that directly relate to local government service delivery will strengthen the efficacy and credibility of UBCM's advocacy.

Lens #3 - Resolutions that are unclear or poorly formatted

UBCM staff and the Resolutions Committee currently expend considerable time working with the sponsors to help them to clarify and format their resolutions. Removing this function will encourage those drafting resolutions to meet established standards for clarity and better resolutions.

Lens #4 - Resolutions that are regional in focus

Resolutions for consideration at UBCM should have a province-wide focus. Resolutions that are regional in focus should be considered and acted upon by Area Associations.

The Committee proposes to include all resolutions captured by one or more of the lenses in an appendix of the Resolutions Book. While these resolutions are being published for transparency, these resolutions are not to be considered and are not available to be brought forward for consideration via a motion to vary the agenda.

The Committee would point out that section 14(d) of the UBCM Bylaws grants the UBCM Executive authority to bring forward to Convention a resolution on any matter at any time. This authority of the UBCM Executive enables UBCM to respond quickly to a changing policy or legislative environment, bringing forward issues or concerns that may fall within existing UBCM policy, but require immediate consideration.

Members are encouraged to read the accompanying backgrounder found in the Appendix of this Resolutions Book to learn more about the proposed Extraordinary Resolution.

Conference decision: _____

Section SR Resolutions

Section SR resolutions are Special Resolutions and they address priority issues identified by the UBCM Executive, of concern to a broad range of UBCM members around the province.

Included in Section SR are resolutions numbered:

SR1 – SR5

Section SR



SR1 Regional Approach to Homelessness

UBCM Executive

Whereas homelessness is a complex and multifaceted challenge that affects communities across BC, rural and urban, and there is a lack of a coordinated regional strategy and insufficient resources worsen this issue, leaving many vulnerable populations without adequate housing, and shelter;

And whereas concentration of shelter beds and supportive housing can create unsustainable pressure on local resources and services in some communities while leaving other communities underserved:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate that the provincial government coordinate a regional approach to homelessness by increasing funding and resources for supportive housing and shelter initiatives across the province, and foster collaboration and coordination among local governments, provincial agencies, First Nation governments, Indigenous organizations, nonprofits, housing authorities, and community members.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The UBCM Executive is bringing forward a special resolution to encourage the Provincial government to coordinate a regional approach to homelessness that fosters collaboration and coordination amongst orders of government, First Nations, housing providers and others.

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed wide ranging policy pertaining to the need to address homelessness in urban and rural communities including:

- resolution 2019-B183 which asked the Province to “work with local governments to develop policy to address rural homelessness, which is currently a gap in the Province’s response to homelessness.”; and*
- resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-SR3, 2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR26, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).*

For 2025, UBCM received three related resolutions on regional approaches to homelessness that will be referred to this special resolution. Resolution RR4 calls for a regionally balanced approach to supportive housing with dedicated funding and incentives for smaller and rural communities; Resolution RR5 calls for a regional approach to homelessness with increased funding for housing and shelters and initiatives to foster collaboration; and Resolution RR6 calls for a regionally equitable strategy for distribution of emergency shelter beds accounting for population and local service capacity.

See resolutions RR4, RR5, RR6

Current Status

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM is seeking intervenor status on the Matsqui-Abbotsford Impact Society v Abbotsford (City) case. In the decision, the court issued several conditions on the City if it chose to dismantle the encampment prior to the judicial review being concluded. The conditions have significant implications for all local governments in British Columbia, including requiring that shelter be available with access

to harm reduction services; that the city provide individual needs assessments for each occupant of the encampment to identify appropriate accommodations or needs tailored to their specific requirements; and that the city ensure that medical care and accessible transport are arranged for encampment residents.

UBCM will also participate as an intervenor in the case of Roy v City of Vancouver, which is seeking the right of unhoused people to shelter full time in parks and other public spaces. The implications of a successful challenge would impact, not just to the City of Vancouver, but local governments across BC.

Also, in 2025, UBCM worked with the BC Urban Mayors Caucus (BCUMC) to administer a survey to their members to identify gaps in provincial delivery and funding of housing. The survey asked local governments to provide data on the costs incurred to address homelessness in their communities. Responses included costs related to policing, shelter, housing, fire and outreach services.

Conference decision: _____



SR2 Negotiation of New RCMP Police Services Agreement

UBCM Executive

Whereas BC local governments over 5,000 in population that receive RCMP policing services are bound by the 20-year Municipal Police Unit Agreement, which expires in 2032;

And whereas the process to negotiate new RCMP police services agreements is expected to begin soon, at a time when local governments are struggling to absorb rapidly increasing policing costs, placing significant pressure on local budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC and federal government directly involve UBCM and BC local governments as part of the process to negotiate new RCMP police services agreements, including the Municipal Police Unit Agreement;

And be it further resolved that as part of this process, local government priorities are thoroughly considered and incorporated into a new Municipal Police Unit Agreement for BC local governments.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the Province of BC and federal government directly involve UBCM and BC local governments, and consider local government priorities, as part of the process to negotiate new RCMP police services agreements.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking relief from rapidly increasing RCMP costs that would entail amending the cost-sharing framework contained in the police services agreements (2024-NR41, 2024-NR42, 2023-NR33, 2022-NR34, 2020-EB5, 2020-NR7, 2016-B75).

The Resolutions Committee also advises that UBCM, through its participation on the national RCMP Contract Management Committee and BC Local Government RCMP Contract Management Committee, has consistently requested direct engagement from the federal government regarding local government policing priorities and relevant processes (e.g. collective bargaining, the federal assessment of RCMP contract policing, etc.). Direct engagement is also being sought to increase transparency and accountability between the service provider and local governments, who pay the largest share of policing costs in the province.

See resolutions EB28, EB29, EB30, RR15, RR16

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing this Special Resolution forward to consolidate recent resolutions and advocacy regarding the rising cost of RCMP policing services, at a time when RCMP contract partners (i.e. local governments, provinces, territories, federal government and RCMP) are considering the renewal of the 20-year police services agreements, which are set to expire in 2032. It is understood that the process to renew these agreements could take several years to complete.

BC local governments over 5,000 in population that wish to receive RCMP policing services must sign the 20-year Municipal Police Unit Agreement (MPUA) with the Province of BC. The MPUA is one of three policing agreements that permit the RCMP to act as the provincial police service in BC. The other two agreements, the Provincial Police Service Agreement and Municipal Police Service Agreement, are between the Province and federal government.

The MPUA outlines the terms and conditions under which the RCMP will provide policing services in a community, including the cost-share rate to be paid by the local government. Notably, local governments between 5,000 and 15,000 in population must pay 70 percent of the base cost. Those over 15,000 in population must pay 90 percent of the base cost. There are also other costs outlined in the MPUA, including those shared among contract partners (e.g., cadet training, recruitment, etc.). These local governments are also responsible for 100 percent of certain costs, such as accommodation (i.e. the detachment building) and support staff.

Under the terms of the Provincial Police Service Agreement and the Police Act, local governments under 5,000 in population and unincorporated areas are policed by the RCMP provincial service. A portion of the associated costs are paid by residents of these areas through the Police Tax.

According to the most recent data published by the Province, BC local governments over 5,000 in population that receive RCMP policing services (excluding the City of Surrey) did so at a cost of \$779,111,267 in 2023. This represents a cost increase of 9.9 percent compared to the previous year, when these same local governments paid \$708,812,022 for RCMP policing services. Provincial data also shows that many of these communities are, as of 2023, allocating upwards of 25 percent or more of their budgets towards protective services (including RCMP police and fire services).

This resolution is advocating for local governments to be directly involved in discussions with the federal government and Province of BC to renew the 20-year police services agreements, including the Municipal Police Unit Agreement that is specific to British Columbia. Furthermore, it is requested that local governments be provided an opportunity to table priorities for consideration as part of the process to renew these agreements.

Policing is the most financially significant budget item for many local governments. It is crucial that BC local governments, who are part of the largest RCMP contract jurisdiction in Canada, be directly involved in discussions that could lead to significant financial impacts. The federal government has recently shown a reluctance to consider local governments as equal RCMP policing partners, demonstrated by the lack of direct engagement during RCMP collective bargaining and the 2022 Federal Assessment of RCMP Contract Policing.

UBCM Policy Position

The last RCMP police services agreements were negotiated in the years preceding 2012. The renewal of the 2012-2032 agreements is an emerging issue, and as such there is no policy specifically advocating for action related to this upcoming process.

However, the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking amendments to the RCMP cost-sharing framework that would be accomplished through amending, renewing or re-negotiating the police services agreements (2024-NR41, 2024-NR42, 2023-NR33, 2022-NR34, 2020-EB5, 2020-NR7, 2016-B75). The majority

of these endorsed resolutions have sought for a more gradual increase to the local government share of RCMP policing costs, in acknowledgement of the rising cost of policing and associated financial burden on local governments.

It should also be noted that the UBCM membership considered but did not endorse several resolutions that have sought to shift a portion of the cost burden to communities under 5,000 in population and unincorporated areas, where residents pay a lower rate for policing through the Police Tax (2021-NR6, 2021-NR7, 2016-B81).

At the national RCMP Contract Management Committee (CMC), local government representatives have consistently advocated for more direct consultation and engagement. This engagement has included a 2024 letter, signed by all local government associations represented on the CMC, requesting that the federal government:

- Enhance communication, engagement and information sharing.*
- Directly communicate with RCMP contract partners to enhance accountability and transparency.*
- Meaningfully consult with local governments, given the financial impacts of RCMP policing on communities.*
- Consider cost containment as part of the decision-making process.*

Current Status

In June 2024, following the federal assessment of RCMP contract policing, the federal government delivered letters to provinces and territories, committing to work on an approach to the renegotiation of the RCMP police services agreements. This provided RCMP contract partners with a measure of certainty that the federal government would continue to support the contract policing program beyond 2032. Public Safety Canada (PSC), when discussing this issue at the CMC table in 2024, advised that the federal government's intention was to begin contract negotiations by 2025/26.

However, this certainty began to fade earlier this year, when, as one of his last actions as Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau published a white paper advocating for the federal government to end its RCMP contract policing program, and instead focus on federal policing priorities. The white paper recommends that the federal government immediately begin working with provinces to support a transition out of the RCMP contract policing program.

Since that time, PSC's Senior Assistant Deputy Minister has conceded that the federal government is examining all options related to contract policing. PSC also acknowledged that it would be nearly impossible for the federal government to scale back or dissolve the contract policing program in the next 7-8 years, especially as no province or territory currently has the capacity to deliver these services by 2032. Public Safety Canada is currently working with Cabinet to get a mandate for re-negotiation.

The Province of BC is also considering recommendations made by the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, including whether to implement a new provincial police service to replace the RCMP. UBCM continues to oppose this option, citing a lack of evidence to support such a significant change.

Prior to the release of the outgoing Prime Minister's white paper, the federal government had expressed its preference for local governments to work through their respective provincial governments as part of the process to negotiate new RCMP police services agreements. Local government members of CMC have opposed this proposed approach, citing the importance of direct consultation with local governments that pay the majority of RCMP policing costs.

Conference decision: _____



SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90 percent) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21 percent of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6 percent in 2022;

And whereas the \$14 million of core funding from the Province that covers all 71 library systems in BC has not increased since 2010 while the population of BC grew by 29 percent and overall inflation went up 36 percent;

And whereas libraries are doing more to assist provincial objectives for the economic and social health of communities including: providing information and services for small businesses and individuals seeking employment; acting as critical locations of refuge during emergencies; operating as heating and cooling shelters; providing front-line community services by offering space and supporting patrons with mental health and addiction issues as well as barriers to housing; and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to recognize the evolving and challenging situation for public libraries as well as their unique role as community spaces, and increase the annual core provincial funding for libraries to \$30 million in keeping with the long-standing request made by the BC Public Library Partners and the recommendation of the Province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services;

And be it further resolved this increase in core funding be increased on a yearly basis in keeping with cost of living and inflationary pressures;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities to meet community needs.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to review, maintain and increase its funding for public libraries, including the following resolutions over the last 20 years:

- *2024-EB63 Sustainable and Equitable Funding of Library Services*
- *2024-NR67 Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries*
- *2023-EB54 Restoring Provincial Support for Public Libraries*
- *2022-EB59 Sustainable Funding for Libraries*
- *2020-EB41 Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels*
- *2019-B28 Rural Library Funding*
- *2019-B29 Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels*
- *2018-B24 Underfunding of Public Libraries*
- *2017-B60 Restoration of Previous Provincial Funding Levels for Public Libraries*
- *2016-B95 Allocation of Provincial Funding Grants for Regional and Municipal Libraries*
- *2014-B17 Library Funding as a Dedicated Line Item*
- *2012-B71 Reinstatement of Dedicated Line Item for Library Funding in BC*
- *2011-B27 Public Library Funding*
- *2010-B46 Restore and Maintain Funding for BC Libraries*

- 2008-B57 Public Library Funding
- 2007-B56 Operating Grant to BC Public Libraries New Provincial Programs
- 2006-B55 Funding for BC Public Libraries
- 2006-B56 Library Funding
- 2005-B54 Early Literacy

The Resolutions Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

Recent provincial legislation mandating housing growth and further regulating the ability of local governments to recover costs from developers caused by growth – including the need for more libraries – has created additional financial pressure.

See resolutions RR25, RR26, RR27, RR28, RR29

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution to consolidate many member resolutions asking the province to increase financial support to public libraries in recognition of their support in serving provincial objectives.

Public libraries are largely funded by local governments. The provincial government's contribution for the entire province is \$14 million for the 71 library systems across BC. This is virtually the same dollar amount the province provided in 2010 but is effectively much lower when the inflation of the last 15 years is taken into account.

Libraries are doing more each year to provide services that support provincial goals and responsibilities. According to the Association of BC Public Library Directors, public libraries “drive the economy by supporting job seekers, entrepreneurs, and small businesses, while advancing digital equity, reconciliation, and workforce readiness. Libraries are emergency response hubs, cooling centres, and trusted spaces for housing, mental health, and settlement support. They’re where people access opportunity, build skills, and connect with services.”

This resolution advocates for sustained, ongoing funding for BC’s public libraries to ensure they can continue their work to provide equitable, low-barrier access to vital information and technology, support job seekers and small businesses, promote literacy and lifelong learning, advance reconciliation and act as spaces of connection and belonging in a time of social isolation.

Previous one-off funding grants from the provincial government have helped with the specific initiatives being funded but did not address the underlying service gaps or help with the lack of predictable sustainable funds needed to plan for the growth in population and service requests.

The Province’s own Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services for the 2024 budget recommended the provincial government:

17. Increase permanent funding for public libraries to \$30 million annually with ongoing inflationary increases, and support services to rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

Committee members recognized the importance of libraries as community hubs which reduce isolation and increase access to resources, programs, and services. Further, they highlighted the fact that libraries do far more than provide books; they act as cooling and heating centres and are taking on a more vital role within communities with the advent of climate emergencies. Members agreed that libraries are crucial for those living in rural, remote, and First Nations communities as they may be the only place to access the internet and stay connected. They

acknowledge the increased costs and responsibilities of libraries and the need for funding to better reflect the expanded roles as well as increased inflation.

UBCM Policy Position

This resolution is consistent with existing policy that calls for increased long-term, predictable funding for library services.

Current Status

The Province did not support any increased funding for public libraries as requested in the 2024 resolutions. They also did not support resolution 2024-NR67's call to establish an Advisory Body under the Library Act to review core sustainable funding. The ministry indicated they value the contributions of local governments and library partners, and are willing to continue to engage in dialogue. The ministry believes a review could be effectively achieved through existing partnerships with library and local government sector stakeholders. There was no update on the Province's 2020 strategic plan that identified the need to address challenges with the current funding.

In 2023 the Province replied that they had heard the need for increased funding to supplement core local library funding from communities across the province and provided additional one-off funding of 45 million for public libraries, service partners and library federations in March 2023 in addition to the regular annual grants of 14 million. The funding was not repeated in 2024 or 2025.

In spring 2020, the Province released a new strategic plan for public libraries that focuses on ensuring that public library services are engaging, accessible and responsive to people's needs. The strategic plan also identified the need to address challenges with the current funding distribution framework. Under the strategy of Enhancing Governance, one of the actions is: Work with library stakeholders to revise the grant system so provincial library funding is more transparent, flexible, sustainable and equitable.

Conference decision: _____



Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

SR4 Supports for United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation

**Tla'amin First Nation,
UBCM Executive**

Whereas the Province has committed to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation, as described in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*;

And whereas the Province and UBCM have signed a memorandum of understanding supporting collaboration to advance reconciliation;

And whereas the Province and UBCM acknowledge that local government constitutes an order of government with a unique and special interest in Indigenous partnership development:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests that the Province support local governments to transform their approach to reconciliation with the development of a distinctions-based toolkit for UNDRIP implementation and associated funding.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has supported resolutions asking the Province to support local governments to implement UNDRIP, including by providing policy guidance to implement local government-specific recommendations (2024-EB58, 2021-EB77, 2019-A4, 2018-B23, 2018-B150).

The Committee notes that this is the first resolution submitted by a UBCM First Nation member. We welcome this resolution and encourage all members, local governments and First Nations, to submit their resolutions.

See resolution RR24

Background

BC government passed the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) in November 2019. The Act aims to create a framework for reconciliation in BC by aligning provincial laws with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). To achieve this, the Province released an action plan in March 2022 which includes action items related to First Nation participation on regional district boards and the naming of local governments.

All three member organizations of the First Nations Leadership Council – BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs – have passed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to explicitly legislate requirements for municipalities to implement UNDRIP.

The Province has adopted a distinctions-based approach to relationships with Indigenous Peoples (First Nation, Métis and Inuit) to advance reconciliation. This means BC's relations and dealings with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit will be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the specific context, recognizing and respecting the distinct and different histories, rights, laws, legal systems, and systems of governance. Indigenous Peoples' rights are recognized and affirmed in s.35 of the federal Constitution Act, however not all rights are uniform. The Province recognizes this diversity and, its relationships and engagement with First Nations, Métis and Inuit will include different approaches and result in different outcomes. To help build an understanding of the approach and the legal basis for it, the provincial government released a Distinctions-Based Approach Primer (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/indigenous-people/new-relationship/united-nations-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples/distinctions-based-approach>)

Local governments are providing more public services in areas of provincial responsibility without a corresponding growth in revenue. Local governments have limited options to raise revenue to pay for new pressures and responsibilities. There is an over-reliance on property taxation that never contemplated funding the service delivery and infrastructure gaps that are linked to provincial mandates. These cost pressures are pushing local governments to raise taxes, rely on provincial grants, or divert funds from core local responsibilities.

UBCM Policy Position

The Resolution Committee notes that UBCM members have endorsed several resolutions in support of Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, UNDRIP, DRIPA, and the Calls for Justice by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG2S) (2022-EB60, 2022-EB85, 2022-EB86, 2022-NR70, 2019-A4, 2019-LR4, 2018-B149, 2018-B150, 2015-B106).

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions requesting stable funding and support for local governments to successfully advance reconciliation, relationship building and engagement with First Nations (2024-EB58, 2023-EB72, 2021-EB77, 2018-B23).

Current Status

Over the course of this year, UBCM has been working with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) and Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs (MHA) on implementing the renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UBCM and the Province. Specifically, we are exploring ways that the Province can improve engagement with local governments during the negotiation of agreements with First Nations in a way that promotes reconciliation at the local level, support positive relationships, and advance

collaboration. The outcome of this work will be an engagement guide for MIRR negotiators to support strengthening local government engagement as an organizational practice.

UBCM recognizes that this work does not include the support, practical tools, resources and policy guidance that local governments are also looking for to implement UNDRIP at the local level. UBCM has urged HMA to prioritize developing guidance materials with capacity building resources tailored to the needs of local governments to ensure that local governments are equipped to play a constructive role in reconciliation efforts. Without guidance and resources from the Province, municipalities and regional districts are left to navigate this complex and sensitive issue on their own.

Cowichan Aboriginal Title Court Case

In a landmark decision in August 2025, the BC Supreme Court has granted the Cowichan Tribes Aboriginal title to 780 acres in the City of Richmond and an Aboriginal right to fish for food on the south arm of the Fraser River. In doing so, the Court invalidated fee simple title held by public bodies within the claim area, including land held in fee simple by the City of Richmond. While the claim included lands that were privately owned in fee simple and the Court declared Aboriginal title over those lands, the Court did not invalidate those titles because Cowichan Tribes did not seek the return of privately owned properties. Regardless, the Court said the Province has no jurisdiction to extinguish Aboriginal title through the granting of fee simple interests. Aboriginal title is recognized by section 35 of the Constitution Act and provides for exclusive use and occupation of the land. The Court found that the Province owes a duty to Cowichan Tribes to reconcile through negotiation the Crown granted fee simple interests with Cowichan Aboriginal title. The Province communicated publicly that it will appeal the decision.

Conference decision: _____



SR5 Infrastructure Funding

UBCM Executive

Whereas BC local governments are facing increasing challenges in meeting their infrastructure needs including: legislated housing growth and densification, existing and emerging environmental regulatory requirements, and addressing the existing infrastructure deficit;

And whereas local governments do not have financial tools linked to population and economic growth that could fund the capital renewal, expansion, and ongoing maintenance required;

And whereas delays in provincial permitting processes have significant consequences to the viability and ultimate costs of infrastructure projects;

And whereas local governments are increasingly taking on tasks that have historically been the responsibility of the provincial and federal government including providing lands and other financial supports for non-market and supportive housing, while also bearing costs related to medical emergency response, and managing encampments for growing numbers of unhoused British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province invest in a long-term, predictable, allocation-based funding program to support local government infrastructure servicing needs and stimulate growth of the provincial economy;

And be it further resolved that the Province invest in its own areas of responsibility including provincial infrastructure investments and provincial permitting processes required to support housing-related population growth.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2024-SR2, 2024-NR22, 2024-RR26, 2024-RR27, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB34, 2022-EB49, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34). Recent provincial legislation mandating housing growth and further regulating the ability of local governments to collect growth charges from developers is creating more financial pressure.

In 2021 the UBCM membership endorsed the Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency report that included a working partnership between the Province and UBCM to strengthen the local government finance system. UBCM signed an MOU with the Minister of Finance and Minister of Municipal Affairs in 2022 that led to the formation of the Local Government Financial Review Working Group. This Working Group has representatives from UBCM and both ministries with a work plan that includes reviewing the funding of growth-related infrastructure. The Working Group agreed to a shared problem statement recognizing the difficulties local governments report regarding infrastructure capital costs.

The Resolutions Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that request improvements and/or enhancements to both federal and provincial funding programs (2023-EB50, 2020-EB36, 2020-B40, 2016-B18, 2014-B19).

See resolutions RR37, RR38, RR39, RR40, RR41, RR42, RR43

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution as a means to consolidate recent UBCM resolutions and advocacy on the need for funding to support the infrastructure and services required for provincially-mandated housing growth, meeting existing and emerging environmental regulations, addressing climate resiliency, as well as seeking the provincial government to adequately fund services they are responsible for and improve provincial permitting processes.

UBCM's 2013 Strong Fiscal Futures and 2021 Ensuring Financial Resiliency reports had previously identified issues with the current financial framework. With limited revenue tools, members face the challenge of addressing existing infrastructure deficiencies while also expanding water, sewer, roads, and other infrastructure and services to address new growth.

They are also dealing with substantial costs associated with increased senior government regulations for health, safety and climate response. Consistent with UBCM's 2024 provincial election priorities, UBCM's 2025 Advocacy Days included an infrastructure investment ask that called for an immediate strategic stimulus investment in local government infrastructure based on the allocation model for the Canada Community-Building Fund and the creation of a long-term local government infrastructure program that transfers \$650 million annually to local governments.

UBCM estimates that \$24 billion in core infrastructure has to be replaced within the next 10 years. This includes things like water, wastewater, stormwater, transportation systems, parks and recreation – services that are essential for supporting housing growth. Further, public investment in local infrastructure is a proven tool for economic growth. Every dollar spent on infrastructure results in \$1.14 in gross domestic product growth; generates new business spin-offs; and creates well-paying jobs across multiple sectors.

While faced with new infrastructure demands, provincial permitting processes, such as archeological assessments and hydro connections, are increasingly acknowledged by local governments as impacting the pace and costs of infrastructure and housing development projects.

On top of these challenges, local governments increasingly provide services that have historically been the responsibility of the provincial and federal government. Members care deeply about their communities and have felt the need to step up and help address service deficiencies in areas ranging from emergency medical response to subsidized housing to community health centres. This support has significant financial costs that take property tax dollars away from the core local government services they were intended to pay for. The provincially-mandated housing growth further increases costs for local governments without providing the necessary financial support.

Services that are provincial responsibilities need to catch up and keep up with the population increases that will go along with the housing growth the Province has legislated. The membership has previously supported resolutions calling on the Province to respond to the health care crisis service-deficiencies that exist at current population levels. Specifically, resolution 2022-SR1 cited the critical need for additional family physicians, emergency room doctors, specialists, paramedics, and nurses across the province so that all residents of British Columbia can access an appropriate and necessary level of care. Local governments do not have the financial means to take on these responsibilities.

UBCM Policy Position

This resolution is consistent with existing policy that calls for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding.

Current Status

UBCM continues to have discussions with the provincial government on the continuation of the Local Government Financial Review Working Group and identification of opportunities to improve the financial resiliency of local governments.

Conference decision: _____

Section EB Resolutions Resolutions Supporting Existing Policy

Section EB are the Endorse Block of resolutions. Resolutions in the Endorse Block support existing policy and are recommended as Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

EB Resolutions are:

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

Included in Section EB are resolutions numbered:

EB1 – EB95

Section EB



Health and Social Development

EB1 Addressing Temporary Emergency Room Closures

Delta

Whereas access to emergency medical care is essential for the health and safety of all British Columbians;

And whereas ongoing staffing shortages are causing frequent emergency room closures across British Columbia, undermining public confidence in the healthcare system, and prompting Premier Eby, in his mandate letter to the Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, to acknowledge the need stating that the Minister "take necessary steps to address temporary emergency room closures":

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to provide health authorities with the necessary resources and support to recruit and retain emergency room physicians and healthcare professionals, ensuring all emergency departments remain open and fully staffed to deliver uninterrupted, 24/7 care across the province.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide health authorities with the necessary resources and support to recruit and retain emergency room physicians and healthcare professionals, ensuring all emergency departments remain open and fully staffed to deliver uninterrupted, 24/7 care across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system, including improved physician recruitment and retention, and the need for more health care professionals (2023-SR1, 2022-SR1, 2022-EB18, 2022-EB17, 2022-EB16, 2022-EB15, 2022-NR6, 2017-B42, 2015-B68, 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B154, 2005-B41, 2005-B146).

See resolutions NR8, RR3

Conference decision: _____

EB2 Streamlining Licensing for Out-of-Province and International Healthcare Professionals

Fort St. John

Whereas there is a significant shortage of healthcare professionals in the province, which impacts the availability and quality of healthcare services;

And whereas the current process for licensing out-of-province and internationally-trained healthcare professionals is lengthy and inefficient, resulting in delays filling critical positions and exacerbating the workforce shortage:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to streamline the licensing process for out-of-province and internationally-trained healthcare professionals, ensuring a more efficient pathway for these professionals to practice and contribute to addressing the healthcare workforce shortage in the province.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking additional resources, funding and training for health care professionals and the health care system, including:

- *reducing barriers for healthcare training opportunities (2024-EB11);*
- *supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system (2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146);*
- *improving physician recruitment and retention, and the need for more health care professionals (2018-B143, 2017-B42, 2015-B68, 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B154, 2005-B41);*
- *calling for greater opportunities for Canadian internationally-trained medical graduates to undertake postgraduate training and establish practices in BC (2018-B51, 2014-B132, 2012-B91, 2009-B148);*
- *working with universities and communities to encourage graduates of medical programs to practice and stay in rural areas of BC (2011-B60);*
- *developing appropriate changes in the Canadian medical education system required to ensure that general practitioners can meet the needs of rural Canadians, such as proficiency in surgery, anesthesia and obstetrics (2010-B112); and*
- *improving education and training opportunities for more health care professionals (2009-B148, 2008-B49).*

See resolution NR3

Conference decision: _____

EB3 Health System Modernization Engagement

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Province’s bilateral agreement with the federal government, the Canada–British Columbia Agreement to Work Together to Improve Health Care for Canadians (signed October 2023), commits more than \$3.8 billion over three years (2023–2026) to expand access to primary care, improve mental health and addictions services, reduce surgical backlogs, and modernize health data systems, and includes major health system transformations—such as new staffing models, digital tools and culturally safe services—without consistent local government consultation or engagement;

And whereas local governments increasingly bear the consequences of limited access to health services, including increased burdens on police, bylaw enforcement, housing supports, and emergency services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to work transparently and collaboratively with local governments in implementing its 2023–2026 Health Action Plan, and to ensure early and meaningful engagement with local governments in future bilateral health funding agreements, to align provincial health system changes with local infrastructure capacity, service delivery, and community priorities.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work transparently and collaboratively with local governments in implementing its 2023–2026 Health Action Plan, and to ensure early and meaningful engagement with local governments in future bilateral health funding agreements, to align provincial health system changes with local infrastructure capacity, service delivery, and community priorities.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently supported resolutions requesting greater consultation and engagement with the Province on policy, programs and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments. The membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB87 which asked the provincial government commit to review its consultation processes with/involving local governments, especially as they relate to legislative or regulatory changes that impact local governments, in order to facilitate better engagement practices, increase transparency amongst all interest holders, and, as a result, enable the richer, more timely exchange of information in order to benefit all parties involved in such processes.

Also, in 2024, the membership endorsed SR1, which asked that provincial government work with Regional Hospital Districts and UBCM to review the cost-sharing model for funding health capital projects in BC, and acknowledge that the reliance on property taxes to fund areas of provincial health care responsibility is inconsistent and unsustainable for BC local governments.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed 2019-SR1 which asked that the Province ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter be adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives.

Conference decision: _____

EB4 Provision of Free Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

Chetwynd

Whereas some British Columbia residents struggle with life-threatening allergies that can rapidly cause death if not treated immediately with an epinephrine auto-injector, or adrenaline auto-injector, also known as the EpiPen™, amongst other brands;

And whereas these adrenaline auto-injectors are expensive (\$100 plus) resulting in lower income and/or fixed income residents struggling to afford an adrenaline auto-injector, even with help from the current Pharmacare system;

And whereas Naloxone and other drug overdose reversing medications are covered free of charge by the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to develop an equitable system that would make available free of charge to lower income and/or fixed income residents adrenaline auto-injectors to ensure the health of all British Columbians who struggle with life-threatening allergies.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2018-B169 which asked the provincial government develop an equitable system that would make available, free of charge, all medications which could halt immediate death. With the preamble of the resolution noting “Whereas some British Columbia

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2016-B122 which asks the provincial and federal governments to develop and implement a national pharmacare program to improve the health outcomes of citizens, ensure fairness in access to medicine, and provide for greater efficiency and effectiveness in Canada's health care system.

Conference decision:

Sunshine Coast RD

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to review the funding model for volunteer fire departments to include reasonable and proportional funding from BC Hydro, BC Ambulance, and ICBC to reduce the burden on local taxpayers.



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2023-EB24, 2022-EB40, 2022-EB41, 2022-NR2, 2020-EB9, 2019-SR3, 2019-B9, 2019-B11, 2018-B5, 2018-B141, 2015-B17, 2014-A2, 2014-B15, 2013-B8, 2012-A6, 2011-B4, 2011-B5, 2010-B6, 2009-B14, 2009-B28, 2009-B69, 2009-B88, 2007-B10).

However, the Committee advises that the request for compensation from BC Hydro has not been previously considered by the membership.

Conference decision:

Merritt

And whereas this increase in calls can be directly attributed to the prehospital patient care provided by fire departments in response to the opioid crisis and limited resources of the Provincial BC Ambulance Service;

And whereas many first responder agencies have signed agreements to provide this service without any financial funding to support the increased service requests required in their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to develop a funding model to compensate local governments who provide emergency medical services through their fire and rescue services fulfilling the responsibility of the provincial government with consideration given to community population and the fire departments authorized level of emergency medical response.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of medical services by local first responders (2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14).

Conference decision: _____

EB7 BC Ambulance Service

Prince George

Whereas agreements between BC local governments and BCEHS regarding local government fire services providing pre-hospital care lapsed in 2010;

And whereas provincial investment and staffing have not kept pace with the growing demand for emergency medical services and pre-hospital care causing local governments to increasingly become involved through their fire rescue services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to finalize agreements with BC local governments as soon as possible and include a funding component to compensate local governments providing emergency medical services and pre-hospital care through their fire and rescue services for related costs including, but not limited to, medical supplies and training.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14).

Conference decision: _____

EB8 Rural Health Transportation

Nelson

Whereas residents in rural areas face significant challenges in accessing timely and quality health care due to long travel distances, difficult terrain, and adverse weather conditions, further exacerbated by the lack of robust public transit options in rural areas;

And whereas ensuring equitable access to health care requires strategic investments in transportation infrastructure, enhanced regional transit services, and collaboration between the provincial government, local health authorities, local governments, and community organizations to develop tailored solutions for rural communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to prioritize the improvement of health care transportation infrastructure in rural areas by:

1. Providing funding and support for a comprehensive regional transit system tailored to the unique needs of rural communities, including inter-community transit links that facilitate access to health services; and
2. Working collaboratively with local health authorities, local governments, and community organizations to develop and implement strategies that ensure equitable and reliable access to medical care for all residents.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking improvements to the provision and funding of public transit in small, rural and remote communities (2024-EB81, 2024-EB82, 2023-EB60, 2023-EB61, 2023-NR75, 2023-NR77, 2020-SR4, 2020-EB17, 2018-B63, 2017-B8, 2017-B9, 2015-B9).

As well as endorsing numerous resolutions seeking improved and more equitable access to health care services in rural and remote areas of the province and funding for medical travel if services are not available near a patient's home (2024-NR10, 2023-SR1, 2023-EB7, 2022-EB15, 2019-B62, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146). The UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR64 which asked the Province for a strategy to expand rural and remote community health care services.

Conference decision: _____

EB9 Implementation of Provincially Mandated Accessibility West Kelowna
and Inclusion Plans

Whereas the *Accessible BC Act* reflects the provincial government's commitment to fostering a society where individuals with disabilities can participate fully and equally;

And whereas the implementation of the Act is contingent upon the availability of resources to support local governments in meeting the outlined requirements;

And whereas solutions which support accessibility require the involvement of all stakeholders, including local governments, community organizations and the Province working together to achieve key objectives, a unified approach is necessary to effectively address the needs of disabled persons across the province;

And whereas the financial burden of implementing these accessibility initiatives will disproportionately impact local taxpayers, despite the Province allocating funding for critical areas like housing and environmental management, it has failed to provide equitable financial support for accessibility initiatives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to allocate annual grant funding specifically for audits, expert consultant assistance, and capital improvements to assist local governments in implementing accessibility initiatives identified in provincially mandated accessibility plans;

And be it further resolved that the Province work alongside local governments to make the goal of accessibility become a reality by ensuring local governments have the necessary resources to provide essential training in the field.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions seeking funding from the Province to support local governments to develop and implement accessibility recommendations and plans (2024-EB15, 2023-NR3).

The Committee notes that the Province has created two funding programs for local governments, though neither provide annual funding. SPARC BC offers local governments up to \$25,000 to undertake projects for the built environment; education and awareness; development of policy and programs; modeling inclusive practices; strengthening communication and engagement; or to explore the use of assistive devices and technologies to support active participation and engagement of persons with disabilities. Disability Alliance BC offers approximately \$3,500 per local government to meet their three requirements. Disability Alliance of BC also offers a dedicated staff person who provides information on the requirements and assists organizations in meeting the requirements.

The sponsor has noted that 'essential training local governments' refers to training in-house municipal staff which ultimately reduces reliance on costly consultants to perform accessibility audits and identify accessibility improvements. This includes training in areas such as facilities, transportation and infrastructure, communications and engagement, parks and trails, recreation and culture, which all represent different challenges in accessibility.

Conference decision: _____

EB10 Enhancing a Collaborative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Approach to Food Security and Well-Being

Langley City

Whereas food insecurity remains a critical issue in British Columbia, exacerbated by climate change, economic instability, and supply chain disruptions, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, Indigenous communities, and socioeconomically disadvantaged regions;

And whereas a resilient and inclusive food system requires sustained investment, cross-sector collaboration, and policies that integrate infrastructure development, technological innovation, cultural food systems, and community-driven approaches to ensure equitable access to nutritious food, economic resilience, and regional food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with local governments to develop and implement a comprehensive food security and well-being strategy that ensures sustainable investment in local food systems, strengthens regional and provincial food networks, promotes innovation in agriculture and food technology, and enhances access to culturally appropriate, affordable, and nutritious food for all communities.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the Province to ensure food security for British Columbians, including resolutions 2022-NR8, 2019-B66, 2011-B100, 2011-B101, 2014-A3.

Conference decision: _____

EB11 Continue Funding Programs for Local Poverty Reduction Initiatives Burnaby

Whereas the cost of basic goods and services continues to increase for people living in poverty and other low-income British Columbians;

And whereas the provincial government is encouraging local governments and community partners to support the updated targets set to reduce the overall poverty rate, child poverty rate and seniors' poverty rate without adequate resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to establish an ongoing funding program in partnership with the UBCM to support communities in implementing local poverty reduction initiatives.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions addressing a variety of issues seeking poverty reduction, including:

- *increasing income assistance rates (2023-NR4, 2022-EB13, 2018-B163, 2016-B120, 2015-B45, 2014-B12, 2013-B55, 2013-B130, 2011-B175, 2006-B171, 2005-B51);*
- *implementing a universal basic income (2024-EB16, 2023-EB17, 2022-EB14);*
- *enhancing coordinated health and social support programs for seniors across BC (2023-NR5, 2022-EB12, 2018-B53, 2017-B51, 2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2011-B63, 2007-B152, 2006-B162);*
- *creating a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2024-EB17, 2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2021-EB68, 2020-NR68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156);*
- *increasing rental assistance rates (2022-NR13, 2017-B53, 2015-B45, 2014-B44); and*
- *funding, providing and facilitating affordable and adequate housing across BC, with adequate support services to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).*

The Committee also notes that UBCM previously administered a poverty reduction planning and action grant for local governments. In 2020, the provincial government provided \$5 million over three years in an effort to reduce poverty and advance the Province's poverty reduction strategy. Funds for this program have been disbursed, and applications are no longer being accepted.

See resolution NR10

Conference decision: _____

EB12 Strengthening Supported Child Development Mission

Whereas the Supported Child Development (SCD) program in British Columbia enables children with developmental and diverse abilities to participate in licensed childcare by providing consultation and funding for extra support staff;

And whereas current SCD funding is inadequate to meet demand, resulting in waitlists, limited service delivery, and significant hardship for families:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Ministry of Children and Family Development urging increased funding to the Supported Child Development program to ensure:

- i. Timely and sufficient support for all eligible children;
- ii. The capacity of SCD programs to meet demand without rationing services; and
- iii. That parents and caregivers can maintain employment and provide for their families.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2021-EB68 which asked the Province to increase funding for Supported Child Development.

More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting that the Province create a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2020-NR68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156).

Conference decision: _____

EB13 Mental Health and Addictions Resources for Youth

Parksville

Whereas increasing mental health and addiction issues amongst youth (18 - 28 years), combined with a lack of mental health and addictions resources and services, is a growing problem in local governments across British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for youth mental health and addictions services throughout the province;

And be it further resolved that the province report out on deliverables and results of expenditures on mental health and addictions supports for youth with an analysis of the effectiveness of implemented programs.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-EB1, 2024-EB2, 2024-EB3, 2024-EB5, 2024-EB6, 2024-EB7, 2024-NR3, 2024-NR6, 2023-SR3, 2023-EB1, 2022-EB9, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2010-B143, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3). In particular, resolution 2010-B143 asked the Province to implement a further avenue of support for youth struggling with addiction and substance abuse when all other options for intervention and voluntary treatment have failed, similar to programs available in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba where detox and treatment options are available to families whose youth struggling with abuse have refused treatment.

However, the Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered resolutions focused only on youth, and with the specific requests of the Province providing improved resourcing and facilities for youth mental health and addictions services throughout the province; and to report out on deliverables and results of expenditures on mental health and addictions supports for youth.

Conference decision: _____

EB14 Strategy for Rehabilitation, Homelessness and Public Safety

**Castlegar,
Nelson,
Trail**

Whereas individuals facing severe mental health and addiction challenges require comprehensive and coordinated care, and the current resources in BC are insufficient to meet the growing demand for detoxification, rehabilitation, and supportive housing, leading to inadequate treatment and forcing individuals to leave their home communities for essential services;

And whereas communities in British Columbia have experienced a significant increase in the street population, leading to heightened concerns about public safety, community well-being, and the challenges associated with mental health, substance abuse, and public disorder, while current policing resources remain insufficient to effectively address these complex issues:

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

- Increase funding and resources to expand and enhance detox and rehabilitation services across BC;
- Establish initiatives that foster collaboration among local governments, government agencies, healthcare providers, nonprofit organizations, and community members to ensure effective coordination, resource allocation, and holistic support for individuals undergoing detox and rehabilitation;
- Develop a provincial strategy to address homelessness by increasing funding for housing, shelter, and treatment services; and
- Provide dedicated funding streams for local governments facing increased street population challenges, including direct grants through the Provincial Policing and Public Safety Fund, additional allocations to the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch, and enhanced federal contributions under the Reaching Home program to support specialized policing units, mental health crisis response teams, and community safety initiatives.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-EB5, 2024-EB6, 2024-EB8, 2024-NR1, 2024-NR2, 2024-NR3, 2024-NR6, 2023-SR3, 2023-EB1, 2023-EB2, 2023-EB3, 2022-EB9, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

It is worthwhile to note that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to address mental health and addictions in rural and remote communities, including:

- *2019-B61 which asked for more funding for detox and rehabilitation throughout the Province, particularly in rural and remote communities;*
- *2010-B145 which asked, in part, for more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment*

- beds, to be made available in every local government in BC;
- 2007-B51 which asked for more funding for detox centres in more areas of the Province; and
- 2006-B8 which asked for more regional detox centres.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services and shelters to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR28, 2022-NR22, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported public safety-focused resolutions, including crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67, 2005-B3); and the request to consider public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and furthermore that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes “the public interest” with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36). In 2020, the Province announced its intent to review the Police Act, subsequently creating the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA). In its final report, the SCRPA recommended that the Province “create and appropriately fund a continuum of response to mental health, addictions and other complex social issues with a focus on prevention and community-led responses and ensuring appropriate first response.” This issue was also prioritized by UBCM and the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable, which is currently working with the Province to address policing modernization.

Conference decision: _____



EB15 Funding Off-Site Works for Affordable Housing

Smithers

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has made significant investments in housing initiatives to address homelessness and housing affordability, including programs such as the Community Housing Fund, Rapid Response to Homelessness, and the Supportive Housing Fund, which aim to provide immediate and long-term housing solutions for vulnerable populations; yet sometimes underfund the cost to deliver the required infrastructure upgrades;

And whereas local governments and non-profit organizations face substantial financial barriers when undertaking affordable housing projects, including off-site works such as infrastructure upgrades, which are critical to the long-term sustainability of supportive housing projects but often fall outside the scope of existing funding programs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government and BC Housing to complete all housing project off-site works to local government standards or provide direct funding to local governments to undertake the works required to ensure the sustainability of local government infrastructure and the long-term viability of affordable housing projects.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for increased infrastructure funding, including infrastructure that supports the creation of affordable housing (2023-UBCM 2025 Resolutions Book

EB11), funding to offset the waiving of development fees for attainable housing (2024-NR22), and funding as it relates to provincially mandated housing growth (2024-SR3, 2024-EB17, 2024-NR84, 2023-EB11, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2012-A1).

More generally, the membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2024-NR26, 2022-EB26, 2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50).

Conference decision: _____

EB16 Housing Requires Urgent Action

Victoria

Whereas communities across BC are in a housing crisis characterized by insufficient housing supply and escalating costs, and a particularly urgent need for more homes in the affordable end of the housing spectrum;

And whereas the *National Housing Strategy Act* has stated that there is a human right to housing, and housing is a key determinant of individual health and well-being and is essential for businesses and communities to thrive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC Government to take urgent action in partnership with all levels of government to dramatically increase the supply of housing of all types across the housing spectrum and funding for the creation of cooperative and non-market affordable housing.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

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

Therefore be it resolved the BC Government take urgent action in partnership with all levels of government to dramatically increase the supply of **affordable** housing ~~with of all types across the housing spectrum and~~, funding for the creation of cooperative and non-market affordable housing.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy including plans to address homelessness (2022-NR22, 2022-NR64, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2017-B52, 2017-B98, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on towards supporting a variety of types of affordable housing. This includes resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities including cooperative and non-market housing, to in part, address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2023-NR21, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-EB25, 2022-NR64, 2021-EB75, 2021-LR5, 2019-B30, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B46, 2014-B47, 2013-B53, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2008-B158, 2007-B24, 2006-A2, 2006-B81, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50).

The Committee is proposing an amendment to emphasize the need for increased supply of affordable housing specifically, consistent with existing policy.

Conference decision: _____

EB17 Long-Term Supported Housing

Maple Ridge

Whereas local governments are seeing the need for next stage housing for vulnerable residents and those transitioning from homelessness beyond supportive or transitional housing;

And whereas there is a need for building a broad spectrum of housing supply and supports in rapidly growing communities such as in the Lower Mainland region:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocates that the Province work with not for profits to further build next stage long-term independent, supported housing units.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate a broad range of affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-SR3, 2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81). As well, the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2021-LR5.

Conference decision: _____

EB18 The Village Model of Housing

Duncan

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has yet to include the Village Model of housing in the Homes for People Action Plan as part of the housing continuum;

And whereas the Village Model of housing has been replicated in communities across British Columbia and Canada as a proven, scalable strategy to rapidly meet the immediate shelter needs of the unhoused population including support services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to amend the Homes for People Action Plan to include the Village Model of housing as part of the housing continuum along with a mechanism to ensure this model receives regular and ongoing funding from BC Housing.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2023-NR26 submitted by the same sponsor that asked the Province to implement the Village Model as part of the supportive housing continuum and provide a mechanism for this model to receive continued funding from BC Housing.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

The Committee further notes a definition of “The Village” model includes sleeping units, with communal eating and gathering spaces and washroom facilities, and robust support services, as part of the supportive housing continuum.

Conference decision: _____

EB19 Advancing Home Relocation and Deconstruction in British Columbia

North Vancouver District

Whereas approximately 3,200 single-family homes are demolished each year across British Columbia to make way for higher-density development, according to the Building Relocation and Deconstruction Association of British Columbia;

And whereas the average 1,500 square foot wood-framed home is constructed from 40 to 60 mature trees, contains approximately 100 tons of material, and represents an estimated 23 tons of embodied carbon;

And whereas the rate of residential demolitions is projected to increase by 35 percent over the next decade as local governments implement policies that encourage urban densification;

And whereas local governments across British Columbia and jurisdictions worldwide are demonstrating policy leadership by promoting home relocation and deconstruction as environmentally responsible and economically beneficial alternatives to conventional demolition:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to develop and commit to a plan to see more single-family homes that are slated for demolition, instead be relocated or deconstructed.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop and commit to a plan to see more single-family homes that are slated for demolition, instead be relocated or deconstructed.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions 2022-EB51 and 2021-NR35 which sought to reduce construction and demolition waste. Notably, 2021-NR35 called on the Province to develop a plan including changes to regulations, procurement policy and economic and industrial policy to significantly reduce construction and demolition waste.

The membership has also endorsed resolution 2010-B90 which called for the creation of an extended producer responsibility program for construction waste. Furthermore, the membership has also endorsed the development of a Circular Economy strategy to design out waste and keep products and materials in use (2021-EB38).

Conference decision: _____

EB20 Speculation Housing and Vacancy Tax in Rural Communities

Nelson

Whereas the provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax was introduced to address housing affordability in communities facing housing challenges by discouraging property speculation and vacant homes;

And whereas each community experiences unique housing challenges, including a limited rental market, housing affordability, seasonal property use, and the economic reliance on part-time residents, which makes a one size fits all model inappropriate in many of our communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the provincial government to ensure all local governments have the authority to opt in to the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program based on housing availability and community needs.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB28 which asked the Province to give all BC communities the option to opt-in to the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions which asks the Province to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2023-EB14, 2020-EB33, 2020-NR69, 2019-B19, 2019-B181, 2018-A3, 2017-B91).

Conference decision: _____

EB21 Speculation and Vacancy Tax

Kitimat

Whereas the Government of British Columbia introduced the Speculation and Vacancy Tax to address housing availability by incentivizing the utilization of vacant properties for the benefit of BC residents;

And whereas the provincial government continues to expand the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to include additional communities, promoting increased affordable housing stock across the province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the provincial government to grant BC municipalities the option to opt into the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program, specifically targeting properties that have been vacant for two or more years.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB28 which asked the Province to give all BC communities the option to opt-in to the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax. While this was a broad request, it encompasses the scenario envisioned by the sponsor that the option to opt-in applies to properties that have been vacant for two or more years, to be subject to the tax.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions which asks the Province to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2023-EB14, 2020-EB33, 2020-NR69, 2019-B19, 2019-B181, 2018-A3, 2017-B91).

Conference decision: _____



Community Safety

EB22 Increase Funding for Wildfire Prevention

Chase

Whereas wildfire seasons are worsening due to climate change and wind-driven wildfire embers are responsible for igniting structures in up to 90 percent of wildfire-related losses;

And whereas home hardening and fire-resilient landscaping is a cost effective ways to mitigate a community against a wildfire disaster:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to increase financial commitments for wildfire prevention in the Wildland-Urban Interface by providing funding to harden community infrastructure against wildfire threats, support the drafting and implementation of policies and bylaws that enhance wildfire resilience, and offer resources and incentives to assist homeowners in improving the wildfire resilience of their properties.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM is the program administrator for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports (FCFS) program. FCFS provides funding to local governments and First Nations and funding is available to harden eligible community infrastructure against wildfire threats and to support the drafting of policies and bylaws that enhance wildfire resilience. Incentives to assist homeowners in improving the wildfire resilience of their properties are also available through the FCFS program, including funding for rebates, mitigation work, and vegetation debris disposal for eligible home and property owners. In addition, FireSmart BC and FireSmart Canada provide a vast array of resources for communities and home owners to enhance wildfire resilience.

In addition, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2019-B13 which asked the Province to support and implement changes to its wildfire mitigation practices to significantly fund Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fuels treatments, provide fire resilient communities and to maintain an effective wildfire response capability.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR34, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2021-NR10, 2020-EB12, 2020-NR12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

EB23 FireSmart and Wildfire Mitigation Funding

West Kelowna

Whereas the Province of BC continues to face devastating wildfire events year after year and the risk of these events continues to climb, while the Province spends hundreds of millions of dollars on wildfire suppression, yet the amount dedicated to local governments for wildfire prevention via the Community Resilience Investment Grant is exponentially smaller;

And whereas In April 2024, the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies called the FireSmart program a "success story" but recommended "building capacity to expedite wildfire risk reduction projects" and "streamline administrative requirements, and providing more year-over-year certainty for communities applying for FireSmart funding";

And whereas while improvements are being made, portions of the existing grant process is onerous and resource intensive, and does not allow for long-term planning:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of British Columbia to dedicate additional grant funds to wildfire prevention and further ease and simplify the program, fully changing the process from a competition-based application process to an allocation-based formula for a term of at least five years to reduce red tape, and allow for future planning and more effective prevention-based response;

And be it further resolved that UBCM work with the Province of British Columbia to reduce the grant approval timelines to less than 30 days.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB28, also from the same sponsor, that made a nearly identical request, asking the Province to dedicate additional grant funds to wildfire prevention and further ease and simplify the program, changing the process from a competition-based application process to an allocation-based formula to reduce red tape, and allow for future planning and more effective prevention-based response.

The Ministry of Forests responded to 2023-EB28 with the following, “Starting in 2024, First Nations and local governments with a higher risk of wildfire—generally demonstrated by risk class 1 to 3—that have a FireSmart Position, participate in a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committee, and have an acceptable Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan/Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be eligible to receive FireSmart Community Funding and Supports for FireSmart activities through an allocation-based model. This will support communities with longer-term planning and reduce administrative burdens. Under the allocation-based model, recipients will be required to submit a brief allocation-based funding request form to confirm that the eligibility criteria have been met. If approved, recipients would receive an approval agreement which includes the terms and conditions of the grant.”

The Committee notes that recipients of allocation-based funding will be advised of the status of their application within 60 days of submitting a complete, eligible request.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR34, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2021-NR10, 2020-EB12, 2020-NR12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

EB24 Initial Fire Attack Crew Relocation

Chetwynd

Whereas the BC Wildfire Initial Attack Crews are a critical component of the wildfire response and rapid wildfire suppression in the Province of British Columbia;

And whereas Initial Fire Attack Crew Base locations are key to providing timely wildfire suppression efforts, especially in remote and rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide the necessary funding to return and maintain all Initial Fire Attack Crew Bases in their current locations, and not relocate them without significant local stakeholder consultation.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a near identical resolution, 2024-NR34 which asked the Province to maintain the Initial Fire Attack Crew Bases in their current locations, and not relocate them without significant local stakeholder consultation.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-EB34, 2024-NR35, 2024-NR36, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2020-EB12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

EB25 Referendum for the Replacement of Fire Apparatus

Salmo

Whereas local governments need to replace aging fire apparatus to ensure continued effective emergency response capabilities;

And whereas pursuant to local government legislation, a referendum is required for the authorization to spend public funds to replace fire apparatus, and the process of holding a referendum can bring significant costs to local governments, in particular small communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to remove the requirement to hold a referendum to replace fire apparatus for local governments under 15,000 in population.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR53, which asked the Province to enact legislation to permit regional districts to utilize long-term borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority over the life-span of fire apparatus without the requirement to go to referendum, subject to the service having been established through a referendum process. In response, the Province advised that in the interest of "public accountability on long-term council decisions," it would not consider removing the elector approval requirement.

The membership also endorsed resolution 2023-NR32, which asked the Province to, in part, enact legislation that permits local governments to utilize long-term borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority over a 20-year period, without the requirement to go to referendum or Alternative Approval Process.

The Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking flexibility from the Fire Underwriters Survey in setting requirements and guidelines to accommodate the particular challenges faced by fire services, in particular to extend the life-span of fire apparatus (2022-EB38, 2021-EB8, 2021-EB9, 2020-EB11, 2016-B5, 2014-B49, 2011-B2, 2009-B5, 2008-B60).

Conference decision: _____

EB26 Fire Inspections and Investigations

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the *Fire Safety Act* came into effect on August 1, 2024 and now requires local governments to appoint fire investigators / inspectors across their jurisdictions but in particular for those areas that may not have fire protection or are challenging to access (due to remoteness);

And whereas local governments, particularly in rural and remote areas, face significant logistical and resource challenges and do not have staff or funding in place to do inspections/investigations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government, as stated in the recently released *Fire Safety Act*, have the Local Fire Service Advisors perform fire inspections and investigations for regional districts and have it be continued in perpetuity.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2018-SR3 which sought “one standard of fire safety” throughout BC, including for regional districts, and reiterated to the Province that UBCM does not support regional districts as the vehicle for implementing the Province’s direction regarding one standard of fire safety.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed similar resolutions, but these resolutions applied to all local governments, rather than just to regional districts:

- *2019-A1 which asked the Province to expedite the enactment of legislation requiring provincial safety regulations to be enforced by the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments; and*
- *2015-A3 which asked the Province to provide the resources necessary to inspect and enforce provincial safety regulations, including the Fire Services Act and its regulations, through either the Office of the Fire Commissioner or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments.*

UBCM and the OFC have established the Single Standard of Fire Safety Working Group (SSFSWG), to address local government concerns and to work through implementation of the Fire Safety Act in regional districts. Primary concerns identified by regional districts include a lack of expertise, capacity and funding to undertake new responsibilities. Through the SSFSWG, the OFC and UBCM reached an outcome that will allow the OFC to perform fire inspections and investigations on behalf of regional districts, when asked by the regional district.

Recognizing that this approach is not what was proposed in the Act, and is only possible by using transition provisions, UBCM and the local government members of the SSFSWG have requested that the Act be amended once it has been brought into force to ensure that the OFC’s role in supporting fire inspections and investigations becomes formalized in the Act as a permanent solution.

Conference decision: _____

EB27 Implementation of the BC Flood Strategy to Protect Flood-Prone Communities

Kent

Whereas more than three years have passed after the November 2021 atmospheric river emergency with an estimated \$8.7 - \$14.2B in economic losses;

And whereas flood security in the Lower Fraser has not been addressed and the Province is not advancing the BC Flood Strategy;

And whereas our communities, in the Fraser Valley, are committed to collaborating with First Nations to reduce flood risk in line with the Sendai Framework and the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the Province supports the BC Flood Strategy by investing in floodplain solutions to support dialogue between local governments, First Nations, and provincial staff and to ensure effective governance, policy, and funding support for the strategy's implementation.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to support the BC Flood Strategy by investing in floodplain solutions to support dialogue between local governments, First Nations, and provincial staff; and, ensure effective governance, and policy, and funding support for the strategy's implementation. However, the membership did endorse resolution 2022-SR3, which called on the Province to increase its funding and assume greater responsibility for flood preparedness and mitigation.

The Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting support and/or funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2024-EB35, 2022-SR3, 2021-EB6, 2020-SR1, 2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B123, 2018-B94, 2018-B37, 2016-B56, 2015-B97, 2015-B7, 2014-B76).

In March 2024, the Province introduced, "From Flood Risk to Resilience: a BC Flood Strategy to 2035." The Flood Strategy outlines the Province's direction for flood management, and includes 25 concepts to improve flood resilience. The Province is currently working to develop materials associated with the BC Flood Strategy, including "Wise Practices for Advancing First Nations and Local Government Partnerships for Integrated Flood Management," and guidance for integrated flood management planning.

Conference decision: _____

EB28 Modernize the Police Cost Sharing Formulas

Merritt

Whereas inflation, rising equipment costs, and increasing officer salaries have made the existing cost sharing formulas and RCMP costs unsustainable for local governments;

And whereas local governments have no ability to negotiate or regulate the rising costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to work with local governments to develop a new RCMP funding framework that gradually increases the cost-share rate for local governments.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions seeking a more gradual increase to RCMP costs for local governments (2024-NR42, 2023-NR34, 2022-NR33, 2020-EB5, 2016-B75).

The membership has also endorsed resolutions seeking various changes to police funding models (2024-NR40, 2024-NR41, 2020-NR7).

In 2020, the Province announced its intent to review the Police Act, subsequently creating the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA). In its final report, the SCRPA recommended that the Province "create a fair and equitable shared funding model for municipalities" that includes "exploring options to phase in or incrementally increase the municipal share of policing costs." These issues were also prioritized by UBCM and the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable, which is currently working with the Province to address policing modernization.

The cost-sharing framework for municipalities over 5,000 in population that receive RCMP policing services is outlined in the 20-year Municipal Police Unit Agreement (MPUA) that these municipalities have signed with the Province, and which does not expire until March 31, 2032.

See resolutions SR2, EB29, EB30, RR15, RR16

Conference decision: _____

EB29 Managing Policing Contract Costs Through Engagement In RCMP Collective Bargaining

Terrace

Whereas under the BC *Police Act*, municipalities with a population of over 5,000 are responsible for providing and bearing the necessary expenses of policing and law enforcement within their municipal boundaries;

And whereas under the Municipal Police Service Agreement, the provincial government may subcontract the RCMP to municipalities to achieve this requirement (an agreement that the vast majority of municipalities over 5,000 in population in BC utilize):

Therefore be it resolved that in an effort to manage contract costs to municipalities, that UBCM lobby the federal government to meaningfully engage with provinces and territories during RCMP collective bargaining processes.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that UBCM, through the RCMP Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC) and national RCMP Contract Management Committee (CMC), has consistently sought for the federal government to engage directly with local governments as part of the collective bargaining process.

Most recently, in December 2024, UBCM's President delivered correspondence to the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, requesting a meeting to discuss BC local government priorities pertaining to RCMP collective bargaining. UBCM's letter can be accessed here: <https://www.ubcm.ca/sites/default/files/2025-05/2024-12-03%20UBCM%20to%20S.%20Diotte%20re%20Third%20Round%20of%20RCMP%20Collective%20Bargainin%20g.pdf>.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the Municipal Police Unit Agreement and RCMP Collective Agreement are separate agreements. The Municipal Police Unit Agreement is between BC local governments and the Province, for the provision of RCMP police services. The RCMP Collective Agreement is between the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and National Police Federation (representing affected RCMP Members). Both agreements include financial impacts for BC local governments that receive RCMP police services.

See resolutions SR2, EB28, EB30, RR15, RR16

Conference decision: _____

EB30 Police Services Funding Model

Langley City

Whereas systemic social issues outside of a municipality's mandate, such as poverty, addiction, and mental health challenges, contribute to increased call volumes and demands on police services, creating high police services costs that are further exacerbated by the need to respond to and manage the impacts of these systemic social issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to develop an equitable Police Services funding program for all BC municipalities and regional districts that takes into account the financial capacity and population size of each jurisdiction, as well as the additional demands placed on police services due to systemic social issues outside of a municipality's mandate.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that UBCM, through the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable (LGPMR), has advocated for the Province to:

- *Create and fund a coordinated continuum of response to mental health, addictions and complex social issues; and*
- *Develop, in partnership with local governments, a more fair and equitable shared funding model between all policing partners in BC.*

These recommendations were included as part of UBCM's August 2022 submission, Preliminary Local Government Input into Public Safety Modernization, which can be accessed here: <https://www.ubcm.ca/sites/default/files/2022-09/2022-08-18%20UBCM%20Submission%20to%20PSSG%20re%20SCRPA%20Recommendations%20FINAL.pdf>.

The LGPMR is a forum for ongoing consultation, and where local governments may share their experience and knowledge and bring forward matters of interest or concerns respecting policing modernization, the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act's recommendations, and other public safety priorities. The UBCM Executive has appointed 15 local government representatives to the LGPMR, which is co-chaired by UBCM and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking various changes to police funding models (2024-NR40, 2024-NR41, 2020-NR7).

See resolutions SR2, EB28, EB29, RR15, RR16

Conference decision: _____

EB31 Funding for 911 Services

Sooke

Whereas the existing funding structure of the 911 emergency communications system does not account for internet and cellular revenues flowing to telecommunications companies, meaning that cellular users do not pay for the 911 services available primarily through cell phones:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to work with local governments and telecommunications service providers to implement a 911 levy on cellular devices, to address current and future financial challenges associated with the delivery of 911 services.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking the creation of a call answer levy on cellular devices to fund 911 emergency services (2023-SR2, 2021-EB7, 2012-LR1, 2011-B13, 2009-B10).

The membership also endorsed a more wide-ranging resolution 2022-EB42 which asked the Province to work with UBCM to develop a new provincial mandate and structure for 911 service delivery, with a focus on improving the governance, funding and operations. As well, the membership endorsed 2024-EB40, which asked for a governance review "...with a goal to assure reliable, affordable, and sustainable services for all communities."

Conference decision: _____

EB32 Addressing Repeat Offenders

Nelson

Whereas repeat offenders, particularly those involved in property crimes, pose a significant threat to community safety and well-being, contributing to increased fear, financial loss, and a decline in community trust;

And whereas current measures, including sentencing and bail provisions, have proven insufficient in deterring repeat offenders and ensuring public safety, necessitating stronger sentencing guidelines and reforms to prevent high-risk individuals from reoffending while awaiting trial:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to implement stronger sentencing guidelines for repeat offenders, including harsher penalties and more stringent probation requirements;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to collaborate with the federal government to pursue necessary bail reforms that enhance public safety and effectively address the issue of repeat offenders.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking provincial and/or federal action, including stricter enforcement measures, to address repeat offenders:

- *consider public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and furthermore that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes "the public interest" with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36);*
- *impose weightier consequences and greater accountability for repeat offenders, thereby supporting the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities (2022-NR37);*
- *enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, as well as the consistent use of electronic monitoring when individuals are released on conditions (2021-NR3); and*
- *ensure prolific offenders are "sentenced effectively," and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54).*

The Committee also notes that, in 2023, UBCM joined all other Western Canada local government associations in formally calling for the federal government to take immediate action to strengthen Canada's bail system.

See resolutions NR56, RR18, RR19

Conference decision: _____

EB33 Victim Services Program Funding

Merritt

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

And whereas a variety of agencies and local governments deliver victim services programs in different communities, with varying degrees of expertise and resources;

And whereas the funding formula for victim services is built around population it does not take into consideration the absence of a community based program resulting in the responsibility falling on local police based programs along with additional responsibilities of committees, such as being the facilitator for Integrated Case Assessment Teams (ICAT):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to fully fund all victim services programs in British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to increase funding for victim services programs (2024-EB32, 2020-EB2, 2019-B6, 2017-B5, 2017-B56, 2015-B4, 2014-B4).

Local governments are not required to fund victim services programs, although some do provide financial contributions. The membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2016-B83, which requested that UBCM work with the Province to develop a mandatory funding formula for local government contributions towards victim services programs.

Conference decision: _____

EB34 Motor Vehicle Response – Compensation Model

Elkford

Whereas local governments are not compensated by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) for responses to motor vehicle incidents inside or outside of their jurisdiction;

And whereas provincial reimbursement rates for out-of-jurisdiction responses are insufficient and do not cover all of the costs associated with out-of-jurisdiction responses:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government consider a compensation model to assist local governments with the actual costs for all motor vehicle incident responses.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide funding for road rescue and vehicle extrication (2023-EB22, 2023-EB23, 2023-EB24, 2022-EB40, 2022-EB41, 2020-EB9, 2019-B9, 2018-B5, 2015-B17, 2014-B15).

The Committee also notes that some of the endorsed resolutions specifically identify ICBC in their request for compensating local governments and fire departments for highway rescue services, including: 2023-EB24, 2022-EB40, 2022-EB41.

See resolution RR17

Conference decision: _____



Environment

EB35 British Columbia Conservation Officer Service Capacity

Revelstoke

Whereas the provincial government is responsible for managing wildlife through its Conservation Service, with a reduction in the number of conservation officers in the field and the zone deployment model having a negative impact on the ability of the BC Conservation Officer Service to meet the needs of communities experiencing an increase in habituated wildlife population;

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

And whereas the UBCM membership previously endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase numbers of conservation officers and resources to support wildlife management (through resolutions 2018-B36, 2017-B29, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2013-B27, 2012-B22, 2010-B25, 2003-B32, 1996-B27, 1996-B64, 1992-B35):

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



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported several resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase numbers of conservation officers, funding and resources to support wildlife management and to reduce human-wildlife conflict (2024-EB52, 2021-NR38, 2018-B36, 2017-B29, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2013-B27, 2013-B73, 2012-B21, 2012-B72, 2010-B25).

See resolutions RR21, RR22, RR23

Conference decision: _____

EB36 Moose Habitat Considerations in Landscape Planning

Burns Lake

Whereas the provincial moose management decisions are guided by the Provincial Moose Management Framework;

And whereas moose serve a significant role as a food source and further have cultural importance for Indigenous residents;

And whereas provincial moose research has identified the need for intensive landscape-scale management to stem moose population declines;

And whereas provincial moose research has identified the need to consider vegetation composition and re-growth during forestry planning and to identify region-specific forestry thresholds for moose:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to add moose habitat as a value to all future forestry landscape planning and resource development projects where moose habituate.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to add moose habitat as a value to all future forestry landscape planning and resource development projects where moose habituate.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B159 which asked the Province to stop the cow/calf moose Limited Entry Hunt until moose populations recover. As well that the Province undertake extensive monitoring of moose populations in all regions of the province, in order to better determine their populations and measure their recoveries.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported landscape level planning to ensure a balanced approach to resource extraction and land management (2018-B49).

Additionally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions that address the protection of ecosystem health, biodiversity, species and habitat, including:

- *2024-NR55 which asked the Province to allocate funding to ensure that objective data on natural resources is easily accessible by all stakeholders, ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and ongoing maintenance;*
- *2023-EB32 which asked the Province to establish a fund and other legislative and promotional measures to support local efforts to acquire land for biodiversity and ecosystem health;*
- *2023-EB33 which asked the Province to proceed with legislation that enables legal and financial mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health, and species at risk in British Columbia;*
- *2022-NR38 which asked the Province to develop new legislation to protect and restore biological diversity and ecosystem health, in a manner consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and with the involvement of local governments, civil society groups, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, scientists, and members of the public;*
- *2010-B35 which asked the Province to develop a Species and Ecosystems Protection Act for BC; and*
- *2008-B87 which asked the Province to enact a strong Species and Ecosystem Protection Act to safeguard British Columbia's exceptional biological richness - in particular, against the threats posed by habitat loss and climate change - recognizing the critical importance of conserving biodiversity to maintaining ecosystem integrity and human well-being.*

Conference decision: _____

EB37 Non-Migratory Resident Canada Geese

Metchosin

Whereas the current population of non-migratory, resident Canada geese (*branta canadensis moffitti*) are not native to this area and are increasing in numbers each year to an estimated 9,000 to 11,000 according to recent bird counts;

And whereas non-migratory, resident Canada geese are an ongoing destructive element to agriculture through the disruption of growing fields, the consumption of crops, and the risks posed by avian influenza and E. coli contamination, presenting risks to food security and the broader environment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with provincial agencies such as the Ministry of Environment in concert with Canada Wildlife Services to undertake effective action to protect agriculture and the environment including establishing a goose cull program to deal with non-migratory resident Canada geese populations.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported a number of resolutions seeking support and coordination from other orders of government to manage the population of Canada geese (2017-B30, 2016-B59, 2013-B107, 2013-B107, 2011-B42).

Conference decision: _____

EB38 Increased Defence Against Invasive Mussels

Sicamous

Whereas invasive zebra and quagga mussels pose a serious threat to watershed ecosystems, drinking water quality, infrastructure, tourism and the broader economy;

And whereas the estimated cost of managing infrastructure impacts from an established invasive mussel population in British Columbia exceeds \$129 million annually, including damage to pipes, docks, water intakes and watercraft;

And whereas British Columbia remains one of the few jurisdictions in North America without an established invasive mussel population, making prevention both critical and cost-effective;

And whereas existing watercraft inspection stations at provincial borders are limited by seasonality and staffing, leaving critical points of entry unmonitored and watersheds at continued risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to take immediate and direct action to prevent the introduction of invasive mussels by implementing mandatory watercraft inspection protocols to ensure no key entry points are left unmonitored.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported numerous resolutions seeking increased funding, support and enforcement from the provincial and federal governments to address invasive mussels (2023-EB36, 2020-RB50, 2017-B27, 2016-B60, 2015-B60, 2014-B21, 2013-B76, 2012-LR2).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolutions specifically addressing watercraft and invasive mussels, including:

- *2024-EB51 which asked the Province to take immediate and direct action to prevent the introduction of invasive mussels by implementing enhanced watercraft inspections and increased funding and staffing;*

- 2024-NR60 which asked the Province to establish additional watercraft inspection stations at boat launches to prevent the spread of invasive quagga and zebra mussels;
- 2023-EB36 which asked the Province to introduce legislation that requires watercraft owners to clean, drain and dry their vessels when entering BC and establish mandatory watercraft inspections to ensure the protection of our watercourses; and
- 2021-EB26 which asked the provincial and federal governments to 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.

The Committee also notes that in the spring of 2025 the Province proposed amendments to the Wildlife Act that, if passed, would allow it to create and enforce regulations to better address aquatic invasive species by:

- Prohibiting the transport of watercraft over land with a drain plug in place;
- Requiring inspection of all watercrafts entering BC from another jurisdiction prior to being launched in provincial waters; and
- Requiring vehicles transporting watercraft to stop at designated inspection stations.

Conference decision: _____

EB39 Controlling Invasive Scotch Broom

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), a plant species not native to BC, has been identified by the BC Invasive Species Council as a Regulated Invasive Species and as the top worst offender impacting Species at Risk by the Coastal Invasive Species Committee as a Priority Invasive Plant;

And whereas the proliferation of Scotch Broom results in ecological and economic impacts including displacement of native plant species, harm to sensitive ecosystems, reduced productivity on agricultural and forest lands and increased risk of wildfire;

And whereas Scotch Broom spreads readily along disturbed corridors such as highways and power transmission lines, lands which are outside the jurisdiction of local government bylaws:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government and BC Hydro for increased support and resources to manage Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) across the province including control, containment, eradication and prevention.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR51 which sought to control the spread of scotch broom and resolution 2013-B31 which asked the Province to designate Scotch Broom as a noxious weed under the BC Weed Control Act.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed Resolution 2020-EB49, which called on the Provincial government to budget for long-term, stable funding for invasive species management.

Conference decision: _____

EB40 Conserving BC Landfill Capacity

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the available capacity of landfills in British Columbia is rapidly diminishing, posing a significant challenge to effective waste management and environmental sustainability;

And whereas landfill airspace is a critical component in recovery from disaster and emergency events:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province develop a long-term waste management strategy that supports a circular economy, prioritizing waste reduction, material reuse, and recycling, while maintaining resilience in the event of emergencies or disasters.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions that address many of the items noted in the enactment clause, including waste management strategies, a circular economy, prioritizing waste reduction, material reuse, and recycling.

The Committee notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions addressing solid waste management and landfills, including:

- *2024-EB53 which asked the Province to establish an annual funding model to assist local governments in adequately preparing for and responding to new provincial environmental standards for solid waste management;*
- *2021-NR33 which asked the Province to provide the necessary resources to local governments for landfill compliance related projects;*
- *2021-NR34 which asked the Province to help ensure local government meet Operational Certificates for landfill compliance without the threat of imprisonment or substantial monetary fines;*
- *2016-B27 which asked for provincial funding to assist local governments in their waste management initiatives that address the new standards around Landfill Operational Certificates; and*
- *numerous resolutions addressing demolition waste in landfills (2022-EB51, 2021-NR35, 2018-B26, 2017-B25, 2017-B45, 2017-B97, 2016-B143, 2012-B81).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions supporting the circular economy (2021-EB38, 2017-B63) and the right to repair products (2021-NR37).

The Committee additionally notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56).

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the ICI sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-EB57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68, 2012-B125).

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers of products such as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil, plastics, mattresses, furniture and packaging (2022-EB54, 2020-EB53, 2020-EB55, 2020-EB56, 2014-B97, 2009-B35, 2008-B84, 2006-B28, 2006-B29, 2006-B107, 2005-B24).

Conference decision: _____

EB41 Provincial Circular Economy Strategy

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has recognized that the traditional linear economic model of “take, make, waste” leads to waste, environmental harm, the over-consumption of resources, and diminishing landfill capacity, and has committed to working toward a circular economy through its CleanBC Plan;

And whereas despite some initial efforts, including a strategy pre-engagement exercise, work through the Province's extended producer responsibility programs, and the CleanBC Plastics Action Fund, a comprehensive strategy to address the systemic change necessary to transition BC's economy to a circular model has not yet been adequately pursued and developed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province take meaningful action to develop a comprehensive Circular Economy Strategy which includes public education and economic development considerations, such as expanding the province's remanufacturing and re-processing capacity for recyclable materials.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to take meaningful action to develop a comprehensive Circular Economy Strategy which includes public education and economic development considerations, such as expanding the province's remanufacturing and re-processing capacity for recyclable materials.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions supporting the development of a circular economy strategy (2021-EB38, 2017-B63) and the right to repair products (2021-NR37).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56). In particular, resolution 2022-EB56 seeks to amend the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 by including food waste reduction and recovery as, or into, one of the pathways.

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the ICI sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-EB57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68, 2012-B125).

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers of products such as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil, plastics, mattresses, furniture and packaging (2022-EB54, 2020-EB53, 2020-EB55, 2020-EB56, 2014-B97, 2009-B35, 2008-B84, 2006-B28, 2006-B29, 2006-B107, 2005-B24).

Conference decision: _____

EB42 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 from these sectors 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 being destined for landfills:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the Recycling Regulation to require inclusion of the ICI sectors in an Extended Producer Responsibility program focused on ICI paper and packing.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI) sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-NR57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68).

Conference decision: _____

EB43 Producer Responsibility for Sustainable Packaging in BC's Comox Valley RD
Recycling Regulation

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are striving to meet the province's waste diversion targets and comply with restrictions on recyclable materials entering landfills;

And whereas the current Recycling Regulation under the *Environmental Management Act* does not explicitly require producers to design packaging to reduce waste volume or complexity, limiting Recycle BC's ability to enforce improvements in packaging design:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Environment and Parks to amend the Recycling Regulation to explicitly require producers of packaging to design products that minimize waste at end of life, including material reduction, increased recyclability, and support for circular economy goals.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Recycling Regulation to explicitly require producers of packaging to design products that minimize waste at end of life, including material reduction, increased recyclability, and support for circular economy goals.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions supporting the development of a circular economy strategy (2021-EB38, 2017-B63).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the Industrial Commercial and Institutional (ICI) sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-EB57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers of products such as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil, mattresses, plastics and packaging (2022-EB54, 2020-EB53, 2014-B97, 2009-B35, 2008-B84, 2006-B29, 2005-B24).

Conference decision: _____

EB44 Inclusion of Agricultural Plastics Under Recycling Regulation

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas agricultural plastics, including net wrap and baler twine, typically end up in landfills or are burnt or buried on farms, resulting in decreased landfill capacity and environmental pollution;

And whereas the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy in the Canada-Wide Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility has identified ICI packaging including agriculture plastics be a material to be considered in the future;

And whereas the Ministry will engage with local government as staff work towards strengthening current programs, while prioritizing options for potential program expansion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy expedite the inclusion of agricultural plastics as a new product category under the Recycling Regulation.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a number of resolutions that call for the inclusion of agricultural plastics into extended producer responsibility programs (2021-EB34, 2018-B28, 2012-B30, 2008-B84, 2007-LR3).

The Committee also notes that the Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP) had funded an Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Project for two years. As of June 30, 2025, the program funding was ended.

Conference decision: _____

EB45 Biodiverse Climate Resilient Ecosystems

**Bulkley-Nechako RD,
Fraser-Fort George RD**

Whereas community based ecological knowledge, combined with scientific data and understanding is the best way to plan for climate adaptation;

And whereas future forest and water management must protect and restore ecosystem services to ensure a resilient and biodiverse landscape:

Therefore be it that UBCM request that the provincial government establish and empower collaborative landscape level planning tables with the goal to restore biodiverse climate resilient ecosystems.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to establish and empower collaborative landscape level planning tables with the goal to restore biodiverse climate resilient ecosystems.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking improved and integrated landscape level planning tables/guides, but with the focus on resource extraction:

- 2018-B49 which asked the Province to move quickly to landscape level planning and provide the oversight required to ensure a balanced approach to resource extraction and land management across BC; and
- 2012-B109 which asked the Province to create Integrated Landscape Planning Guidelines and that all companies harvesting timber in BC consider future wildfire impacts while planning for harvesting; and to make changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act to require landscape planning.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported several resolutions that address the protection of ecosystem health, biodiversity, species and habitat, including:

- 2024-NR55 which asked the Province to allocate funding to ensure that objective data on natural resources is easily accessible by all stakeholders, ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and ongoing maintenance;
- 2023-EB32 which asked the Province to establish a fund and other legislative and promotional measures to support local efforts to acquire land for biodiversity and ecosystem health;
- 2023-EB33 which asked the Province to proceed with legislation that enables legal and financial mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health, and species at risk in British Columbia;
- 2022-NR38 which asked the Province to develop new legislation to protect and restore biological diversity and ecosystem health, in a manner consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and with the involvement of local governments, civil society groups, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, scientists, and members of the public;
- 2021-EB28 which, noting inadequate consideration of landscape level planning in BC, asked the Province to provide adequate resources needed to ensure proper watershed stewardship;
- 2010-B35 which asked the Province to develop a Species and Ecosystems Protection Act for BC; and
- 2008-B87 which asked the Province to enact a strong Species and Ecosystem Protection Act to safeguard British Columbia's exceptional biological richness - in particular, against the threats posed by habitat loss and climate change - recognizing the critical importance of conserving biodiversity to maintaining ecosystem integrity and human well-being.

Conference decision: _____

EB46 Tackling Energy Poverty and Increasing Workforce Capacity by Working with Youth Climate Corps

Port Moody

Whereas studies suggest that energy poverty affects up to 1 in 5 Canadian residents which is a risk to health, and energy retrofits would help with both health and affordability, as well as meeting BC's climate goals;

And whereas there is not enough of a workforce to connect to and meet the needs of BC residents, especially those most vulnerable, and opportunities are needed to train and scale up works to meet there:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC expand the Youth Climate Corps program, scale-up retrofits to address energy poverty, while meeting the need to train and expand the required workforce and supplying well-paying jobs for youth.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a similar resolution 2024-EB55, from the same sponsor, that asked the Province to expand a Youth Climate Corps that will provide green living wage jobs and training to young adults to support important work on climate adaptation and mitigation projects in their own communities, such as wildfire mitigation, building retrofits, ecosystem restoration and community engagement. It also asked the Province to work with local governments, Indigenous communities and nations, youth groups, industry, union associations and environmental organizations to scale up, design programming and provide resources for a BC-wide Youth Climate Corps.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions proposing policy and actions to mitigate the effects of climate change, as well as requesting funding for local government to continue undertaking climate action plans and projects. These resolutions most recently include (2023-EB31, 2023-NR46, 2022-NR38, 2021-SR1, 2021-EB39, 2019-B135, 2019-B138, 2019-B139, 2019-B141, 2016-B58, 2015-A5, 2015-B38, 2015-B75, 2014-B26, 2014-B27, 2014-B95, 2014-B96, 2013-B75, 2012-B25, 2012-B35, 2012-B63, 2012-B79, 2012-B121, 2011-B22, 2011-B79, 2011-B91, 2011-B98, 2010-B15, 2010-B18, 2010-B31, 2010-B32, 2010-B40, 2010-B47, 2010-B83, 2010-B101, 2010-B140).

The Committee further notes that the UBCM Special Committee on Climate Action identified social mobilization, and the recruitment and training of local citizens and youth to serve as climate champions, as an important area of climate action in its November 2020 recommendations.

Additionally, the Committee notes that energy poverty is experienced by households when energy-related expenses, such as electricity, heating fuel, or gasoline, exceed 10 percent of household income.

Conference decision: _____

EB47 Incentives to Invest in Low-Carbon Power Generation

Nakusp

Whereas BC Hydro has a “2024 Call for Power” indicating the need for an additional 3,000 GWh/year as early as fall 2028;

And whereas CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 advocates for low-carbon energy production:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to incentivize BC citizens to invest in individual low-carbon power generation, such as solar panels for residential and commercial property owners, to alleviate the burden on the electrical grid and provide self-sufficiency for more rural and remote communities, aiding in the provincial goals through CleanBC.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR44 which asked BC Hydro to increase the price they will pay for the municipal, First Nations and private production of renewable energy, including solar, wind, geothermal energy, sufficient to stimulate the increased investment and production at all scales—including household and municipal—needed to tackle the climate emergency, while also ensuring reasonable energy affordability and that natural environments are protected.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions that seek to financially incent and make it easier to add solar panels to homes (2024-EB31, 2024-NR74, 2022-NR18, 2009-B166).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed additional resolutions addressing BC Hydro and the purchase of power from local governments, including:

- 2022-EB47 which asked the Province to restore the power purchase call program from BC Hydro to purchase local government generation at a price and term that supports the development of these renewable energy projects;
- 2021-NR29 which asked the Province to 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;
- 2020-NR49 which asked the Province to reinstate the BC Hydro funding and electricity purchase program for renewable energy projects for local governments; and
- 2006-LR14 which asked the Province to establish legislation that makes it mandatory for BC Hydro to purchase power created by BC local government-supported, green, renewable power projects.

Conference decision: _____

EB48 Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the small water systems in rural British Columbia, which are administered by local governments, provide essential services to rural residents and communities, yet they face unsustainable financial burdens due to the high costs of water treatment systems, ongoing maintenance, and replacing aging infrastructure, which can amount to millions of dollars;

And whereas it is not possible for rural residents and communities to finance these systems through local taxation alone, threatening the viability of these water systems and the communities they serve, while also posing a significant risk to local food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial and federal governments to establish long-term sustainable funding programs specifically for small water systems to address high cost and regulatory compliance requirements and to safeguard local food security, and for a collaborative approach to funding and support, including cost-sharing models, grant programs and capacity-building initiatives, to enable small rural water systems to remain viable and resilient amidst growing environmental and economic pressures.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed three recent resolutions that sought sustainable funding for small water systems (2024-NR72, 2023-EB47, 2022-EB81).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to establish standards and funding around drinking water, including:

- Province to provide funding opportunities that reflect the true cost of the upgrades to aging drinking water infrastructure particularly in the rural areas of the province of British Columbia (2011-B107);
- Province to standardize water quality and treatment regulations across BC and develop a funding strategy for their implementation (2009-B51);
- Province to establish province-wide standards on potable water to be applied universally and implemented consistently in order to protect public health and public confidence in local and regional potable water systems (2007-B123); and
- Province to ensure that funding is available to develop the infrastructure required to meet the Province's drinking water standards (2006-B90).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling for federal funding for the renewal and replacement of aging local government infrastructure, including that related to drinking water and wastewater (2011-B143, 2010-B71, 2010-B77, 2010-B82).

See resolution RR20

Conference decision: _____

**EB49 Modernization of Municipal Wastewater Regulations
and Sewerage System Regulation**

**Coldstream,
Columbia Shuswap RD,
Lake Country,
Vernon**

Whereas the oversight of wastewater management in British Columbia is divided between two provincial ministries, resulting in split jurisdiction over two key regulations - the Municipal Wastewater Regulation (MWR) (2001) and the Sewerage System Regulation (SSR) (2005);

And whereas these regulations have not undergone significant updates since their enactment, despite evolving environmental standards, increasing concerns regarding the professional oversight of these systems, emerging technologies, and increasing community and ecological demands;

And whereas the Province has established priorities to support housing development, infrastructure expansion, improved cumulative effects assessment in natural resource decision-making, and stronger integration of source water and drinking water protection:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Province of British Columbia to undertake a comprehensive review and modernization of the Municipal Wastewater Regulation and Sewerage System Regulation to ensure alignment with current environmental pressures, technological advancements, and land use planning needs.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to undertake a comprehensive review and modernization of the Municipal Wastewater Regulation and Sewerage System Regulation to ensure alignment with current environmental pressures, technological advancements, and land use planning needs.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has considered and endorsed several resolutions addressing sewer and wastewater systems, including:

- *2018-B39 which asked the Province for legislation to govern private sewer utilities to ensure that the same level of accountability found in the Water Utility Act is afforded to customers of private sewer utilities;*
- *2016-B26 which asked the provincial and federal governments to take steps to protect the aquifers, surface water, public water and waste water infrastructure of BC from purchase by private corporate interests;*
- *2013-B118 which asked the Ministry of Health to implement third party monitoring of sewerage installations on and abutting farm land;*
- *2008-SR1 which asked the Province to address local government concerns with the Sewerage System Regulation;*
- *2008-B28 which asked the Province to ensure water quality and security by, in part, ensuring that compliance with sewage regulations on recreational lease lots; and*

- 2006-B103 which asked the Ministry of Health to amend the Sewerage System Regulation to allow homeowners to conduct installations and repairs of sewerage systems subject to inspection by authorized inspectors.

See resolution NR73

Conference decision: _____

EB50 Supporting Rural Contractors for Effective Home Retrofits Central Kootenay RD, Nelson

Whereas home retrofits are essential for reducing emissions, improving energy efficiency, and increasing climate resilience, especially in rural communities facing extreme weather and energy poverty;

And whereas rural contractors face financial and administrative barriers in the CleanBC Better Homes Energy Savings Program (ESP) for low to medium income qualified households, reducing program participation and limiting access to retrofits:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia, local governments and industry stakeholders to improve support for rural contractors in the CleanBC Better Homes Energy Savings Program by:

1. Providing advance payments to ease financial strain on contractors;
2. Offering incentives to attract contractors to rural areas;
3. Expanding rebate coverage to boost homeowner participation;
4. Promoting the health and climate benefits of retrofits; and
5. Partnering with post-secondary institutions to train contractors in high-performance building and business administration.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to improve support for rural contractors in the CleanBC Better Homes Energy Savings Program by:

1. *Providing advance payments to ease financial strain on contractors;*
2. *Offering incentives to attract contractors to rural areas;*
3. *Expanding rebate coverage to boost homeowner participation;*
4. *Promoting the health and climate benefits of retrofits; and*
5. *Partnering with post-secondary institutions to train contractors in high-performance building and business administration.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2024-NR24, 2023-EB20, 2023-EB21, 2022-EB31, 2022-NR18, 2021-EB40, 2020-NR73, 2020-EB87, 2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25) and calling for federal and provincial programs to provide incentives for residential energy efficiency (2020-NR52, 2014-B28, 2014-B93, 2012-B25, 2010-B86, 2009-B166, 2007-B33, 2007-B177, 2006-B111).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2020-EB87 that addresses the Building Code's requirements around Energy Step Code requirements, and asked the Province to assist communities

with Energy Step Code implementation in an equitable way, considering some of the barriers faced in rural and remote communities, by working with communities to address barriers.

See resolutions NR68, NR106

Conference decision: _____

EB51 Including Rail-Related Activities in the *Environmental Assessment Act* Scope

Terrace

Whereas through the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the Province of British Columbia aims to ensure that any potential environmental, economic, social, cultural and health effects that may occur during the lifetime of a major project are thoroughly assessed;

And whereas the impacts of rail traffic and the transportation of dangerous goods can have an impact on communities outside of the immediate vicinity of major projects undergoing environmental assessment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to include rail servicing, transportation of dangerous goods and other materials to and from facilities by rail, and any other rail-related components of reviewable projects as 'related activities' when determining the scope of required assessments for reviewable projects under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to include rail servicing, transportation of dangerous goods and other materials to and from facilities by rail, and any other rail-related components of reviewable projects as 'related activities' when determining the scope of required assessments for reviewable projects under the Environmental Assessment Act.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing environmental assessment and impact, including:

- *2024-EB44 which asked the Province to ensure that the environmental assessment review process ensures the proactive identification and mitigation of cumulative community impacts in a proactive manner based on an inclusive and collaborative review process with impacted communities;*
- *2024-EB45 and 2017-B113 which asked the Province to provide funding to support the participation of local governments in environmental assessment processes, including compensation associated with the research and review of applications, participation in technical and working groups, augmented community engagement, and post-decision regulatory processes should a project Certificate be issued;*
- *2021-EB18, which asked Transport Canada to 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;*
- *2017-B65 which asked the Province to consider projects in their entirety when evaluating them through the Environmental Assessment Office;*
- *2015-B61 which asked the Province to conduct a complete health impact assessment as part of the environmental assessment for all projects; and work with the Health Officers Council to develop guidance documents to support such health impact assessments; and*
- *2015-B96 which asked the Province to ensure that the scope of environmental impact assessments for major infrastructure projects includes the wider community and environmental impacts associated with*

increased road, rail and marine traffic so that a range of mitigation options can be assessed, including the development of inland port facilities.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to improve regulations and safety around the shipment of dangerous goods by rail (2021-EB18, 2019-B17, 2018-B13, 2017-B7, 2015-B13, 2014-B55, 2014-B126).

Conference decision: _____



Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

EB52 Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Province of BC is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and is required to take a distinctions-based approach in all of its relations with Indigenous peoples to ensure that unique rights, interests, and circumstances of Indigenous peoples are acknowledged, affirmed and implemented;

And whereas local governments are committed to reconciliation and seek meaningful engagement with Indigenous governments in community and regional planning activities, such as climate mitigation and adaptation plans, emergency management plans, regional growth and servicing strategies, and official community plans, that may uphold the unique rights, interests, and circumstances of Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC provide dedicated funding streams to support Indigenous governments' participation in local government community and regional planning activities to support reconciliation and implementation of DRIPA.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting funding or supports for local governments for reconciliation, relationship building and engagement with First Nations (2024-EB58, 2023-EB72, 2021-EB77, 2018-B23).

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions in support of UNDRIP, DRIPA, MMIWG2S and TRC (2022-EB85, 2022-EB86, 2022-EB60, 2022-NR70, 2019-A4, 2019-LR4, 2018-B1549 2018-B150, 2015-B106).

Conference decision: _____

EB53 Sustainable Growing Communities Fund
**Nanaimo RD,
Parksville**

Whereas local governments in British Columbia face increasing demands for essential services and infrastructure due to significant population growth, with the province's population reaching an estimated 5,646,467 as of April 1, 2024, marking an annual growth rate of 3.3 percent - the highest since 1971;

And whereas the primary revenue source for local governments, property taxes, is regressive and places a disproportionate burden on lower-income households, while the costs of infrastructure projects continue to rise at a rate that outpaces consumer inflation, making it increasingly difficult for local governments to meet community needs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish a sustainable, recurring "Growing Communities Fund" to generate \$1 billion annually through progressive taxation, distributed to local governments using the same formula as the 2022 fund, thereby providing equitable and sustainable financial support for local governments across the province.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a sustainable, recurring "Growing Communities Fund" to generate \$1 billion annually through progressive taxation, distributed to local governments using the same formula as the 2022 fund, thereby providing equitable and sustainable financial support for local governments across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2024-SR2, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

In 2021 the UBCM membership endorsed the Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency report that included a working partnership between the Province and UBCM to strengthen the local government finance system. UBCM signed an MOU with the Minister of Finance and Minister of Municipal Affairs in 2022 that led to the formation of the Local Government Financial Review Working Group. This group has representatives from UBCM and both ministries with a work plan that includes reviewing the funding of growth-related infrastructure. The Working Group agreed to a shared problem statement recognizing the difficulties local governments report regarding infrastructure capital costs.

Conference decision: _____

EB54 Provincial Oversight of Water, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas Sicamous

Whereas the Province has oversight through applications, permitting and leases for works in and around water, streams, wetlands and riparian areas;

And whereas the timelines for the completion of these processes are now extended to the point of hardship for communities and property owners:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to commit additional resources to oversight processes for works in and around water, streams, wetlands and riparian areas, to reduce timelines and increase responsiveness to communities' needs.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for additional provincial resources to support faster processing of applications, permitting and leases for works in and around water, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas (2024-NR36, 2020-EB52, 2012-B73).

In response to resolution 2020-EB52, which called on the Province to allocate greater resources to processing Section 11 approvals under the Water Sustainability Act, as well as establish a rapid response process for urgent situations, the provincial government highlighted several different existing programs for rapid and timely approvals if required.

Conference decision: _____

EB55 Efficient Resource Permitting**Fort St. John,
Peace River RD**

Whereas land-use uncertainty, cumulative effects policies, and lengthy permitting timelines delay resource projects, discourage investment, and limit economic opportunities for communities across British Columbia;

And whereas an efficient and predictable permitting process is necessary to support responsible resource development while ensuring certainty for communities and industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to streamline land-use and permitting processes by ensuring timely decision-making, aligning cumulative effects policies with economic priorities, and providing long-term regulatory certainty.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the province to streamline land-use and permitting processes by ensuring timely decision-making, aligning cumulative effects policies with economic priorities, and providing long-term regulatory certainty.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to review its permitting processes that relate to local government development and infrastructure projects and investigate opportunities to streamline those processes (2023-EB12, 2021-LR3, 2020-EB52, 2019-B153).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed other resolutions seeking streamlining and improved wait times for other applications, including:

- 2023-EB59 which asked the Province to, in part, considerably increase the provincial government resources for the processing of site alteration permit applications at the BC Archaeology Branch;
- 2023-NR42 which asked the Province to 1. Substantially increase the resources allocated for the processing of water licence applications; and 2. Prioritize water licence applications to give urgency based on health and safety, particularly in light of the current climate conditions; and
- 2022-NR52 which asked the Province to increase funding to reduce application wait times and improve the application process for sponsored crown grants and nominal rent tenures.

In addition, the Committee notes that UBCM sought to pause the passage of Bill 15, Infrastructure Projects Act, which seeks to accelerate public and private infrastructure projects given the lack of meaningful consultation, the potential for provincial override of local decision making, and liability implications for local governments.

Conference decision: _____

EB56 Expedite Municipal Applications for Crown Lands

Smithers

Whereas local governments face challenges in acquiring land for essential projects such as local housing initiatives, including affordable housing developments, community infrastructure, and vital public services;

And whereas the provincial government holds significant amounts of underutilized Crown Land inside or adjacent to local governments that could be leveraged to support these local government initiatives, which would directly benefit residents and enhance local community resilience:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to expedite the transfer of underutilized Crown Lands, within or adjacent to communities, to local governments for development, infrastructure, and community services purposes.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2009-B135 which asked the province to mandate to enable the transfer, sale or purchase of crown lands to be expedited in a timely and efficient manner, thereby allowing British Columbia's local governments to proceed with sustainable community planning and development, creating much needed work in the current economic situation.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2005-B30 which asked that any provincially owned lands or buildings that are no longer required be offered first to the local governments for community use at a reduced rate.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed resolutions asking that local government be able to purchase school district properties so that they may be used for other civic purposes (2007-B55, 2006-B135, 2006-B170).

Conference decision: _____

EB57 Approval of Aggregate Activities**Summerland**

Whereas conflicts can arise when the provincial Ministry responsible for mining chooses to override local government zoning to approve new gravel pits and other aggregate activities in areas not zoned for such purposes;

And whereas provincial Aggregate Management Principles state that the Ministry should work with local governments to reduce conflicts that can develop when aggregate activities are proposed in urban and populated rural areas;

And whereas consideration of the provincial Aggregate Management Principles is at the discretion of the Statutory Decision Maker within the responsible Ministry, and there is no requirement to follow their principles:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of British Columbia to require Statutory Decision Makers to work with local governments to resolve conflicts prior to approving aggregate activities under a *Mines Act* permit whenever a proposed activity does not conform to existing local government zoning.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that concerns around resource extraction (i.e. pits and quarries) have been long-standing issues for many local governments, with the UBCM membership endorsing resolutions addressing this topic, including:

- *2015-B34 which asked the Province to require compliance with local government zoning bylaws as a permit condition, and Ministry staff to cancel permits and deny applications that contravene local government zoning bylaws; and*
- *2011-B46 which asked the Province to cooperate with local governments, the extraction industry, and local citizens in developing and implementing regional plans to identify suitable and unsuitable sites for extraction; called for provincial funding to complete these regional plans; and granted local governments the authority to implement them.*

In response to the 2015 resolution the provincial government indicated that “in circumstances where the local government opposes the application based on zoning, the Ministry’s [Statutory Decision Maker] may consider that opposition and all other relevant information in making a decision.”

Conference decision: _____

EB58 Provincial Funding for Archaeological Costs Borne by Local Government**Lillooet**

Whereas local governments within British Columbia are required to undertake major construction projects to provide services such as roads, community sewer systems and community water systems to service properties within their jurisdictions;

And whereas these works involve the excavation of lands, which may include First Nations lands, during the construction phase of such projects;

And whereas the provincial *Heritage Conservation Act* requires that all archaeological sites and findings be recorded and documented in accordance with the legislation and the costs incurred by local governments to comply with the legislation are prohibitive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to consider providing specific funding of the expenditures borne by local governments in all aspects of recording and documentation of archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial *Heritage Conservation Act* in order to enhance government-to-government relationships with First Nations.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions addressing local government archaeological costs, including:

- *2023-EB59 which asked the Province in part to provide funding to local governments to offset archaeological costs;*
- *2019-B52 which asked the provincial government to fund additional expenditures borne by local governments to record and document archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial Heritage Conservation Act; and*
- *2007-B139 which asked the Province to consider providing funding equal to 100 percent of the total expenditures borne by local governments to record and document archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial Heritage Conservation Act.*

In response to the 2023 resolution, the provincial government confirmed that the Archaeology Branch does not provide funding to support archaeological assessments, but expressed optimism that “ongoing improvements” could decrease permitting timelines.

Conference decision: _____

EB59 Strengthening Agricultural Land Commission Enforcement Capabilities

Delta

Whereas local governments with land in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) can observe land use that may not be in compliance with Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) regulations raising concerns about the integrity of the ALR, and the long-term viability of agricultural production;

And whereas the Agricultural Land Commission currently has only eight compliance and enforcement staff—including six officers, one advisor, and one supervisor—who are responsible for overseeing approximately 4.6 million hectares of ALR land across British Columbia, which is greatly insufficient given the growing enforcement challenges and land-use pressures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to provide increased funding to the Agricultural Land Commission to significantly expand its compliance and enforcement team to improve oversight and reduce non-compliant land uses that threaten the integrity of agricultural land in British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions that seek additional funding and resources for the Agricultural Land Commission so that it can continue to be independent, to function and to achieve its mandate of preserving agricultural land for agriculture (2014-A3 and 2011-B48).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR68 which asked the Province to assume responsibility for the enforcement of Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) decisions and any local government costs incurred as a result of ALC decisions.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB45 which specifically asked the Province follow through on changes made to the Agricultural Land Commission Act that would in part “invest more resources in prosecuting offenders who unlawfully deposit waste on agricultural land.” While this resolution is specific to illegal dumping, it does reflect the membership’s support for additional resources needed by the ALC to ensure compliance and enforcement of its own legislation.

See resolution NR90

Conference decision: _____



Taxation

EB60 Unpaid Fines by Transfer to Property Taxes

East Kootenay RD

Whereas local governments face challenges in collecting unpaid bylaw fines;

And whereas the collection of unpaid bylaw fines through the property tax collection process will aim to streamline the enforcement of bylaws, enhance compliance and ensure that local governments can effectively manage and collect outstanding fines:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to develop legislation that allows local governments to apply unpaid fines issued for property-related bylaw infractions to be collected by transfer to property taxes.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions seeking local government authority to collect unpaid fines specific to property through property taxes, including:

- *2018-B19 which asked the Province to amend the legislation to allow the addition of unpaid municipal fines related to a specific property to the permitted ‘special fees [...that...] may be collected as property taxes’, including through eventual tax sale property auction; and*
- *2015-B23 which asked the Province to allow municipalities through legislation to collect unpaid municipal bylaw fines through property taxes where the fines are property related.*

The Province’s response to resolution 2018-B19 did not recognize that the resolution was asking for this authority only for fines that are related to a specific property. The response discussed fines that weren’t specific to servicing a property and gave that as a reason for not linking them to the tax sale process. The 2018 response states “As their name entails, property taxes are taxes levied against a specific property for a basket of government goods and services. Thus, unpaid property taxes represent an effective lien on the underlying property. If those

outstanding taxes become delinquent, a municipality may initiate a tax sale process in the year the taxes become delinquent.

There is a limited range of fees and charges that are somewhat similar to property taxes because they relate to services provided to a specific property (e.g. a water utility fee or a garbage pickup fee). Because of this similarity, section 258 of the Community Charter allows for these limited fees to be incorporated into taxes in arrears (and ultimately linked to the tax sale process). It is important to note, this is a very limited application of the broad scope of potential fees, most of which are not eligible for inclusion as taxes in arrears.

Fines and penalties (like noise, parking, and nuisance violations) are very different from taxes and eligible fees because they do not relate to servicing a property. Instead, they are issued for violations of civic regulations.

The confiscatory authority of government (including tax sale) is an extremely significant power, and therefore must be used in a limited and restrained manner and under very strict rules. As fines and penalties have little or no relationship to any municipal service to properties, there is no reasonable basis for linking them to the tax sale process.”

Conference decision: _____

EB61 Taxation of Utility Companies

Sooke

Whereas the *Local Government Act*, Section 644 2(a), specifies that a utility company (defined as “an electric light, electric power, telephone, water, gas or closed-circuit television company”) is to be taxed annually by municipalities (not including Regional Districts or First Nations) at the rate of 1 percent of its revenue from subscribers;

And whereas the legislation does not account for internet and cellular revenues flowing to telecommunications companies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province that this outdated section of the *Local Government Act* be updated to better reflect contemporary consumer choices by adding internet and cellular services to the definition of utility companies, and reverse the trend of declining municipal revenues from the 1 percent in-lieu-of utilities tax.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2019-B122 calling on the Province to update section 644(2) of the Local Government Act to add internet and cellular services to utility companies to be taxed at 1 percent.

The Province responded they have examined this issue on a case-by-case basis and, in most cases, determined that the revenue generated from the 1percent Utility Tax was NOT greater than the potential revenue generated from a property tax on a utility’s linear assets located within the municipality. As such, the Province was not considering legislative changes to taxation of linear assets in response to the 2019 resolution.

Conference decision: _____

EB62 BC Port Tax Cap

North Coast RD

Whereas a number of communities in BC host federal port facilities within their jurisdiction;

And whereas many of these communities struggle with raising taxation revenue to support infrastructure deficits and service provision;

And whereas the BC government has restricted municipal taxation on ports under the *Ports Property Tax Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocate to the BC government to remove or increase the port tax cap thereby ensuring that port industries pay a fair share of taxes in the local communities in which they operate.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B10 which asked the Province to eliminate port property tax rate caps by repealing the applicable provisions of the Ports Property Tax Act in the fall of 2014.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of local government autonomy to apportion appropriate levels of taxation municipally (2023-NR69, 2021-EB19, 2019-B124, 2018-A3, 2017-B14, 2017-B91, 2016-B13, 2009-SR1, 2009-B78, 2006-A5).

See resolution RR34

Conference decision: _____



Transportation

EB63 BC Ferry Advisory Committees

North Coast RD

Whereas Ferry Advisory Committees provide route-specific input and advocacy and exist as part of BC Ferries' strategic goal to be customer and community centred;

And whereas BC Ferries has dissolved the Ferry Advisory Committees;

And whereas the BC Government's Coastal Ferry Services Contract, last amended on March 31, 2024, states that it is committed to "ongoing engagement in support of provincial reconciliation efforts":

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocate to the BC government to amend the Coastal Ferry Services Contract and include a provision for BC Ferries to develop an engagement framework that meaningfully considers input from local governments and Indigenous communities that rely on the BC Ferry System.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking effective mechanisms for communities to provide feedback on coastal ferry service; and for the provincial government and BC Ferries to consider and act on this feedback, including: 2022-EB72, 2022-EB73, 2019-B18, 2019-B119, 2016-B12, 2013-B12, 2012-B6, 2011-A3, 2010-B20, 2009-B156, 2008-B112, 2008-B151, 2007-B18.

See resolution RR32

Conference decision: _____

**EB64 Equitable Status and Funding for Inland Ferries as
Essential Infrastructure**

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas inland ferries provide historically critical infrastructure to the communities served, equivalent to roads, highways and bridges;

And whereas inland ferry services are essential services whose costs are funded by a portion of the taxes on sales of gasoline and diesel:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to ensure that all inland ferries are entitled to the same legal status as roads, highways and bridges, that all remain toll-free, and that the regular schedule of each inland ferry (whether on-demand or set schedule) be deemed the minimum necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the communities served.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to ensure that all inland ferries are entitled to the same legal status as roads, highways and bridges, that all remain toll-free, and that the regular schedule of each inland ferry (whether on-demand or set schedule) be deemed the minimum necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the communities served.

However, the Committee notes that membership endorsed resolution 2002-B78, which asked the Province to prepare a socio-economic impact analysis on the effects to tourism, industrial transportation and residential traffic expected as a result of reductions of inland ferry services. The Committee acknowledges that this is a dated reference.

More generally, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions which have requested that ferries be administered and funded as a critical component of the provincial transportation system and be treated as an extension of provincial highways and therefore travel must be affordable, accessible and dependable (2011-A3, 2010-B20, 2007-B18, 2004-B59, 2001-B64). The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

See resolutions RR30, RR31

Conference decision: _____

EB65 Accessible Public EV Charging Stations

Central Saanich

Whereas the increasing adoption of electric vehicle (EV) ownership has increased the need for accessible public EV charging stations to ensure equitable access for all residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish and implement province-wide standards for accessible public EV charging stations.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the use of electric vehicles by expanding charging infrastructure (2024-EB85, 2022-EB74, 2020-EB28, 2019-B144, 2017-B116, 2017-B132).

Conference decision: _____

EB66 Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for Remote Communities

qathet RD

Whereas BC Hydro has prioritized the development of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in urban areas and along high-volume traffic corridors;

And whereas rural areas face significant gaps in access to public EV charging infrastructure, which limits EV adoption and creates barriers to equitable access for residents and travelers in these regions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that BC Hydro develop a separate strategy to provide access to public EV charging stations in rural areas, ensuring that all regions have access to reliable and accessible EV charging infrastructure.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on BC Hydro to develop a separate strategy to provide access to public EV charging stations in rural areas, ensuring that all regions have access to reliable and accessible EV charging infrastructure.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR80.1, which asked the Province to outline their plan for supporting capacity building, improved infrastructure and other upgrades in northern British Columbia to meet zero emission vehicle sales targets. In response to the 2023 resolution, the provincial government highlighted its commitment to complete EV charging infrastructure on every major highway and road in BC in 2024. Further, the Province referenced work with other levels of government, utilities, and industry to install 10,000 public charging stations across the province by 2030.

The sponsor correctly points out that the existing provincial programs do not support installation of EV charging infrastructure in remote communities (including small coastal islands) not located along major highways.

UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions that support the use of electric vehicles by expanding charging infrastructure (2022-EB74, 2020-EB28, 2019-B144, 2017-B116, 2017-B132).

Conference decision: _____

EB67 Emergency Road Network Planning

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas rural communities cannot meet the challenges of climate change without a climate change and emergency management strategy for critical transportation networks;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Transit is not required to participate in local government planning processes;

And whereas planning for growth in our communities is not feasible in the absence of any road network planning by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province instruct the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to collaborate with local governments on emergency access road plans for rural and unincorporated areas, upon request.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to collaborate with local governments on emergency access road plans for rural and unincorporated areas, upon request.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling for provincial maintenance of resource roads so that they can be used for emergency purposes:

- *define standards of maintenance and construction that supports the economic continuity and connectedness of residents across the province where these resource roads are being used as alternate commuter routes or would be used in the event of an emergency (2024-EB79);*
- *where there is only one access road to a community, establish and maintain an alternative or emergency transportation route, and conduct an inventory of active forestry roads that could be maintained for emergency evacuation purposes (2024-EB80);*
- *establish defined standards for construction, maintenance, and enforcement for resource roads that serve as the primary or secondary access roads for communities, funded similarly to the public highway system (2020-EB19);*
- *explore by policy the ways and means and criteria to distinguish resource road classes defined as high community or public use resource roads, along with flexible, result-oriented definitions for their maintenance (2020-EB20);*
- *work with communities and stakeholders to identify key resource roads no longer required for industrial use, and designate these roads as recreational roads that require provincial oversight and funding for ongoing maintenance in support of, in part, emergency uses (2017-B58); and*
- *additional funding and improved maintenance of resource roads (2015-B74, 2010-B19, 2008-B17).*

The Committee is aware that the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), a program intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies, includes a funding stream to support the development of evacuation route plans. The Province allocated \$110 million in 2021/22 in new funding to the CEPF.

Conference decision: _____

EB68 Forest Service Road Closures

Mackenzie

Whereas access to back country is an essential part of maintaining a healthy active community, particularly for rural and remote communities;

And whereas the decline of forest harvesting activities throughout the province has resulted in the closure of forest service roads and decommissioning of bridges, preventing access to back country areas, which stops tourism, industrial activities such as mining, fighting forest fires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM strongly advocate to the provincial government that local government be fully consulted and actively engaged in decision-making processes prior to any ministry action regarding the closure of forest service roads, and that collaborative solutions be developed to maintain access through reasonable and practical alternatives.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to keep forest service roads open, as a means of supporting outdoor recreation and tourism (2020-EB21, 2017-B58, 2017-B59, 2013-B128).

The Committee further notes that membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to identify and commit to maintaining resource roads that are essential for community access or egress, particularly during emergencies (2024-EB79, 2024-EB80, 2020-EB19, 2020-EB20, 2020-EB22).

Conference decision: _____

EB69 Road Access to Provincial Parks

Maple Ridge

Whereas thousands of British Columbians and tourists visit provincial parks each year;

And whereas roads to provincial parks are often accessed by and connected to local government roads resulting in increased maintenance and road building costs to local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocates that the Province provide road funding for the maintenance and building of local government roads that connect to and provide access to provincial parks, to ensure the continued, safe access of those provincial parks;

And be it further resolved that the Province also provide road funding to maintaining and build secondary access emergency roads and bridges connected to provincial parks.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide road funding for the maintenance and building of local government roads that connect to and provide access to provincial parks. Nor have members considered a request for the Province to maintain and build secondary access emergency roads and bridges connected to provincial parks.

However, the Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2020-EB21 which asked the Province to enable access to provincial parks, with access roads designated as public roads and maintained as such.

In response to the 2020 resolution, the provincial government stated that its budget “does not include the repair and maintenance of roads accessing BC Parks”, but indicated that licensees and other agencies are encouraged to keep as many roads open as possible.

The Committee further notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2013-B128 which asked the Province to ensure that where there is road access to a provincial park, that the road is properly maintained to ensure public access.

Conference decision: _____

EB70 Highway Speed Limits

Revelstoke

Whereas highways in British Columbia are managed by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit, who oversee the maintenance, service and safety standards, which includes setting and adjusting speed limits;

And whereas certain highway intersections, that are the only access to neighbourhoods, experience a high collision frequency:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit amend the current warrant process criteria to include community safety concerns when requesting a review of speed limits for municipalities and regional districts experiencing significant highway collisions where alternate neighbourhood access is unavailable.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to amend the warrant process criteria to include community safety concerns, when requesting a review of speed limits—particularly in areas where high collision frequency highway intersections provide the sole neighbourhood access.

However, the Committee notes that membership has supported numerous resolutions addressing speed limits and road safety, including:

- *develop a matrix to determine the primary use(s) of the provincial roads, and base safety and speed mitigation measures on the primary use(s) of provincial roads rather than a blanket criteria (2022-EB70); and*
- *implement lower, blanket speed limits (2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to improve safety on provincial roads in rural and remote areas, including:

- *review rural speed limits in developing residential areas and commercial or village centers, and direct design improvements to make highways safer in these environments, including speed limit reduction (2023-EB64);*
- *basing safety and speed mitigation measures on the primary use(s) of provincial roads rather than a blanket criteria (2022-EB70);*
- *traffic calming measures in areas designated for growth in electoral areas (2019-B115); and*
- *a process for regional district boards to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to lower the speed limit on highways that pass through rural communities and neighbourhoods (2015-B12).*

The Committee understands that a warrant process is a systematic analysis used to determine the need for changes to aspects of traffic safety, including speed limits.

Conference decision: _____

EB71 Saving Money and Saving Lives: Empower Municipal Default Speed Limits

Saanich

Whereas the current Provincial default speed limit on local roads is 50 km/h, and empirical evidence shows that both the likelihood and severity of collisions - particularly involving vulnerable road users - rise sharply as vehicle

speeds increase from 30 km/h to 50 km/h, and as a result reducing vehicle speeds on local roads is a proven strategy to improve safety, enhance livability, reduce social costs, and support increased active transportation mode share;

And whereas default speed limits are established by the province, existing legislation obliges municipalities to reduce speed limits via bylaws and requires that municipalities install signed speed-limit reductions on every block of local roads, resulting in substantial financial and administrative burdens on municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* to empower municipalities to adopt a default speed limit for unsigned roads within municipal boundaries by bylaw and posting of signs at municipal boundaries, rather than needing to install and maintain signs on every block of every road.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to empower municipalities to adopt a default speed limit for unsigned roads within municipal boundaries by bylaw and posting of signs at municipal boundaries, rather than needing to install and maintain signs on every block of every road.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions calling for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) to enable municipalities to implement blanket speed limits (2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14) within their municipal boundaries.

See resolution NR100

Conference decision: _____

EB72 Twinning of Highway 16

**Bulkley-Nechako RD,
Fort St. James**

Whereas Highway 16 serves as a critical transportation corridor for Northern British Columbia, facilitating the movement of goods, services, and residents across the region;

And whereas traffic volumes on Highway 16 have significantly increased due to the expansion of the Port of Prince Rupert, major infrastructure projects such as LNG and transmission line construction, and increased industrial and commercial activities;

And whereas the existing highway infrastructure presents safety concerns, particularly in areas of high traffic congestion and adverse weather conditions, leading to increased risks for motorists, with limited opportunities for safe passing along significant stretches of the highway, further exacerbating traffic congestion and safety risks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to undertake a feasibility study and develop a long-term plan for the twinning of Highway 16 to enhance safety, improve transportation efficiency, and support tourism and economic growth in the region.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the Province to undertake a feasibility study and develop a long-term plan for the twinning of Highway 16.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B12 which asked the Province to make improvements on the Trans-Canada Highway 16, as well as Highways 118, 37, and 27, within BC. As well, members endorsed resolution 2014-B81, which asked the Province to develop an “Asia-Pacific northern infrastructure strategy” in consultation with local government and industry, to address barriers to trade and transportation, and impacts to communities along Highway 16.

The Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supportive of highway improvements throughout BC, or on routes that have a significant impact on the provincial economy (2020-EB25, 2017-B12, 2014-B54, 2013-B13, 2008-B110). The Committee notes that Highway 16 is a national highway that connects to Prince Rupert with an international port.

Conference decision: _____

EB73 Active Transportation Infrastructure on Rural Highways

Williams Lake

Whereas the lack of Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) active transportation infrastructure on rural highways adversely affects provincially declared climate initiatives, and encouragement of active transportation commitment in smaller local governments;

And whereas these highways are located in the central key parts of rural communities, often as main streets, and are in dire need of safe, affordable transportation options which can also facilitate local governments to tie their own active transportation plans into to improve community health, economic opportunities and social interactions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to expand budgetary funding so they can be proactive in the development and installation of active transportation options on all existing MOTT infrastructure within rural local government boundaries.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to build active transportation options alongside provincial roads (2024-EB75, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16).

See resolution RR33

Conference decision: _____

EB74 Enhancing Rural Transit Systems

Nelson

Whereas rural communities rely heavily on public transit for access to essential services, employment, education, and social activities;

And whereas the current rural transit system is insufficient to meet the growing needs of rural riders, leading to challenges in accessibility and mobility for residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for increased funding and resources from provincial and federal governments to expand and improve rural transit services;

And be it further resolved that UBCM support initiatives aimed at enhancing the frequency, coverage, and reliability of rural transit to better serve the needs of rural riders and promote sustainable and equitable access to transit.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for increased funding and resources from provincial and federal governments to expand and improve rural transit services;

And be it further resolved that UBCM ~~support~~ **call on the provincial and federal governments for** initiatives aimed at enhancing the frequency, coverage, and reliability of rural transit to better serve the needs of rural riders and promote sustainable and equitable access to transit.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking improved funding and expanded service for public transit in rural and remote communities (2024-EB81, 2024-EB82, 2023-EB61, 2023-NR76, 2023-NR77, 2022-NR56, 2020-SR4, 2017-B8, 2017-B9).

The Resolutions Committee is proposing an amendment to the second enactment clause to ensure that the call to action from the provincial and federal governments is clear.

Conference decision: _____

EB75 Increasing Transit Service Expansion

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas public transit is essential for enabling all community members to participate in society and access important services; rural areas have very few alternative transportation options or providers such as taxis, ride share and accessible transportation services, and depend on reliable regional transit systems;

And whereas provincial funding to BC Transit for service expansion is not sufficient for local governments to realize their public transit expansion plans;

And whereas BC Transit's expansion funding evaluation process emphasizes ridership as a key criterion in allocating expansion hours which fails to recognize the needs of smaller, rural or Indigenous communities who rely on transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to increase funding for transit service expansion in rural communities recognizing how essential the service is to these populations;

And be it further resolved that BC Transit revise its transit service expansion allocation scoring criteria to ensure that rural communities also benefit from provincial transit expansion funding.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions asking the provincial government to fund expansion of public transit across BC, including:

- *doubling of services in BC regional, rural transit systems (2023-EB61);*

- *more robust funding, plus revenue tools, to support overall expansion of service, particularly in rural and remote communities (2024-EB82, 2020-SR4, 2017-B8, 2017-B9); and*
- *implementation and expansion of interregional transit, to address safety concerns and rider demand (2022-NR56, 2015-B9, 2012-C37).*

Conference decision: _____

EB76 Small Community Transit Service Fund

Merritt

Whereas transit costs in small communities for the operation and leasing of vehicles continues to rise at a rate that is unaffordable for maintaining systems with smaller population bases;

And whereas the transit riders in rural and small communities rely on the systems to attend appointments in larger urban centres and to commute to places of employment;

And whereas rural and small communities have limited tax bases to draw on to pay for increased costs they are facing reductions in transit services to limited routes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to develop a funding model for a small community transit service fund in addition to the small community transfer tax to support continuation of the vital links between and within smaller communities for those with limited means of transportation.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions asking the provincial government to fund the expansion of public transit in rural and remote areas, and for interregional transit, including:

- *enhance transit in and between rural communities to improve citizen mobility and to assist those who may already have housing in and adjacent to rural communities, or who can only afford housing in proximity to rural communities (2024-EB82);*
- *doubling of services in BC regional, rural transit systems (2023-EB61);*
- *more robust funding, plus revenue tools, to support overall expansion of service, particularly in rural and remote communities (2020-SR4, 2017-B8, 2017-B9); and*
- *implementation and expansion of interregional transit, to address safety concerns and rider demand (2022-NR56, 2015-B9, 2012-C37).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provision of and funding for public transit throughout BC (2023-EB61, 2022-NR56, 2022-NR57, 2020-EB17, 2018-SR2, 2018-B63, 2017-B8, 2017-LR3, 2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2012-C37).

Conference decision: _____



Legislative

EB77 Provincial Consultation on Legislative Changes

Parksville

Whereas the Province has enacted a significant volume of legislative and regulatory amendments affecting the authority of local governments, and these changes span across multiple, diverse topics and require specialized knowledge to implement locally;

And whereas many British Columbia local governments are small organizations with a lean staff and fixed capacity, and local governments have not received permanent core funding to increase capacity for ongoing demands of new legislation, and multiple changes province-wide limits the availability of qualified consultants to create temporary capacity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to:

- conduct meaningful technical level consultation with local governments about the feasibility and practicality of implementation, prior to amending legislation that affects the capacity and authority of local governments;
- to consider reasonable timelines for local governments to adapt to legislative changes;
- to consider the timing of multiple significant changes to core legislation across multiple topics;
- to coordinate the release of regulations and policy with statute amendments to assist local government staff in meeting timelines; and
- provide sustained core funding to local governments to accompany permanent changes that create additional workload for local government staff.



Endorsed by the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions calling on the Province to consult and engage with local governments on policy, programs, and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments:

- *2024-EB87 asked the provincial government to review its consultation processes with or involving local governments, especially as they relate to legislative or regulatory changes that impact local governments;*
- *2022-EB75 asked the Province to consult with local governments that will be impacted by provincial policy; and*
- *2019-SR1 called on the provincial government to ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation, and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter be adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives.*

In response to the 2022 resolution, the provincial government acknowledged that “[c]onsultation is enshrined as a legislative principle as part of the Province recognizing local governments as an order of government.” It noted that “Municipal Affairs staff are available to offer other ministries advice and support on specific projects as needed.”

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking increased and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments in the context of specific

legislative or policy processes (2024-EB76, 2023-EB8, 2023-EB62, 2022-EB75, 2021-SR2, 2021-EB5, 2021-EB43, 2021-EB72).

Conference decision: _____

EB78 Provincially Funded WorkSafe BC Coverage – Elected Officials **Daajing Giids**

Whereas WorkSafe BC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation does not cover elected officials, as currently elected officials e.g., provincial municipal and regional district government, school or library boards, etc. are not considered workers or employers under the *Workers Compensation Act* and, therefore, the Act does not apply to them in this capacity;

And whereas in the course of serving their constituents, elected officials are increasingly being subjected to escalating incivility such as harassment, intimidation and altercations;

And whereas the Province, the Ministry of Labour, and WorkSafeBC take the safety of all workers in British Columbia seriously and recognize the importance of the health and safety of all British Columbians who are active in both the private and public sectors of the economy:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province and the Ministry of Labour amend the *Workers Compensation Act* to include, and provincially fund, WorkSafe BC coverage for, all elected officials doing this necessary work on behalf of British Columbians.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR90, which asked in part for the Province to amend the Workers Compensation Act to include local elected officials in the definition of “worker”.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed two previous resolutions making the same request (2021-EB2, 2014-B98). This amendment would apply existing WorkSafeBC policies, procedures, and safeguards against bullying, harassment, and other inappropriate treatment at the hands of another local elected official.

In response to the 2021 resolution, the provincial government pointed out that, even without the requested changes to WorkSafe BC, local governments have the option of purchasing insurance coverage for their elected officials from private sector insurance carriers. The Province further suggested that local governments should work with WorkSafe BC “to explore whether there are options under existing legislation.”

Conference decision: _____

EB79 Unruly Behaviour – Development of Task Force **Nakusp**

Whereas several community council, board, and hearing disruptions have been caused by uncivil and unprofessional conduct by a small number of elected officials, resulting in policy intervention, adjournments of meetings, and a movement toward digital instead of in-person meetings;

And whereas the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* do not adequately provide local governments and the Province with the tools needed to respond effectively to the detrimental and paralyzing conduct of residents and elected officials who bully, harass and intimidate others despite the long history of local government openness and democratic values:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to take all steps necessary to convey the urgent need to create an effective task force to analyze the incivility and unruly behaviour problems and their causes, to consider best practices of other jurisdictions and to recommend legislation and enforcement mechanisms to address the crises of uncivil and paralytic behaviour that is impacting local government before the next local general election.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM's Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR89 which asked the Province to identify and implement measures to protect all elected local government officials from harassment, intimidation, and threats, thereby reinforcing a unified front to safeguard democracy.

Conference decision: _____

EB80 Review of the BC Library Act

Taylor

Whereas the current *Library Act* presents challenges for small rural municipal Councils to meet the obligations of the *Library Act*;

And whereas rural municipal libraries generally service areas beyond municipal boundaries, should have the opportunity to apply for an exemption within the *Library Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to review the current *Library Act* and amend as required to reflect current challenges for small rural and remote communities.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to review the ~~current~~ *Library Act* and ~~amend as required to reflect current challenges for small rural and remote communities~~ **and incorporate amendments that add flexibility or support mechanisms to address the challenge of finding adult residents or electors to serve on the library board of a small municipality.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to review the current Library Act and amend as required to reflect current challenges for small rural and remote communities.

The sponsor has shared that, as a small community with a population of less than 1500 residents, it is difficult to find adult residents or electors willing and qualified to serve on the library board of the municipal library. The sponsor suggests that this challenge may exist for other municipal libraries that serve small communities, and proposes amendments to the Library Act to add flexibility to the criteria for members of the library board.

Specifically, the sponsor observes that their small municipal library serves residents of adjacent regional district electoral areas and neighbouring municipalities, and supports Library Act amendments to allow small municipal libraries to canvas within the broader service area—including neighbouring electoral areas and municipalities—for residents or electors to serve on the library board.

The Resolutions Committee is proposing an amendment to clarify the issue being raised: the challenge of finding adult residents or electors to serve on the library board of a small municipality.

Conference decision: _____

EB81 Bylaw Enforcement Notice Penalty Increase for Development Violations

Coquitlam

Whereas the *Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act* provides for an efficient ticket and adjudication process that local governments have successfully implemented through the issuance of bylaw notices to obtain compliance with a variety of bylaw violations;

And whereas the administrative burden and cost of the Municipal Ticket Information system prevents the practical use of municipal ticketing to obtain compliance with local government bylaws;

And whereas the development industry may not be in compliance with local government bylaws related to the well-being of the neighbourhoods adjacent to their developments, and the current penalty amounts of bylaw notices are not significant enough to bring the development community into compliance with local government bylaws:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Attorney General and Deputy Premier for the Province of British Columbia increase the maximum allowable penalty provided in Section 6 of the *Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act* from \$500 to \$3,000.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR30 which asked, in part, that the Province permit the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act maximum bylaw violation penalty per day to be increased to \$3,000.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB38 which asked the Province to increase the maximum penalty for Bylaw Offence Notices and amend the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act accordingly.

See resolution NR37

Conference decision: _____



Assessment

EB82 Assessment Data Amendments and Municipal Financial Impact

Burnaby

Whereas the current process for implementing BC Assessment Authority valuation changes resulting from appeals or administrative revisions requires local government to retroactively issue tax refunds or supplementary charges within the same taxation year, creating significant and unpredictable financial impacts on local governments;

And whereas local governments have no control over the timing or outcomes of assessment appeals or corrections, yet are solely responsible for funding the resulting tax adjustments—often requiring the repayment of substantial amounts from local tax revenues, and thereby undermining financial stability and budget certainty;

And whereas a deferred adjustment model—whereby changes arising from appeals or identified data discrepancies are reflected in the next completed (January) or revised (March) assessment roll—would enable local governments and other taxing authorities to set tax rates based on an updated and stabilized tax base, while still allowing property owners to benefit from a successful appeal in the following tax year:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to review and revise the procedures governing assessment roll adjustments to ensure that:

- revisions resulting from assessment appeals or identified data inconsistencies are not applied retroactively through the supplementary roll;
- local governments have a mechanism to address factual discrepancies in assessment data outside of the formal appeal process; and
- all appeal-related adjustments are incorporated into the next Completed or Revised assessment roll, to mitigate unanticipated financial impacts on local governments and support a fair, predictable taxation environment for all stakeholders.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to review and revise the procedures governing assessment roll adjustments to ensure that:

- *revisions resulting from assessment appeals or identified data inconsistencies are not applied retroactively through the supplementary roll;*
- *local governments have a mechanism to address factual discrepancies in assessment data outside of the formal appeal process; and*
- *all appeal-related adjustments are incorporated into the next Completed or Revised assessment roll, to mitigate unanticipated financial impacts on local governments and support a fair, predictable taxation environment for all stakeholders.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2021-NR24 that asked the Province to 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.

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2007-B119 that asked the Province to take steps to address the backlog of assessment appeals to allow the BC Assessment Authority to produce its Final Final Assessment Rolls and ensure that the necessary information is available to local governments in a timely manner.

The Committee advises that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR93 that called on the Province to update the Assessment Act to significantly reduce the number of drastically under-assessed properties year over year.

The Committee finally notes that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2000-B106 which asked the Province to review the BC Assessment Act appeal process with a view to expediting appeals and to

protecting municipalities from the negative impact of property reassessments after annual taxation bylaws have been adopted. The Committee acknowledges that this is a dated reference.

Conference decision: _____



Community Economic Development

EB83 Forest Sustainability

Powell River

Whereas the April 2025 BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) report, *Competitiveness and Sustainability in the BC Forest Sector*, identifies BC as falling behind in all areas, except environmental policy;

And whereas BC has significant undercuts year after year that significantly contribute to industry uncertainty of fiber supply leading to lack of business sustainability and investment in the wood products sector with dire results such as mill closures;

And whereas the undercuts are a result of factors such as a time consuming, cumbersome, unpredictable permitting processes, rapid and unpredictable policy changes and in some cases lack of agreements with First Nations about tenure, revenue sharing, shared decisions or ownership:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government and Minister of Forests to make immediate steps to create regulatory certainty for planning and permitting the harvest of the full existing licensed Annual Allowable Cut (AAC); and negotiate agreements with First Nations that increase certainty in accessing fiber, resulting in improved sustainability of the forest industry, forest dependent communities, First Nations and the forest economy of BC.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to improve the community benefits of forest resources through the establishment of community forests, incentives for value-added/build with wood initiatives and strengthening provisions to provide for local processing, including: 2024-EB69, 2024-EB95, 2024-EB97, 2024-EB99, 2024-NR94, 2023-NR88, 2021-SR2, 2020-EB66, 2019-B156, 2018-B43, 2017-B36, 2016-B32, 2015-B37, 2015-B38.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions addressing timber rights, timber licenses and maintaining timber supply (2024-EB96, 2020-EB67, 2016-B42, 2015-LR2).

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB55 which asked the Province engage and consult with local governments and First Nations as it moves forward to implement the 14 recommendations within the Old Growth Review, recognizing that there will be significant impacts and implications for workers and communities that will require economic transition support.

Conference decision: _____

EB84 Forestry Industry and Fibre Decline

Port Alberni

Whereas hundreds of jobs have been lost in the forest industry in BC in 2024, and hundreds more are at risk due to the increasing cost and difficulty of accessing fibre and multiple other reasons;

And whereas this forest industry crisis has the potential for declines in population as well as declines in industrial property tax revenues in dozens of communities throughout British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to accelerate efforts to make more fibre available to mills at risk and work with industry as well as other stakeholders to find ways to reduce the cost of fibre delivered to the mills.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to combat the decline in the supply of fibre available to mills (2024-EB97, 2024-NR94, 2021-EB51, 2020-EB66, 2016-B45, 2015-LR2, 2006-B43).

Conference decision: _____

EB85 Support for Additional Dead Wood Salvage

Williams Lake

Whereas there are decreasing amounts of dead wood harvest in the province due to the cost of salvage being greater than the market value;

And whereas the pricing model for dead wood or fire impacted lands is the same or similar to live stands, and the permitting for fire impacted landscapes requires the same permitting requirements as live stands:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to create a new pricing model to encourage more business opportunities that will increase the volume of dead wood being available to the market, thereby reducing wildfire risk;

And be it further resolved that a special permitting system be established to ensure that fire impacted areas can have permits issued for salvage within 90 days, which will support the market for residual users and decrease dependence on subsidy programs.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB69, which asked the Province to work with the forest industry and relevant agencies to enhance access and utilization of fire-impacted standing timber across the province.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2011-B80, which asked the Province to harvest “pine beetle infestation areas [...] in those interface areas wherein licensees have determined that they will not be harvesting in order to abate wildland interface hazards on Crown land”. As well in 2012 members endorsed resolution B109, which asked for “Integrated Landscape Planning Guidelines and that all companies harvesting timber in BC consider future wildfire impacts while planning for harvesting.”

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to improve the community benefits of forest resources through the establishment of community forests, incentives for value-added/build with wood initiatives and strengthening provisions to provide

for local processing, including: 2024-EB99, 2024-NR94, 2023-NR88, 2021-SR2, 2020-EB66, 2019-B156, 2018-B43, 2017-B36, 2016-B32, 2016-B42, 2015-B37, 2015-B38, 2015-LR2.

Conference decision: _____

EB86 Engagement Protocols in Resource Development Processes NCLGA Executive

Whereas resource development projects significantly impact rural and unincorporated communities, including electoral areas, where regional directors are elected to represent local interests;

And whereas there is currently no standardized protocol for provincial ministries or resource development proponents to engage regional directors in consultation processes, limiting their ability to provide informed input on behalf of their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Ministry of Forests, and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, to establish formal engagement protocols that require provincial ministries and resource development proponents to consult with regional directors in electoral areas on projects within their jurisdictions, ensuring local perspectives are considered in decision-making.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Ministry of Forests, and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, to establish formal engagement protocols that require provincial ministries and resource development proponents to consult with ~~regional directors in electoral areas~~ **local governments** on projects within their jurisdictions, ensuring local perspectives are considered in decision-making.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish formal engagement protocols that require provincial ministries and resource development proponents to consult with regional directors in electoral areas on projects within their jurisdictions, ensuring local perspectives are considered in decision-making.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking more and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments on policy, programs and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments (2024-EB87, 2024-EB98, 2023-EB8, 2023-EB55, 2023-EB62, 2022-EB75, 2021-SR2, 2021-EB43, 2019-SR1, 2016-B33).

The Committee is proposing an amendment that provincial ministries and development proponents consult with local governments, rather than just with regional directors in electoral areas.

Conference decision: _____

EB87 Inclusion of Rural and Resource Communities in Campbell River
Provincial Economic Decision-Making

Whereas rural and resource-based communities continue to be a significant economic driver in both rural and urban areas across British Columbia;

And whereas communities throughout British Columbia are experiencing job losses and heightened economic challenges arising from trade uncertainties, and provincial legislation and policies that disproportionately affect resource industries such as forestry, mining, energy, and aquaculture;

And whereas these communities are integral to the provincial economy, contributing substantially to British Columbia's GDP, employment, and export revenues, while sustaining the economic vitality of urban centres through interconnected supply chains, workforce migration, and complementary industries;

And whereas current provincial decision-making processes frequently lack adequate representation and consultation with rural and resource-based communities, leading to policies that may inadvertently jeopardize the sustainability, cohesiveness and resilience of these regions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to formally recognize the critical economic contributions of rural and resource-based communities and to ensure their meaningful inclusion in the development of legislation, regulations, and economic strategies that impact resource industries by:

- Prioritizing economically viable access to resources;
- Supporting innovation within each sector to foster sustainable growth and enhance competitiveness;
- Actively engaging with each resource sector and its stakeholders to comprehensively understand their unique challenges and opportunities;
- Taking decisive action to amend policies and legislation based on the unique challenges and opportunities identified; and
- Removing restrictive legislation on resource sector industries.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered the request that the Province formally recognize the critical economic contributions of rural and resource-based communities and to ensure their meaningful inclusion in the development of legislation, regulations, and economic strategies that impact resource industries by:

- *Prioritizing economically viable access to resources;*
- *Supporting innovation within each sector to foster sustainable growth and enhance competitiveness;*
- *Actively engaging with each resource sector and its stakeholders to comprehensively understand their unique challenges and opportunities;*
- *Take decisive action to amend policies and legislation based on the unique challenges and opportunities identified; and*
- *Removing restrictive legislation on resource sector industries.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting resource sector economies, including:

- *seeking cost-effective use of shallow exploratory drilling for geothermal energy development in BC (2020-B72);*
- *adopt policies and implement regulations that will facilitate and stimulate value-added resource development (2017-B35);*
- *develop a "Northern Resource Corridor Plan" to enhance and coordinate railway, road, pipeline and power infrastructure across northern BC with the goal of faster, safer and more cost effective resource transportation (2018-B137);*
- *fund Geoscience BC to help local governments make informed decisions about natural resource development (2018-B166);*

- *resource extraction revenue sharing plan (2014-B59);*
- *expedite the approval of mine development in BC (2009-B138); and*
- *improve community benefits of forest resources through the establishment of community forests, incentives for value-added/build with wood initiatives and strengthening provisions to provide for local processing (including 2024-EB99, 2024-NR94, 2023-NR88, 2021-SR2, 2020-EB66, 2019-B156, 2018-B43, 2017-B36, 2016-B32, 2016-B42, 2015-B37, 2015-B38, 2015-LR2).*

Conference decision: _____

EB88 Consultation on Removal of Crown Land

Mackenzie

Whereas effective communication and engagement between local government and the Province of BC is essential in facilitating collaborative discussion and resolutions that support local economies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure provincial decisions regarding the removal of crown land from current and potential resource extraction activity, impacting the local economy must first include consultation from local government prior to decisions being made.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to ensure provincial decisions regarding the removal of crown land from current and potential resource extraction activity, impacting the local economy must first include consultation from local government prior to decisions being made.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking improved provincial government collaboration and consultation with local governments regarding land use planning initiatives on crown land (2021-EB43, 2018-B44), as well as provincial policy changes that could have negative impacts on the resource sector (2024-EB98, 2021-SR2).

Further, the membership endorsed resolution 2019-SR1, which asked the Province to ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation, as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter, are adhered to and implemented when the Province moves forward with future initiatives, including processes and programs affecting the land base.

Conference decision: _____

EB89 Increased Ministry Funding for Agriculture

Pitt Meadows

Whereas provincial funding for agriculture in British Columbia as a percentage of the sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the lowest in Canada;

And whereas an increase to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's budget would demonstrate the province's commitment to food security and the sustainability of agriculture:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to raise agriculture funding in BC to the national average to support much-needed investments in the agricultural sector.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B29 that requested “the provincial government raise(s) agriculture funding in British Columbia to the national average.”

In addition, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions that seek to support farming and agriculture through a variety of means, including:

- *2024-NR70 which asked the ALC to update event rules to ensure that farming is the primary use of ALR lands;*
- *2024-NR51 which asked the federal and provincial governments to prioritize funding for regionally tailored agricultural research to develop sustainable solutions for diverse farming challenges across British Columbia;*
- *2018-B105 which sought taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary “farm uses”; and*
- *2014-A3 which asked the Province, in part, to identify and implement additional measures that will increase the viability of farming and food production in BC.*

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the Province to ensure food security for British Columbians (2023-NR61, 2022-NR8, 2021-EB70, 2020-EB78, 2019-B66, 2011-B100, 2011-B101).

Conference decision: _____

EB90 Industrial Electrification Expansion

**Fort St. John,
Peace River RD**

Whereas electrification of industrial operations presents an opportunity to help meet British Columbia’s climate objectives and grow British Columbia’s resource sectors;

And whereas inadequate grid capacity, slow interconnection processes, and high industrial power rates are major barriers to electrification, delaying projects and increasing costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to expand grid capacity, streamline interconnection processes, and ensure competitive industrial power rates to support industrial electrification.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand grid capacity, streamline interconnection processes, and ensure competitive industrial power rates to support industrial electrification.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking electrification in underserved regions, and the expansion and strengthening of the electrical grid (2023-NR43, 2016-B38, 2012-B36, 2008-B45).

In response to the 2023 resolution, the provincial government highlighted the Integrated Resource Plan prepared by BC Hydro and submitted to the BC Utilities Commission, as well as the North Coast Transmission Line infrastructure initiative.

Conference decision: _____

EB91 Investment in Recreational Tourism

Nelson

Whereas rural communities near the United States border are experiencing economic challenges due to declining tourism, which is a vital source of income for local businesses and job creation;

And whereas these challenges are primarily caused by aging infrastructure, limited marketing support, and intense competition from well-funded US destinations, making it difficult for rural communities to attract and retain visitors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to address declining tourism due to aging infrastructure, limited marketing support, and better-funded US destinations, by increasing targeted investment in recreational tourism infrastructure, including parks, trails, ski resorts, indoor facilities, and outdoor adventure amenities, and by providing enhanced marketing support to promote these areas to potential visitors from the United States;

And be it further resolved that the Province work collaboratively with local governments, Indigenous communities, and tourism stakeholders to develop a sustainable, long-term strategy for tourism investment in border regions, ensuring economic growth while protecting natural and cultural resources.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to increase targeted investment in recreational tourism infrastructure, and provide enhanced marketing support to promote these areas to potential visitors from the United States. Nor have members considered the second request, that the Province collaborate with local governments, Indigenous communities, and tourism stakeholders to develop a sustainable, long-term strategy for tourism investment in border regions.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions in support of recreational tourism (2024-EB92, 2024-EB93, 2024-EB94, 2021-EB23, 2018-B45). In addition, the Committee notes that members have endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to provide funding and staff to support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks, recreational sites, trails, and backcountry areas (2021-EB42, 2019-B50, 2018-B45, 2018-B72).

The Committee would observe, however, that communities throughout BC may be experiencing a similar decline in recreational tourism, and might similarly benefit from the investments, and marketing and strategic support, that this resolution proposes. This is not unique to border regions, and the sponsor may wish to consider the support that non-border regions of the province could provide to this resolution, if the wording did not exclude them.

Conference decision: _____

EB92 Rural-Focused Immigration Policy

Nelson

Whereas many rural communities across British Columbia rely on international students and skilled immigrants to support local economies, fill critical labor shortages, and sustain essential services;

And whereas recent changes to federal immigration policies, including restrictions on international student enrollment, have significantly impacted rural colleges, businesses, and industries by reducing the available workforce and limiting economic growth:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the federal and provincial governments to develop a rural-focused immigration policy that prioritizes workforce needs, ensures economic resilience, and provides support to rural businesses, post-secondary institutions, and communities affected by these policy changes.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the federal and provincial governments to develop a rural-focused immigration policy that prioritizes workforce needs, ensures economic resilience, and provides support to rural businesses, post-secondary institutions, and communities affected by ~~these policy changes~~ **recent changes to federal immigration policies, including restrictions on international student enrollment.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR87, which asked the Province to create an economic immigration program that would enable local governments to streamline application and approval to allow foreign workers to work in British Columbia.

The Committee also notes that members have supported hiring internationally trained doctors and nurses to help address the shortage of health care professionals (2022-NR5, 2018-B51, 2014-B132, 2012-B91, 2009-B148).

The Committee understands that the Provincial Nominee Program does have two streams to address gaps and shortages: skills immigration (tech, international students, priority occupations such as health care), and entrepreneur immigration which supports economic development. The entrepreneur stream includes a regional pilot program where the Province works directly with small to mid-size BC communities to attract entrepreneurs to fill an identified gap.

The Committee is proposing an amendment to clarify the policy changes affecting communities.

Conference decision: _____



Selected Issues

EB93 Increased Funding and Requirement for Civics Education

Nelson

Whereas a significant portion of Canadians lack basic civic knowledge, which negatively impacts voter participation, democratic engagement, and public discourse, contributing to issues such as social polarization and the spread of disinformation;

And whereas informed and engaged citizens are essential to a functioning democracy, and stronger civics education in schools is necessary to equip students with a fundamental understanding of democracy, government, and citizenship:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for civics education, ensuring that teachers have access to professional development, resources, and support to deliver high-quality, experiential learning, and to prioritize civics education in the provincial school curriculum to strengthen democratic literacy among students.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions calling for more specific and increased education about local government:

- *2011-B73 which asked the Province to significantly increase and improve the educational curriculum related to local government; and*
- *2010-B55 which asked the Province to add “Local Government Studies” to the grades 8 to 12 school curriculum.*

In response to the 2011 resolution, the provincial government highlighted parts of the elementary Social Studies curriculum that focus on local governance structures and government elections; as well as “specific learning outcomes about the structure and function of government in Canada and the different powers and responsibilities of different levels of government” in Social Studies 10 and 11, and Civic Studies 11.

Conference decision: _____

**EB94 BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Representation in Rural BC Communities**

Burns Lake

Whereas there is an immediate and ongoing concern in rural British Columbia communities regarding abused, abandoned and neglected animals, which also pose significant public health and safety concerns;

And whereas the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) is the only animal welfare organization in BC with the authority under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* to investigate complaints of animal abuse or neglect, enforce animal welfare laws and recommend criminal charges to the Crown Council;

And whereas the BC SPCA does not receive any provincial funding to assist with animal protection services and is the only British Columbian entity responsible for law enforcement whose investigative responsibilities are funded by donation;

And whereas there is a lack of BC SPCA representation in rural BC communities resulting in public health and safety issues and a lack of animal welfare enforcement:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government for funding to support the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the purpose of appointing authorized agents as granted under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*, for representation in all rural communities to ensure public health, safety and welfare of animals.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2011-B145 which asked the Province to support the BC SPCA for the purpose establishing additional public shelters or appointing authorized agents for all rural communities to ensure public health, safety and welfare of animals.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed other resolutions expressing support for the BC SPCA, including:

- *2011-B144 which asked the Province to demonstrate its commitment to the welfare of animals in the province by providing appropriate funding to allow the BC SPCA to effectively prevent and respond to*

- incidents of animal abuse; and*
 - 2009-B180 which asked the Province to implement a levy of an additional tax on all pet food sales to help cover the operational costs of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals provincial funding needs.*

Conference decision: _____

EB95 Lobbyist Registration

Saanich

Whereas the *Lobbyists Transparency Act* (formerly the Lobbyists Registration Act) requires individuals and organizations who lobby public office holders, and meet specific criteria, to register their lobbying activities in an online public registry;

And whereas the goal of the BC *Lobbyists Transparency Act* is to promote transparency in lobbying and government decision-making:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government establish and administer an opt-in lobbyist registration and regulation system for municipal governments, similar to the provincial mechanism under the BC *Lobbyists Transparency Act*.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions addressing lobbyists:

- 2019-B74 which asked the Province for a lobbying regulation system for municipal government, similar to the provincial mechanism under the BC Lobbyist Registration Act, be established; and*
- 2017-B99, which asked the Province to provide municipalities with the ability to register lobbyists, create rules for lobbyists' conduct in their interactions with elected officials and public servants, and the ability to enforce those rules.*

In response to the 2019 resolution, the provincial government indicated it was willing to consider initiatives to support accountability, openness, and transparency "in interactions between public servants, elected officials and lobbyists". However, the Province suggested it was necessary to seek "a clearer understanding of what local governments hope to achieve through a municipal lobbyist registry".

See resolution RR36

Conference decision: _____

Section NEB Resolutions Resolutions Contrary to Existing Policy

Section NEB are the Not Endorse Block of resolutions. Resolutions in the Not Endorse Block are contrary to existing policy and are recommended as Not Endorse.

NEB Resolutions are:

- resolutions previously considered and not endorsed; or
- resolutions contrary with UBCM policy.

Included in Section NEB are resolutions numbered:

NEB1 – NEB3

Section NEB



Health and Social Development

NEB1 Primary Care Clinic Space

Port Moody

Whereas over 700,000 British Columbians lack a family doctor, and the provincial population is growing at 1.7 percent annually while newly arrived and existing family doctors face prohibitive costs and scarcity of properly configured spaces for community clinics;

And whereas newly mandated growth from the province would better serve our communities holistically by incorporating healthcare needs of new and existing residents:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work with local governments, Provincial and Local Divisions of Family Practice, and developers to encourage or require consideration of community health clinic spaces in new development, including but not limited to, providing provincial health infrastructure funding/subsidies, provincially leased spaces, and connections between physicians and healthcare workers to understand and address community needs within new spaces;

And be it further resolved that the Province explicitly include funding for community health spaces in eligible Amenity Cost Charges (ACC) benefits.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered the specific requests in the resolution above.

However, the Committee notes that this resolution asks the membership to provide subsidies/fund health infrastructure; play a role in connecting physicians and health care workers to understand and address community needs within new spaces; and use a local government financing tool to fund community health spaces.

The Resolutions Committee is recommending 'Not Endorse' as UBCM has long held the policy that local governments do not take on provincial areas of responsibility without adequate funding.

The basic principles outlined in UBCM's Statement of General Policies state that responsibilities and the financial resources to meet these responsibilities are related so that local governments should have "access to additional revenue ... when local government is assigned new responsibility" (section 1.10), and "financial assistance should be provided to local government by other orders of government when their policies override local priorities or impose an additional financial burden on local government and that assistance should equate to the added cost burden" (section 2.10).

In previously endorsed resolutions, the membership has asked the Province to "invest in its own areas of responsibility where there are already service deficits that will be further affected by housing-related population growth, namely health care (family doctors, ambulances, hospitals, etc.) and education (classrooms, teachers, etc.)" (2024-SR2); and that the Province "acknowledge that the reliance on property taxes to fund areas of provincial health care responsibility is inconsistent and unsustainable for BC local governments" (2024-SR1).

The Committee would further note that the Local Government Act requires local governments to consider whether Amenity Cost Charges (ACC) charges will deter development or discourage the construction of reasonably priced housing or the provision of reasonably priced serviced land when setting ACCs. Given this cap on ACCs levels, using them to fund community health spaces means there is less room left to use ACCs to recover the growth-related costs of services that are actually local government responsibilities – such as community centres and libraries.

Conference decision: _____



Legislative

NEB2 Personal and Defamatory Attacks on Local Government Leaders

Osoyoos

Whereas local governments recognize the importance of fostering respectful and constructive dialogue within the community;

And whereas personal and defamatory attacks on local government leaders, including both senior staff and elected officials, undermine the integrity of the democratic process and create a hostile working environment;

And whereas current legislative and legal frameworks, including those of WorkSafeBC and *Workers Compensation Act*, do not provide adequate protection against such attacks, thereby hindering the ability of local government leaders to carry out their duties effectively:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial and federal governments for legislative changes that address the issue of personal and defamatory attacks by members of the public on local government leaders;

And be it further resolved that these changes should aim to strengthen protections for local government leaders against unfounded, defamatory and malicious accusations by members of the public while also upholding principles of freedom of speech and transparency;

And be it further resolved that UBCM is encouraged to collaborate with other relevant stakeholders, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, including legal experts and advocacy groups, to develop comprehensive proposals for legislative reform.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Not Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse referred resolution 2024-NR91, an identical resolution from the same sponsor. The Resolutions Committee notes that BC's Libel and Slander Act does apply to elected officials, who may pursue legal action under this Act.

Conference decision: _____



Selected Issues

NEB3 Provincial Government Water Panel

Lake Country

Whereas BC faces real threats to a sustainable water supply: droughts, flood and fire to name a few;

And whereas increased water supply will be necessary to accommodate the housing growth that the BC Government is mandating, along with maintaining and growing the agricultural sector to feed this new population;

And whereas UBCM is the voice of local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM strike a water panel to advocate to the Provincial government on water issues pertaining to their local governments' members.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse resolution 2024-NEB12, which was an identical resolution from the same sponsor.

The Committee also advises that the UBCM membership referred resolution 2023-RR32 to the UBCM Executive who, upon consideration, did not endorse the resolution. The resolution asked UBCM to establish a working committee of Indigenous governments and all orders of government to address future flooding, completing and implementing a flood risk assessment and strategic flood protection for critical infrastructure.

Conference decision: _____

Section NR Resolutions Resolutions Proposing New Policy

Section NR are the No Recommendation resolutions. Resolutions placed under No Recommendation neither align with, nor contradict, existing policy and are recommended as No Recommendation or No Action Required.

NR Resolutions are:

- resolutions on topics not previously considered;
- resolutions where there is no action required;
- resolutions with proposed policy positions that do not align with current UBCM policy position.

Included in Section NR are resolutions numbered:

NR1 – NR122

Section NR



Health and Social Development

NR1 Ensuring Equitable Access to Child Care Funding

Nelson

Whereas a significant portion of childcare spaces in many communities are provided by small, private childcare operators, which play a critical role in ensuring accessible and diverse childcare options, particularly in rural and underserved areas;

And whereas current government childcare programs, such as the New Spaces Fund, primarily prioritize non-profit, public, and Indigenous providers, limiting access for small private providers and creating financial barriers that may reduce overall childcare availability:

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

1. Expand incentives and financial supports indicated in Budget 2025 for non-profit, public, and Indigenous childcare providers to also include small private childcare operators;
2. Ensure that any public investment into the construction of public buildings, such as schools, hospitals, and libraries, includes dedicated childcare spaces to address growing demand;
3. Provide funding, establish partnerships, and develop initiatives to support the recruitment, training, and certification of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), including specialized training for infant-toddler and special needs care; and
4. Improve communication policies with private childcare providers, ensuring they are actively engaged in policy development and funding allocation discussions.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government expand incentives and financial supports for small, private childcare operators, include dedicated childcare spaces in the construction of new public buildings, improve recruitment, training and certification of Early Childhood Educators, and improve communication policies with private childcare providers, ensuring they are engaged in policy development and funding allocation discussions.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting that the Province create a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2024-EB17, 2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB23, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions focused on early childhood educators, seeking to increase their availability through more training and increased paid (2022-EB22, 2021-EB67, 2020-NR68, 2006-B168).

Conference decision: _____

NR2 Child Care Licensing Requirements

Oak Bay

Whereas staffing shortages have led to the unavailability of licensed daycare and after-school care spots;

And whereas childcare service provides the opportunity for youth employment and valuable skills development;

And whereas youth already provide care for school-age children as leaders in summer camps, working as lifeguards, and other areas of demonstrated responsibility;

And whereas childcare facilities are often located in or near high schools:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to modify Section 29 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation to allow certified care staff to include those below the age of 19, particularly for after-school-care of school age children.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to modify Section 29 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation to allow certified care staff to include those below the age of 19, particularly for after-school-care of school age children.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking additional pay for, and acknowledgment of the value of, the child care workforce (2022-EB22, 2021-EB67).

More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting that the Province create a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2021-EB68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2020-NR68).

Conference decision: _____

NR3 Hiring More Qualified Medical Professionals

Nakusp

Whereas medical practice has been restricted to the province or territory in which the licence was granted as each province has its own regulatory body;

And whereas British Columbia, has a shortage of medical professionals, contributing to long wait times, emergency room closures and difficulty accessing primary care:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to hire more qualified medical professionals by providing immediate provisional licences for those trained in Canada.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging the Province to hire more qualified medical professionals by providing immediate provisional licences for those trained in Canada.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking additional resources, funding and training for health care professionals and the health care system, including:

- *reducing barriers for healthcare training opportunities (2024-EB11);*
- *supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system (2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146);*
- *improving physician recruitment and retention, and the need for more health care professionals (2018-B143, 2017-B42, 2015-B68, 2014-B132, 2013-B47, 2012-B91, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2010-B43, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B154, 2005-B41);*
- *calling for greater opportunities for Canadian internationally-trained medical graduates to undertake postgraduate training and establish practices in BC (2018-B51, 2014-B132, 2012-B91, 2009-B148);*
- *working with universities and communities to encourage graduates of medical programs to practice and stay in rural areas of BC (2011-B60);*
- *developing appropriate changes in the Canadian medical education system required to ensure that general practitioners can meet the needs of rural Canadians, such as proficiency in surgery, anesthesia and obstetrics (2010-B112); and*
- *improving education and training opportunities for more health care professionals (2009-B148, 2008-B49).*

See resolution EB2

Conference decision: _____

NR4 Strengthening Rural Healthcare Through Scope-Based Compensation Models

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas healthcare staffing shortages in rural communities across British Columbia have led to primary care providers assuming broader scopes of responsibilities, often performing multiple roles to ensure comprehensive patient care;

And whereas existing monetary incentives for primary care providers in British Columbia do not adequately reflect the expanded scope of responsibilities required in rural settings, contributing to recruitment and retention challenges:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the provincial government to implement a pay structure and incentive model that directly aligns with the scope of responsibilities undertaken by primary care providers in rural areas.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement a pay structure and incentive model that directly aligns with the scope of responsibilities undertaken by primary care providers in rural areas.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions that address rural and remote health care services and primary care providers, including:

- *providing more funding or other assistances for placing medical locums in small, rural communities (2022-EB19);*
- *building a strategy to expand rural and remote community health care services (2020-NR64);*
- *ensuring equitable access to health services in rural BC with adequate funding to support that model (2019-B62);*
- *providing solutions to ensure medical specialists and services are available in rural BC (2019-B63); and*
- *requiring resources and permission for local physicians to perform minor operating procedures in remote rural hospitals (2006-B154).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that have called on the provincial government to provide increased funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (2023-SR1, 2022-EB20, 2019-B62, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146).

Conference decision: _____

NR5 **Addressing Rural Physician Shortages Due to Practice Ready Assessment-BC and Longitudinal Family Physician Changes** Dawson Creek

Whereas rural and remote communities face significant challenges in recruiting and retaining primary care physicians, leading to chronic understaffing and healthcare access issues;

And whereas the expansion of the Practice Ready Assessment – British Columbia (PRA-BC) program’s eligible communities and the implementation of the Longitudinal Family Physician (LFP) Payment Model has contributed to increased physician shortages, excessive workloads, and frequent emergency room diversions in rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to reassess the recent changes to the Practice Ready Assessment – British Columbia program and Longitudinal Family Physician Payment Model, ensuring that these initiatives prioritize the recruitment and retention of physicians in rural and remote communities to address ongoing healthcare disparities.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to reassess the recent changes to the Practice Ready Assessment – British Columbia program and Longitudinal Family Physician Payment Model, ensuring that these initiatives prioritize the recruitment and retention of physicians in rural and remote communities to address ongoing healthcare disparities.

According to the sponsor, recent changes to the Practice Ready Assessment – British Columbia (PRA-BC) program have expanded eligibility to include urban communities. This shift in focus has reduced the prioritization of rural placements. As a result, physicians are increasingly opting to fulfill their service in urban areas, where they have access to more amenities and professional support. This change undermines the original intent of the PRA-BC program and has contributed to ongoing physician shortages in rural communities, where recruitment and retention have always been more difficult.

Regarding the Longitudinal Family Physician Payment Model, the sponsor notes that the restructuring of compensation under the LFP model has narrowed the income gap between rural and urban physicians. Previously, rural physicians received higher compensation as an incentive to practice in less desirable or more challenging environments. With the financial advantage diminished, rural areas now face even greater challenges in attracting physicians who can choose to work in urban centres for similar pay but with significantly more lifestyle and professional amenities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-SR1 on health equity for rural and remote communities. The resolution asked the Province to introduce metrics and policy to identify reasonable travel distances from each community to health care services and facilities, to ensure transparent, accountable, and equitable health care access for those living in rural and remote communities in BC. As well, the resolution asked the provincial government to move quickly to increase the health care workforce in rural and remote communities by:

- creating additional licensing and training opportunities for internationally-trained medical graduates;*
- establishing recruitment and retention programs for health care professionals willing to work in rural areas;*
- approving physician assistants to work alongside physicians and other health professionals; and*
- expanding the use of nurse practitioners and pharmacists to increase access to health services.*

The UBCM membership has also consistently endorsed resolutions that have called on the provincial government to provide increased funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (2023-EB7, 2022-EB20, 2019-B62, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146).

The Committee acknowledges that this issue is outside the scope of local government jurisdiction, and as such, it cannot provide comments as to the merit, impact or consequences of this resolution's request.

Conference decision: _____

NR6	Local Voices, Stronger Healthcare: Enabling Healthcare Collaboration Frameworks in Rural BC	Alberni-Clayoquot RD
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Whereas rural communities across British Columbia face significant challenges in retaining and attracting primary care providers, leading to gaps in essential healthcare services and/or temporary primary care service closures;

And whereas local governments and Indigenous communities in rural areas are often excluded from provincial decision-making processes that directly impact their ability to maintain and improve healthcare services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to convene a formal table that includes representatives from the UBCM, First Nations communities, local governments, and healthcare professionals to collaboratively design a framework for enabling local decision making around healthcare in rural areas;

And be it further resolved that this table ensure local government, First Nations communities, and local healthcare professionals have a structured decision-making role in shaping healthcare strategies, workforce planning, and service delivery models that address the unique challenges of their rural communities.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution on this issue.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-SR1 on health equity for rural and remote communities. The resolution asked the Province to introduce metrics and policy to identify reasonable travel distances from each community to health care services and facilities, to ensure transparent, accountable, and equitable health care access for those living in rural and remote communities in BC. As well, the resolution asked the provincial government to move quickly to increase the health care workforce in rural and remote communities by:

- *creating additional licensing and training opportunities for internationally-trained medical graduates;*
- *establishing recruitment and retention programs for health care professionals willing to work in rural areas;*
- *approving physician assistants to work alongside physicians and other health professionals; and*
- *expanding the use of nurse practitioners and pharmacists to increase access to health services.*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that have called on the provincial government to provide increased funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (2022-EB20, 2019-B62, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146).

Conference decision: _____

**NR7 Expanding Career-Life Connections with Rural
Practicum Program**

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas rural communities in British Columbia face challenges in attracting and retaining skilled workers, particularly in essential sectors such as healthcare;

And whereas healthcare students in British Columbia must complete at least 30 hours of work experience or community service as part of the Career-Life Connections program, but this requirement does not sufficiently prepare students for long-term employment in rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to expand or establish a program specifically designed to place healthcare students in rural communities, providing hands on experience, and financial support;

And be it further resolved that this program be developed in partnership with local governments, Indigenous communities, educational institutions, and local industries to address workforce shortages and foster long-term economic sustainability in rural areas.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand or establish a program specifically designed to place healthcare students in rural communities, providing hands on experience, and financial support. As well, that this program be developed in partnership with local governments, Indigenous communities, educational institutions, and local industries to address workforce shortages and foster long-term economic sustainability in rural areas.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-SR1 on health equity for rural and remote communities. The resolution asked, in part, that the provincial government move quickly to increase the health care workforce in rural and remote communities by:

- creating additional licensing and training opportunities for internationally-trained medical graduates;
- establishing recruitment and retention programs for health care professionals willing to work in rural areas;
- approving physician assistants to work alongside physicians and other health professionals; and
- expanding the use of nurse practitioners and pharmacists to increase access to health services.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed 2023-NR12 asking the provincial government to increase the provision of locally offered training and support for Public Health Officials in rural and northern British Columbia.

Further, the membership endorsed resolution 2017-B43 which, in part, asked for the province to consider:

- providing incentives to rural community graduates seeking health care training whereby a student obtains a specified number of years free post-secondary education in exchange for returning to their home community for a specified number of years; and/or
- providing additional and adequate support to rural doctors in the form of additional office staff and/or seed money to bridge establishing a private practice.

More generally, the membership has endorsed resolutions that have called on the provincial government to provide increased funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (2022-EB20, 2019-B62, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2016-B124, 2014-B130, 2013-B43, 2013-B44, 2013-B45, 2013-B46, 2013-B47, 2012-B38, 2012-B39, 2012-B91, 2012-B93, 2012-B103, 2011-B60, 2011-B61, 2010-B43, 2010-B44, 2010-B112, 2009-B148, 2008-B49, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146).

Conference decision: _____

NR8 Emergency Room Closure Notification

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas access to emergency medical services is critical for all British Columbians and hospital emergency department closures severely disrupt critical healthcare access, potentially endangering communities and lives by delaying urgent medical treatment;

And whereas reliable communication and immediate notification during hospital emergency department closures is essential to ensure the public is informed of alternate healthcare facilities, preventing unnecessary delays;

And whereas a reliable and immediate notification system to alert the public to emergency department closures and alternate care locations is not in place:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government establish a standardized emergency notification system, utilizing platforms such as text alerts, mobile alert applications and local media to inform the public of temporary emergency department closures and directing residents to the nearest available healthcare facilities.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a standardized emergency notification system, utilizing platforms such as text

alerts, mobile alert applications and local media to inform the public of temporary emergency department closures and directing residents to the nearest available healthcare facilities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions in which local governments are wanting to share timely alerts with their residents, including:

- 2021-EB5 which asked the Province 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; and
- 2018-B8 which asked the Province to provide access to the Alert Ready (emergency alert) system to local governments in order to allow them to broadcast critical and potentially life threatening alerts to residents of their respective communities using the framework of the Alert Ready System.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system (2023-SR1, 2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162, 2006-B48, 2006-B50, 2006-B154, 2006-B156, 2005-B146).

See resolutions EB1, RR3

Conference decision: _____

NR9 Rural Foundry Centres

Mackenzie

Whereas youth in rural and remote British Columbia are facing mental health and wellness challenges just like their peers in urban centers;

And whereas Foundry BC in-person Centers are largely located in urban British Columbia and not accessible for youth in rural and remote BC communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to commit to establishing in-person Foundry Centres that meet the needs of rural and remote youth in their home communities, recognizing the unique challenges of youth living in rural and remote communities.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to commit to establishing in-person Foundry Centres that meet the needs of rural and remote youth in their home communities, recognizing the unique challenges of youth living in rural and remote communities.

The Committee would note that Foundry is a province-wide network of integrated health and wellness services, including primary care, for young people ages 12-24. Foundry offers five core services:

- Mental health care
- Substance use services
- Physical and sexual health care
- Youth and family peer support
- Social services

Conference decision: _____

NR10 Strengthening the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy

Port Moody

Whereas poverty rates in BC are climbing with the rates of child poverty and seniors in poverty increasing as well as an increasing number of residents who rely on food banks;

And whereas poverty reduction grants for local governments have ceased:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial and federal governments to strengthen poverty reduction strategies by reinstating poverty reduction grants for local governments;

And be it further resolved the provincial government include in a poverty reduction strategy the recommendations from the BC Human Rights Commissioner and evidence informed best practices, including, but not limited to:

- a timeline and actions for raising social assistance and disability assistance rates to at least 75 percent of the poverty line;
- examining and eliminating barriers to income such as clawbacks and restrictions;
- timelines and targets for reducing deep poverty;
- Indigenous-specific co-created poverty reduction strategies;
- food security and sovereignty strategies to support healthy people and local food economies; and
- specific programs to support seniors in staying in their homes, reducing the risk of homelessness and poverty, and prioritizing development of housing for unhoused seniors;

And be it further resolved the provincial government include a Basic Income Pilot program in the update of a poverty reduction strategy.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that while the UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions addressing a variety of issues seeking poverty reduction strategies, many of the requests in this resolution have not been previously considered.

The Committee notes that the endorsed resolutions relevant to the above resolution include:

- implementing a universal basic income (2024-EB16, 2023-EB17, 2022-EB14);
- enhancing coordinated health and social support programs for seniors across BC (2023-NR5, 2022-EB12, 2018-B53, 2017-B51, 2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2011-B63, 2007-B152, 2006-B162);
- creating a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2024-EB17, 2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2021-EB68, 2020-NR68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156);
- increasing rental assistance rates (2022-NR13, 2017-B53, 2015-B45, 2014-B44); and
- funding, providing and facilitating affordable and adequate housing across BC, with adequate support services to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

Regarding the request to include a Basic Income Pilot program in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, staff note that in 2018, the provincial government conducted a two year review to assess the feasibility of a basic income and basic income pilot in BC. In 2021, the government noted that the panel recommended changes to BC's existing social supports and services to address the complex needs and unique circumstances of individuals and families instead of pursuing a basic income model or pilot.

See resolution EB11

Conference decision: _____

NR11 Mental Health Support for Local Government Officials

**Coquitlam,
Maple Ridge**

Whereas the stresses faced by local elected officials are increasing due to a degradation in the tone of civil discourse;

And whereas additional mental health supports for local elected officials would be beneficial beyond what is provided by Medical Services Plan and extended health plans;

And whereas elected officials aren't covered by mental health provisions afforded to local government employees:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders in British Columbia.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide measures to address the mental health and safety needs of local elected officials in British Columbia.

The Committee would note that UBCM, through its Group Benefits Plan, offers elected officials:

- *extended health care;*
- *dental;*
- *employee and family assistance plan (e.g. mental health supports);*
- *optional life insurance; and*
- *optional accidental death and dismemberment.*

For those local governments that have their staff benefits through the UBCM Group Benefits Plan, there is the option to provide your elected officials with the same level of benefits/plan design that you provide to your non-union staff for Extended Health and Dental.

Benefit programs are offered by an insurance provider, so it is up to that insurance provider what benefits to offer and cover, and this has been negotiated with UBCM. Therefore it is not a decision of UBCM or the provincial government, it is reliant on an insurance provider who is willing to offer those benefits. In the case of UBCM's benefit plan, our insurance provided Pacific Blue Cross, has made the benefits program available to elected officials based on the enrollment criteria.

See resolutions RR1, RR2

Conference decision: _____

NR12 Health and Wellbeing of BC's Public Safety Personnel

North Vancouver City

Whereas psychological-only injury workplace claims have increased five-fold in British Columbia since 2018, particularly within the public safety sector;

And whereas fire and police personnel suffer from occupational stress injuries at rates four times that of the general population, resulting in symptoms of anxiety, depression and trauma which, as a result the demands of their service to our communities, affect their work and personal lives;

And whereas since 2019, over 500 first responders from local governments across BC have participated in the BC First Responder Resiliency Program (FRRP), an educational retreat operating in partnership between the University of British Columbia, Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver Coastal Health, the British Columbia Professional Fire Fighters Association, the British Columbia Police Association, the Vancouver Police Union, and the Vancouver Police Department, resulting in positive, evidence-based outcomes lasting at least six months past program completion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to provide two years of funding for the BC First Responder Resiliency Program to ensure continuous support for first responders across the province while longer-term funding models are developed, ensuring program participants, their employee associations/unions, families and communities, do not bear the direct cost of providing occupational health and safety education for British Columbia's public safety personnel;

And be it further resolved that UBCM ask British Columbia's Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to collaborate with FRRP interest holder organizations to develop mental health and wellness policies, regulations, and funding mechanisms to ensure the long-term viability and expansion of this program for the benefit of all British Columbia first responders, in communities across the province.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide two years of funding for the BC First Responder Resiliency Program (FRRP) to ensure continuous support for first responders across the province while longer-term funding models are developed. Nor has the membership considered the request of the Province to collaborate with FRRP interest holder organizations to develop mental health and wellness policies, regulations, and funding mechanisms to ensure the long-term viability and expansion of this program.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed two resolutions which asked the Province to amend the Workers Compensation Act to add a presumptive clause for mental health injuries to first responders, and that upon receipt of a mental health injury claim, the first responder should receive immediate financial benefits and treatment (2016-B43 and 2015-B73).

See resolution NR49

Conference decision: _____

NR13 Advancing Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices

NCLGA Executive

Whereas addiction and mental illness impact individuals across all sectors of society, and stigma remains a significant barrier to seeking help, sustaining long-term recovery, and maintaining employment, a key determinant of well-being that provides financial stability, purpose, and social connection;

And whereas local governments, as employers and community leaders, have the ability to implement Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices that foster inclusive and supportive work environments, reduce workplace conditions that contribute to substance misuse, and promote policies that recognize and celebrate recovery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage members to adopt Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices by integrating education, support programs, and policies that create stigma-free workplaces, while also advocating for provincial funding and resources to assist in the development and expansion of these initiatives to support employment retention as a critical component of recovery.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on members to adopt Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices by integrating education, support programs, and policies that create stigma-free workplaces, while also advocating for provincial funding and resources to assist in the development and expansion of these initiatives to support employment retention as a critical component of recovery.

According to the sponsor, Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices (RIWPs) are a framework of inclusive strategies and policies designed to support employees who are navigating or recovering from substance use and mental health challenges. Example practices include:

- *Education and stigma reduction training for staff and supervisors;*
- *Peer support programs and access to tailored Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs);*
- *Flexible leave for treatment and recovery supports;*
- *Non-punitive responses to disclosure or relapse;*
- *Anti-discrimination policies protecting individuals in recovery;*
- *Inclusion of people with lived experience in developing wellness policies.*

The sponsor notes the following resources for more information:

Key resources include:

- *Recovery-Ready Workplace Toolkit – Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA):*
www.ccsa.ca
- *Workplace Substance Use Policy Toolkit – BC Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions:*
www.stopoverdose.gov.bc.ca
- *Faces and Voices of Recovery – U.S. resource with adaptable best practices:*
www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-EB5, 2024-EB6, 2024-EB8, 2024-NR1, 2024-NR2, 2024-NR3, 2024-NR6, 2023-SR3, 2023-EB1, 2023-EB2, 2023-EB3, 2022-EB9, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Additionally, the Committee notes that Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices can involve creating a supportive and inclusive environment for employees experiencing mental health challenges or substance use disorders, fostering a culture that promotes recovery and well-being. Where employees feel safe to seek help and support for their mental health or substance use challenges without fear of judgment or stigmatization.

Conference decision: _____

NR14 Support for Communities with Correctional Facilities

Maple Ridge

Whereas there is a disproportionate presence of correctional facilities that varies with each community across the province;

And whereas local governments are faced with individuals who are leaving correctional facilities and who require a continuum of resources and supports for integrating into local communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocates that the Province provide expanded targeted transitional supports such as: affordable housing options and holistic services including; mental health and wellness, education and life skills for communities with individuals leaving correctional facilities.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide expanded targeted transitional supports such as: affordable housing options and holistic services including; mental health and wellness, education and life skills for communities with individuals leaving correctional facilities.

The Committee recognizes that this resolution would only apply to communities with correctional facilities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking support for offenders, including:

- *2022-EB44 which asked the Province, in part, to identify and separate offenders who could be helped by treatment, services and supports from those who should be in jail; and*
- *2014-B34 which asked the Province to develop a long-term, multi-faceted strategy to help people suffering from concurrent disorders to avoid becoming chronic offenders, by providing integrated health and psychiatric care, criminal justice reform, and access to affordable housing.*

More generally, the Committee notes that membership has supported numerous resolutions seeking improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-NR2, 2023-EB1, 2022-SR2, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

NR15 Free Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy as part of Postpartum Care in British Columbia

Langford

Whereas people who are postpartum may experience pelvic floor dysfunction, including incontinence, pain, and prolapse, as a direct result of pregnancy and childbirth, which significantly impacts quality of life, mental health, long-term physical well-being and creates inequitable financial burdens;

And whereas the Canadian Physiotherapy Association recognizes pelvic floor physiotherapy as an evidence-based, non-invasive treatment option that improves postpartum recovery; however, the lack of both equitable access to pelvic floor physiotherapy and education about the benefits contributes to healthcare costs associated with untreated pelvic floor dysfunction, including corrective surgeries, chronic conditions and the expense of personal hygiene products:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to work with healthcare professionals, including physiotherapists, obstetricians, midwives and nurse practitioners to ensure postpartum care involves informing patients about and provides patients equitable access to pelvic floor assessments and physiotherapy services, regardless of income or insurance status;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government implement a program to provide free pelvic floor physiotherapy treatments as part of the standard postpartum care under the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work with healthcare professionals to ensure postpartum care involves informing patients about and provides patients equitable access to pelvic floor assessments and physiotherapy services, regardless of income or insurance status. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province implement a program to provide free pelvic floor physiotherapy treatments as part of the standard postpartum care under the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

The Committee acknowledges that this issue is outside the scope of local government jurisdiction, and as such, it cannot provide comments as to the merit, impact or consequences of this resolution's request.

Conference decision: _____

NR16 Adequate Public Sanitary Facilities and Toilets

Kamloops

Whereas the BC *Public Health Act* Regulations include Regulated Activity Regulation 161/2011, which addresses public sanitary facilities and toilets, and these regulations have been put in place to ensure public places contain, and the public has access to, adequate sanitary facilities;

And whereas more and more public toilets are being shut indefinitely, if not permanently, for many reasons including vandalism, drug use, and cost of maintenance;

And whereas in many areas, there are no longer public toilets available, and the current Act no longer results in access in many places:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government review the *Public Health Act* in consultation with residents, businesses, local governments, and health authorities, to find viable solutions to ensure public toilets are available and accessible in communities across BC to improve access for those traveling through communities, as well as visitors to and residents of communities.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to review the Public Health Act in consultation with residents, businesses, local governments, and health authorities, to find viable solutions to ensure public toilets are available and accessible in communities across BC to improve access for those traveling through communities, as well as visitors to and residents of communities.

The Committee is unclear if a review of the Public Health Act is necessary to address this issue, as each community or agency (such as the Ministry of Transportation and Transit) is responsible for determining where public toilets are needed and how many can be maintained within their budgets.

Conference decision: _____



NR17 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Langford

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

The Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NEB3 which sought vacancy control, and in a whereas clause it addressed housing as a human right, stating: "And whereas the unaffordability of housing limits the ability of renters to contribute to local economies, as noted by Leilani Farha (the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on housing and current Global Director of THE SHIFT, a housing initiative to actualize the housing as a basic human right)."

The Committee also notes that the Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR70 which sought a homelessness emergency plan, and within a whereas clause addressed housing as a human right, stating: "And whereas Bill C-97 (June 21, 2019) containing the National Housing Strategy Act, and the federal right to housing legislation enshrines the need to "recognize that the right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right affirmed in international law."

Membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy as part of a comprehensive plan to address homelessness (2024-NR27, 2023-NR28, 2022-NR64, 2020-NR70, 2017-B52, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

The Committee also notes that in 2019, Parliament passed the National Housing Strategy Act (the NHS Act). The NHS Act sets out the Government of Canada's housing policy, which "recognize(s) that the right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right affirmed in international law." The effect of this declaration in practice has been limited, but includes the establishment of a National Housing Council that includes diverse voices in housing policy discussions, and the creation of a Federal Housing Advocate to monitor the implementation of Canada's housing policy and provide advice on ways to further the right to adequate housing.

Finally, the Committee would note that enshrining housing as a human right in legislation could have potentially far reaching implications, including for local governments, with regards to issues such as delivery of housing and encampment management.

See resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13, RR14

Conference decision: _____

NR18 Homeless Encampments within City Limits on Provincial Land Revelstoke

Whereas the Province of BC is experiencing a housing crisis and the number of unhoused individuals is increasing;

And whereas municipalities and regional districts have adopted certain bylaws that prohibit encampments within the municipal or regional district boundary, yet these bylaws cannot be enforced when the homeless encampments are on provincial land;

And whereas some of these homeless encampments on provincial land are on the sides of roads and highways, and therefore fall under the purview of Provincial ministries:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province for a single Provincial ministry to be appointed to address homelessness encampments within all Crown jurisdiction lands.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province for a single Provincial ministry to be appointed to address homelessness encampments within all Crown jurisdiction lands.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing encampments (2023-NR25) and specifically requesting that the Province work with local governments to address homelessness and encampments (2021-EB74, 2019-B183).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy including plans to address homelessness (2022-NR22, 2022-NR64, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2017-B52, 2017-B98, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, to in part, address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

Conference decision: _____

NR19 Mandatory Good Neighbour Agreement Sechelt

Whereas local governments across British Columbia are experiencing challenges related to supportive housing and shelter facilities, including concerns about community safety, property maintenance, and local accountability;

And whereas some supportive housing and shelter operators do not consistently engage with local governments or community stakeholders to address concerns, leading to negative impacts on surrounding neighborhoods:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia and BC Housing to require that all supportive housing and shelter operators enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with the local governments in which these facilities operate, to ensure clear expectations regarding community impact mitigation, security measures, and ongoing engagement with local government and residents.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging the Province and BC Housing to require that all supportive housing and shelter operators enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with the local governments in which these facilities operate, to ensure clear expectations regarding community impact mitigation, security measures, and ongoing engagement with local government and residents.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B185 which asked that BC Housing seek local government's approval before land is purchased for supportive housing initiatives.

More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Further, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

Conference decision: _____

NR20 Supportive Housing Targets and Treatment

Victoria

Whereas the affordable housing and addiction crises have created an untenable situation with street disorder in BC communities;

And whereas the provincial government has assigned supportive housing targets across BC without the inclusion of the proportionate number of detox and treatment facilities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs to urgently pursue the delivery of supportive rental units within the housing target guidelines given to municipalities;

And be it further resolved that that the Minister of Health ensure that these units are met with the proportionate number of detox beds, appropriate treatment facilities, and/or virtual addiction care required for each community.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to pursue the delivery of Supportive Rental Units within the housing target guidelines given to municipalities. Nor has the membership considered a request that the supportive rental units are met with a proportional number of detox beds, appropriate treatment facilities and/or virtual addiction care required for each community.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, to in part, address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2023-NR21, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-EB25, 2022-NR64, 2021-EB75, 2021-LR5, 2019-B30, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B46, 2014-B47, 2013-B53, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2008-B158, 2007-B24, 2006-A2, 2006-B81, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported numerous resolutions seeking improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-NR2, 2023-EB1, 2022-SR2, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

The Committee notes that for those communities assigned housing targets under the Housing Supply Act, the Province has provided guidelines quantifying the recommended net new units to be completed within five years for specific unit types. These include guidelines for supportive rental housing that are referenced in this resolution.

Conference decision: _____

NR21 Enhancing Housing Stability through Preventive Measures and Supportive Programs

Langley City

Whereas the housing crisis in British Columbia is influenced by both insufficient housing supply and escalating demand pressures, leading to affordability challenges and housing insecurity that forces many individuals and families into unsafe and precarious living conditions, increasing their vulnerability to exploitation and victimization;

And whereas preventive strategies, including the provision of adequate supports and access to portable rental subsidies, are essential to maintain housing stability and prevent homelessness:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia, in partnership with local governments and non-profit housing providers, to expand programs to reduce housing vulnerability by expanding portable rental subsidies, enhancing support services, investing in preventive strategies, and providing direct grants to local governments to improve housing stability.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to, in partnership with local governments and non-profit housing providers, expand programs to reduce housing vulnerability by expanding portable rental subsidies, enhancing support services, investing in preventive strategies, and providing direct grants to local governments to improve housing stability.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness including 2024-SR3, 2024-EB23,

2024-EB24. The Committee also notes that the membership has supported a variety of resolutions seeking assistance for renters, including 2023-EB17, 2022-EB28 and 2022-NR13.

The Committee also notes that in their background materials, the sponsor provides additional background on possible local government roles in addressing housing instability, noting that “Local governments are uniquely positioned to understand and respond to their communities’ specific housing needs. By leveraging established relationships with local stakeholders, municipalities can convene diverse parties to collaborate on housing solutions.”

As one example, the sponsor points towards Collaborative Efforts through Rental Connect Programs: “While senior governments provide the necessary financial support through portable rent subsidies, local governments facilitate the on-the-ground implementation by:

- *Engaging Landlords and Property Owners: Encouraging participation in affordable housing programs through incentives and support.*
- *Offering Educational Resources: Providing training for landlords and tenants to promote successful tenancies.*
- *Maintaining Rental Inventories: Keeping updated records of available and compliant rental units to match with prospective tenants.”*

Conference decision: _____

NR22 Simplifying Access to Public Land for Housing

Squamish

Whereas public lands are often required to support the delivery of publicly funded affordable and attainable rental housing;

And whereas the process of securing or modifying lands controlled or previously granted by the Province to support publicly funded housing projects remains convoluted and extremely lengthy and has not been addressed in the recent provincial efforts to streamline provincial permitting for housing under PermitConnectBC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province establish a streamlined pathway to expedite the public-owned land grants and related title-reverter process for public attainable and affordable housing applications while upholding and recognizing the commitments of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a streamlined pathway to expedite the public-owned land grants and related title-reverter process for public attainable and affordable housing applications while upholding and recognizing the commitments of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2000-B42 which asked the Province to discharge all "possibility of reverter" and other restrictions from lands granted to municipalities, in order to permit these locally-owned land assets to be managed by local governments for the benefit of their local constituents. The Committee acknowledges that this is a dated reference.

Conference decision: _____

NR23 Co-op Housing Program and Sustainable Funding for Housing**Fort St. John**

Whereas communities across the province are actively seeking solutions to support people experiencing homelessness, as permanent housing is a fundamental need for stability and well-being;

And whereas local governments require additional funding streams to address housing insecurity, and the province collects revenue from civil forfeiture, cannabis and liquor taxes, and provincial gambling revenues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide local governments with additional funding streams, including proceeds from civil forfeiture, cannabis and liquor taxes, and provincial gambling revenues, to support community led co-op housing models, which have proven successful in other provinces, as a solution to homelessness.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide local governments with additional funding streams, including proceeds from civil forfeiture, cannabis and liquor taxes, and provincial gambling revenues, to support community led co-op housing models, as a solution to homelessness.

However the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions seeking local government access to speculation and vacancy taxation funding to support affordable housing generally (e.g. 2024-EB27).

The Committee also notes the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2024-EB18, 2024-NR26, 2022-EB26, 2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50). In particular, resolution 2024-EB18 sought the building of more non-market housing, such as below market rentals and co-ops.

More generally, the membership has also supported resolutions asking for local government to receive a share of other taxation revenues and proceeds, although not to fund co-op housing specifically, including:

- *Cannabis Taxation Revenue (2023-NR31, 2022-NR30, 2022-EB32, 2020-SR2, 2019-A2, 2018-SR1, 2017-SR1, 2016-A3);*
- *Provincial Sales Tax (2021-EB20, 2020-EB34, 2012-B11);*
- *Civil forfeiture proceeds (2012-EB12, 2019-B4, 2014-B16, 2011-B15, 2009-B4);*
- *Fuel Tax (2021-EB20, 2013-B99, 2012-B19, 2010-B24, 2007-B21, 2007-A5, 2005-B20);*
- *Liquor Tax (2021-EB20, 2019-B31, 2014-B60, 2011-B26); and*
- *Property Transfer Tax (2023-EB52, 2021-EB20, 2019-B30, 2017-B17, 2012-B18, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2005-B87).*

Conference decision: _____

NR24 Lowering Financial Barriers for Community Housing Projects**Smithers**

Whereas BC Housing's Community Housing Fund (CHF) provides critical funding to support the development of affordable housing projects across British Columbia, enabling local governments, non-profits, and housing providers to address the urgent need for affordable housing;

And whereas the significant upfront costs required to submit an application to BC Housing, such as feasibility studies, architectural designs, and other pre-development expenses create financial barriers for small local governments and non-profit organizations, limiting their ability to deliver housing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to BC Housing and the provincial government for changes to the Community Housing Fund application process to reduce or subsidize upfront pre-development costs, ensuring equitable access for all local governments and non-profits across the province.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on BC Housing and the Province for changes to the Community Housing Fund application process to reduce or subsidize upfront pre-development costs, ensuring equitable access for all local governments and non-profits across the province.

However membership has endorsed resolution 2024-EB18, calling on the provincial and federal governments to work with not-for-profits to further incentivize not-for-profit partnerships and the building of non-market housing, such as below market rentals and co-ops, through financial tools like low interest rate loans, long-term 25 year rates and expanded tax credit eligibility.

More generally, the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2024-EB18, 2024-NR26, 2022-EB26, 2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50).

Conference decision: _____

NR25 Amenity Cost Charges and Affordable Housing

Victoria

Whereas the Province created new legislation that defines the uses to which local governments can apply Amenity Cost Charges (ACCs) levied from development;

And whereas the legislation prevents local governments from applying ACCs to affordable housing;

And whereas many local governments rely on amenity contributions, beyond bonus density, to capitalize housing reserve funds or comparable finance tools:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to expand the eligible uses of Amenity Cost Charges to include affordable housing;

And be it further resolved the Province create an alternative funding tool that does not rely on increases to the costs of new housing.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand the eligible uses of Amenity Cost Charges to include affordable housing. Nor

has the membership considered a request that the Province create an alternative funding tool that does not rely on increases to the costs of new housing.

The Committee notes that the legislation referred to in this resolution is Bill 46-2023, *Housing Statutes (Development Financing) Amendment Act, 2023*. As noted in a Provincial “Frequently Asked Questions” document for this legislation (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/housing-and-tenancy/tools-for-government/local-governments-and-housing/faqs_development_finance.pdf), “The ACC helps fund the costs of amenities needed to support increased population growth and housing supply. Affordable housing is not a community amenity. However, local governments can continue to use density bonus authorities to secure affordable housing from development as a condition of providing additional density. The Province continues to explore new tools for local governments to provide funding for affordable housing.”

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges (DCCs) and legislative authority and consistency for Amenity Contributions (2024-EB30, 2021-EB25, 2020-NEB6, 2019-SR2, 2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B9, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2007-B37, 2005-B95).

Conference decision: _____

NR26 Provincial Development Cost Charges Deferment Program

Coquitlam

Whereas the national housing crisis is being exacerbated by a slowdown in housing starts and delayed construction, due to challenges being experienced by the development industry in the current uncertain economic and trade climate;

And whereas in British Columbia, the significant economic uncertainty is contributing to volatility in the provincial housing market and necessitates the need for a certain degree of flexibility to stimulate the delivery of much-needed housing;

And whereas the *Local Government Act* enables local governments to collect Development Cost Charges (DCCs) at time of subdivision or building permit, subject to payment installment terms permitted by provincial regulation, to provide a cost recovery mechanism that funds growth-related infrastructure and park amenities that support community growth:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to design and implement, after targeted consultation with affected local governments, a Development Cost Charges deferment program that provides eligible housing projects with provincial bridge financing to time of occupancy, to stimulate housing across the province while also facilitating the timely and ongoing collection of DCCs for municipalities in compliance with the *Local Government Act*.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to design and implement a Development Cost Charges deferment program that provides eligible housing projects with provincial bridge financing to time of occupancy, to stimulate housing across the province while also facilitating the timely and ongoing collection of DCCs for municipalities in compliance with the Local Government Act.

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local

governments under the current financial framework (2024-SR2, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

Finally, the Committee would note that after this resolution was received, the Province announced an alternate approach to this issue, as part of a series of amendments to the Development Cost Charge and Amenity Cost Charge (Installments) Regulation (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2025HMA0056-000638>). Under the new approach, developers will have four years, rather than two, to pay development cost charges. They will be able to pay 25 percent at permit approval and the remaining 75 percent at occupancy or within four years, whichever comes first. The delay in recovering the costs related to growth may negatively impact local government finances and capital plans. Bridge financing from the Province to local governments could help to reduce the financial costs of the regulation changes for local governments.

Conference decision: _____

NR27 Property Transfer Tax Exemption for Local Government Housing Corporations

Creston

Whereas British Columbia has a housing affordability crisis that is impacting every local government in the province, with the BC government recognizing that local governments are on the front lines of the housing crisis and are positioned to help advance the development of new homes and that communities need solutions that work for them;

And whereas local governments that wholly own local government housing corporations as their chosen community solution for creating more affordable housing are subject to the provincial Property Transfer Tax (PTT) on acquired property, including land donated to the corporation from the local government or land leased for more than 30 years;

And whereas the *Property Transfer Tax Act* provides exemptions to local governments, there are no exemptions applicable to a local government housing corporation, even if the corporation is wholly owned by the local government and carrying out local government purposes:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the provincial government to expand exemptions for Property Transfer Tax to include wholly owned local government housing corporations for the purposes of building affordable housing;

And be it further resolved that land transferred, including long-term leases, from a local government to any non-profit for the purposes of affordable housing development be also exempt.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to expand exemptions for Property Transfer Tax to include wholly owned local government housing corporations for the purposes of building affordable housing.

However, in regards to the second request of the transfer or lease of local government land for affordable housing, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB13 which asked the Province to expand the exemption from payment of Property Transfer Tax to all not-for-profit societies and co-operatives who are leasing municipal lands for the development of affordable housing;

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2022-NR14 which asked the provincial government support the recommendation of the Canada-British Columbia Expert Panel on the Future of Housing Supply and Affordability, to develop a provincial acquisition strategy and grant program that would allow non-profit housing providers to purchase and repair aging rental stock for the purposes of maintaining existing affordable housing. Of note, the second whereas clause in resolution 2022-NR14 included reference to a statement by the Expert Panel on Housing Supply that "...BC government should exempt non-profit organizations from the property transfer tax for building acquisitions that will be used to provide affordable housing."

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that requested the provincial government allocate a portion of revenues from the Property Transfer Tax to address issues of homelessness and housing affordability (2017-B17, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23).

Conference decision: _____

NR28 Discharging Restrictive Land Covenants to Support Small Squamish
Scale Multi-Unit Housing

Whereas the Province of BC passed Bill 44 – *Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act* in 2023 to reduce zoning barriers for small-scale multi-unit housing and required municipalities to update Official Community Plans and zoning bylaws to allow for increased densification;

And whereas private common-law covenants on land titles can be out of alignment with updated Bill 44 zoning and leads to regulatory confusion and barriers to achieving Bill 44 objectives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province work on a mechanism to override or neutralize outdated common-law covenant provisions on land titles that are inconsistent with the implementation of Bill 44.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work on a mechanism to override or neutralize outdated common-law covenant provisions on land titles that are inconsistent with the implementation of Bill 44.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed two resolutions seeking release from restrictive and redundant covenants that can conflict with bylaws and impact the development of property (2018-B133 and 2010-B141).

Conference decision: _____

NR29 Provincial Reform on School Planning Port Moody

Whereas the Province has mandated significant increases in housing provisions as of 2024 to address the housing availability and affordability crisis, requiring growth in areas beyond municipalities' original density plans;

And whereas schools across British Columbia are at capacity, with enrollment-based planning failing to account for future growth, resulting in delayed school infrastructure despite municipalities being required to complete housing units under the *Housing Supply Act* without corresponding adjustments to school planning timelines:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC Government to amend their school planning and funding policies so that schools are built and ready for occupancy based on projected population numbers and/or legislated growth targets, ensuring timely school infrastructure development in municipalities affected by rapid housing

growth, including but not limited to communities with Transit-Oriented Areas and *Housing Supply Act* requirements.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend their school planning and funding policies so that schools are built and ready for occupancy based on projected population numbers and/or legislated growth targets, ensuring timely school infrastructure development in municipalities affected by rapid housing growth, including but not limited to communities with Transit-Oriented Areas and Housing Supply Act requirements.

However, the Committee notes that the membership supported Special Resolution 2024-SR2 which asked the Province, in part, to invest in its own areas of responsibility where there are already service deficits that will be further affected by housing-related population growth, namely health care (family doctors, ambulances, hospitals, etc.) and education (classrooms, teachers, etc.).

Conference decision: _____

NR30 Supporting Climate-Resilient and Infrastructure-Ready Parksville
Housing Targets

Whereas the Province of British Columbia, through the *Housing Supply Act*, is assigning housing targets to municipalities based primarily on population growth, housing demand, and development metrics, without explicitly considering watershed health, infrastructure capacity, healthcare access, or climate resiliency;

And whereas directing new housing to regions with long-term water security and resilience to natural disasters reduces the future costs of emergency response, infrastructure damage, and climate adaptation, and supports safer, more sustainable community growth:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to revise the housing target methodology to include assessments of water system capacity, watershed health, climate resiliency, healthcare infrastructure, and other critical services;

And be it further resolved that the Province prioritize housing growth and densification in regions that demonstrate long-term resilience to climate change and natural disasters, recognizing this as a cost-saving, safety-enhancing, and environmentally responsible approach to meeting the province's housing needs;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide technical and financial support to local governments and First Nations to assess infrastructure, water supply, and climate resilience as part of the housing target planning process.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to undertake the requests noted in the three enactment clauses.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2024-SR2 that asked, in part, that the Province provide long-term, predictable allocation-based funding program to support expansion

and operation of local government infrastructure services to support provincially-mandated housing growth, including, but not limited to, water and sewer, transit, police and fire, and recreation.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for increased infrastructure funding, including funding as it relates to provincially mandated housing growth (2024-SR3, 2024-EB17, 2024-NR84, 2023-EB11, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2012-A1).

Finally, membership has also endorsed resolutions specifically calling for increased support for climate risk assessment (2022-NR41), climate adaptation, and other climate-related investments (2023-EB31, 2023-NR45, 2019-B12).

Conference decision: _____

**NR31 Preventing Deaths from Extreme Heat by Amending
Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing Legislation**

Burnaby

Whereas the 2022 Extreme Heat Death Review Panel Report to the Chief Coroner of British Columbia found the number of deaths was highest in areas with low greenness compared to the protective effect of treed and naturally cooled areas, especially in socioeconomically deprived neighbourhoods;

And whereas Bill 44 will densify approximately 70 percent of the land base of the 105 municipalities in British Columbia, likely leading to a significant loss of tree canopy and permeable surface area, thereby increasing temperatures due to the urban heat island effect, particularly during extreme heat events:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Province to adopt the 2022 Extreme Heat Death Review Panel recommendations by mandating scientifically supported minimum standards for urban tree canopy protection & enhancement and permeable surface area coverage, while prioritizing vulnerable neighbourhoods, through amending Bill 44 and its policy manual;

And be it further resolved that the Province support and provide ongoing funding to local governments to adequately support efforts to enhance tree canopy and quality permeable surface area.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to implement the recommendations as outlined in the 2022 Extreme Heat Death Review Panel Report by establishing scientifically supported minimum requirements on the protection, restoration, and enhancement of urban tree canopy and the percentage of quality permeable surface area, while prioritizing socioeconomically deprived areas by amending Bill 44 and its policy manual. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province support and resource communities appropriately to adequately support such efforts, including ongoing funding.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR23 which asked the Province to revise Bill 44 and Bill 47 to embed tree protection, tree canopy expansion, and climate resilience into the policy and ensure local governments retain clear authority to 1) protect mature trees and tree canopy in residential neighbourhoods; and 2) implement locally developed Climate Action Plans.

The Committee would caution that if implemented with insufficient local government engagement or without provisions for local discretion to account for local circumstances, provincially mandated standards could further result in unintended consequences.

Conference decision: _____

NR32 Response to Extreme Heat Events

Vancouver

Whereas the Province of British Columbia announced updates to the BC Building Code in 2023, effective March 8, 2024, which requires that all new residential buildings provide at least one living space in each dwelling unit designed to remain at or below 26°C;

And whereas this measure aims to protect health and comfort in extreme heat conditions, marking a step toward climate-resilient, thermally safe housing for new builds across the province;

And whereas in response to rising temperatures and an increase in extreme heat events, a “right to cool” for residents to access indoor cooling solutions to safeguard their health and comfort has emerged as an essential component of housing policy, particularly for individuals living in multi-unit residential buildings, where access to adequate active or passive cooling systems may be restricted by strata bylaws or structural limitations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Strata Property Act* to recognize and enshrine a “right to cool” as a fundamental right for residents of strata and multi-unit residential buildings to access cooling solutions, including the installation of air conditioning or heat pumps or passive cooling approaches without unreasonable restrictions from strata corporations;

And be it further resolved that the Province likewise recognize a “right to cool” as an essential component of provincial housing policy, including – but not limited to – creating provincial incentives for strata owners to install heat pumps and other cooling measures to ensure that climate-resilient, thermally safe housing is available for all residents of British Columbia.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution seeking to recognize and enshrine a “right to cool” as a fundamental right for residents of strata and multi-unit residential buildings.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2023-NR29 which asked the Province to amend the Strata Property Act to allow the addition of heat pumps or other efficient mechanical cooling systems without the need to amend individual Strata corporation bylaws.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several additional resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2022-EB31, 2022-NR18, 2021-EB40, 2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25) and calling for federal and provincial programs to provide incentives for residential energy efficiency (2020-NR52, 2014-B28, 2014-B93, 2012-B25, 2010-B86, 2009-B166, 2007-B33, 2007-B177, 2006-B111).

The Committee advises that the provincial and federal governments along with BC Hydro offer a rebate program for heat pump installation through CleanBC Better Homes Energy Savings Program. However, the rebate is only available for single family homes, duplex, triplex, row homes and townhomes.

Conference decision: _____

NR33 Provincially Backed Affordable Home Insurance

Fernie

Whereas residents in high-risk areas of British Columbia increasingly struggle to secure affordable home insurance as a result of more frequent and severe natural disasters driven by climate change, contributing to financial hardship, widening economic inequality, and undermining community stability;

And whereas cooperative models such as the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia (MIABC) have proven the effectiveness of member-owned solutions in filling the gaps left by private insurers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to establish a provincially backed insurance entity designed to offer affordable home insurance for those unable to obtain coverage from the private market.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a provincially backed insurance entity designed to offer affordable home insurance for those unable to obtain coverage from the private market.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking better access to insurance including:

- asking the Province to introduce and adopt legislation that requires all underwriters providing homeowner insurance coverage in BC to provide insurance to all homeowners with provisions that are consistent, fair, and equitable to all homeowners in the province (2022-NR19);*
- asking the Province to take evidence-based actions to address rapidly increasing insurance costs for multi-residential housing (2020-SR9);*
- asking the Province to review insurance practices in British Columbia to identify ways to insure property owners and small businesses during and after a disaster (2019-B103); and*
- asking ICBC to begin offering home insurance (2014-B36, 2013-B141).*

Conversely, the Committee advises that the UBCM Executive considered, did not endorse referred resolution 2015-B116 which requested that MIABC investigate the feasibility of providing insurance for rural BC homes.

Conference decision: _____

NR34 Protecting Homeowners Access to Insurance and Mortgages in the Wake of *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* Implementation

Daajing Giids

Whereas the Province of British Columbia through the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA), is undertaking significant reforms that include updated emergency management planning, risk assessment protocols, and the implementation of the forthcoming Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA);

And whereas these new risk assessments, while important for public safety and resilience, may result in unintended consequences for BC homeowners, including increased insurance premiums, loss of insurance coverage, and/or the inability to secure mortgage financing due to regionally applied risk levels that may not reflect mitigation efforts or geographic specific realities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to work proactively with the insurance and mortgage lending industries to ensure that the implementation of the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* regulations, including the Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment, does not negatively affect homeowners' access to property insurance or mortgage financing;

And be it further resolved that the Province establish protective policy measures and legislative safeguards that ensure fair treatment of homeowners, particularly in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities where regional risk assessments may not be indicative of individual subsections.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work proactively with the insurance and mortgage lending industries to ensure that the implementation of the Emergency and Disaster Management Act regulations, including the Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment, does not negatively affect homeowners' access to property insurance or mortgage financing. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province establish protective policy measures and legislative safeguards that ensure fair treatment of homeowners, particularly in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities where regional risk assessments may not be indicative of individual subsections.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed two resolutions addressing access to insurance when affected by disaster. Resolution 2022-NR19 asked the Province to introduce and adopt legislation that requires all insurance providers in BC to provide insurance to all homeowners in the province with provisions that are consistent, fair, and equitable. The second whereas clause of 2022-NR19 raised the issue of some homeowners not being able to renew their home insurance during wildfire season.

The membership also endorsed resolution 2019-B103 which asked the Province to review insurance practices to identify ways to better serve property owners and small businesses affected by disaster.

The Committee also notes that UBCM submitted a letter to the Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in June 2025 to seek clarity on the roles and responsibilities of local governments to support homeowners with properties located in areas identified as high-risk in risk assessments.

Conference decision: _____

NR35 Income Tax on Secondary Suites and In-Home Rentals

Nelson

Whereas income tax on secondary suites and in-home rentals serves as a financial barrier for homeowners, discouraging them from making these spaces available for long-term rental and adding unnecessary administrative burdens;

And whereas removing this tax would incentivize homeowners to offer more long-term rental housing, alleviating rental shortages and reducing reliance on short-term rentals, thereby increasing housing stability in communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM petition the federal and provincial governments to eliminate income tax on secondary suites and in-home rentals as a means to encourage more long-term rental housing, simplify administrative processes for homeowners, and support efforts to address the housing crisis.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2022-EB26 which asked the provincial and federal governments to provide tax exemptions for all income derived from the rental of secondary suites as a measure to encourage the provision of safe and affordable housing. However, the membership has not previously considered a request to eliminate income tax on in-home rentals.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2023-NR21, 2022-EB25, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy including plans to address homelessness (2022-NR22, 2022-NR64, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2017-B52, 2017-B98, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, to in part, address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed resolutions 2015-B14, 2008-A3 and 2007-A7 which called for a variety of federal tax reforms to encourage the construction of rental housing. The membership also endorsed resolutions 2015-B47 and 2012-B143 which called for incentives for the retention of existing, and development of new, market rental housing.

Conference decision: _____

**NR36 *Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act Exemption*
Flexibility for Small Communities**

NCLGA Executive

Whereas the *Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act*, introduced by the Province of British Columbia in October 2023, mandates local governments to regulate short-term rentals to increase the supply of long-term housing but applies a rigid exemption threshold based solely on rental vacancy rates;

And whereas smaller communities, such as Dawson Creek and Fort St. John, experience temporary fluctuations in vacancy rates due to major projects and economic cycles, which do not reflect a long-term housing shortage, yet remain ineligible for exemptions under the current criteria:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, to amend the *Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act* to allow greater exemption flexibility for small and resource-based communities by:

- Expanding exemption criteria beyond rental vacancy rates to include economic conditions, municipal housing needs assessments, and local government input; and
- Allowing municipalities under 25,000 population to apply for exemptions based on demonstrated local housing market conditions rather than rigid vacancy thresholds.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act to allow greater exemption flexibility for small and resource-based communities by:

- *Expanding exemption criteria beyond rental vacancy rates to include economic conditions, municipal housing needs assessments, and local government input; and*
- *Allowing municipalities under 25,000 population to apply for exemptions based on demonstrated local housing market conditions rather than rigid vacancy thresholds.*

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions addressing short-term rentals, focused on providing additional tools for local regulation of short-term rentals, including (2023-EB15, 2022-NR11, 2018-A4).

Conference decision: _____

NR37 Maximum Municipal Bylaw Ticket Fines

Whistler

Whereas Bill 35 has been enacted to give local governments stronger enforcement tools for their short-term rental bylaws resulting in the amendment of section 2 of the Community Charter Bylaw Enforcement Ticket Regulation Reg. 425/2003 limits the maximum fine amount in relation to tickets for bylaw offences to \$3,000;

And whereas the \$3,000 fine amount is grossly inconsistent with current property value and value of the property as a short-term rental, and thereby the fine amounts fail to provide a sufficient deterrent for being in contravention of municipal bylaws:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government support local governments in implementing Bill 35 by increasing the maximum allowable fines under section 2 of the *Community Charter* Bylaw Enforcement Ticket Regulation from \$3,000 to \$10,000.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the province to support local governments in implementing Bill 35 by increasing the maximum allowable fines under section 2 of the Community Charter Bylaw Enforcement Ticket Regulation from \$3,000 to \$10,000. However, the Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership previously endorsed resolution 2016-B85, requesting the provincial government to increase the maximum fine amount under the Bylaw Enforcement Ticket Regulation from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

See resolution EB81

Conference decision: _____

NR38 Ending Residential Tenancies due to Income Eligibility

Burnaby

Whereas there is a desire on behalf of the Province for local governments to require private developers to construct affordable inclusionary housing units through the use of Inclusionary Zoning Bylaws;

And whereas Housing Agreements between local governments and the property owners are required to ensure that the affordability of inclusionary housing units constructed through Inclusionary Zoning Bylaws are secured over time, and Housing Agreements terms may include specifics on target population for the units and management considerations such as income testing;

And whereas operators, other than public housing bodies that build required inclusionary rental units may choose to operate the affordable rental units in compliance with Housing Agreement terms but currently section 49.1 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* only permits public housing bodies to end tenancies in housing with eligibility criteria if the tenant ceases to qualify for the rental unit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* and Residential Tenancy Regulation to enable all property owners and operators of affordable inclusionary rental units, that are subject to tenant income eligibility requirements, to end tenancies if a tenant household ceases to qualify for the tenancy, by exceeding the income eligibility threshold.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Residential Tenancy Act and Residential Tenancy Regulation to enable all property owners and operators of affordable inclusionary rental units, that are subject to tenant income eligibility requirements, to end tenancies if a tenant household ceases to qualify for the tenancy.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported a variety of resolutions seeking assistance to renters, including:

- 2023-EB17 which asked for increased rental stock, mitigate no-fault evictions, and close the gap between households in core housing needs and rental housing costs; and
- 2022-EB28, 2017-B51, 2013-B53 all of which sought additional aid and support for senior renters.

Conference decision: _____

NR39 Advocating for Pet-Friendly Rental Housing

Vancouver

Whereas a majority of British Columbian households include at least one dog or cat, and that companionship imparts various wellbeing benefits to mental and physical health;

And whereas housing insecurity is exacerbated by the limited availability of pet-friendly rental units often resulting in higher rents, and restrictions on pet-friendly housing often result in renters being forced to surrender their pets to avoid homelessness, a burden that disproportionately affects lower income households;

And whereas British Columbia is lagging other jurisdictions: No-pet clauses in Ontario are specifically banned, and protection is in place for individuals with companion animals through the Ontario Residential Tenancies Act, and similar legislation has passed in the US and France recognizing the choice to have a companion animal as a basic civil right:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to prohibit blanket “no pets” clauses in rental contracts, instead providing for appropriate management guidelines, including requirements, tenant responsibilities, and conditions for landlord indemnification in rental contracts for tenants with pets.

Submitting Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse, referred resolution 2020-NR74 which asked the Province to change the Residential Tenancy Act and Strata Property Act such that landlords and strata organizations may not reject applicants for rental units because their family unit may include pets.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR23 which asked BC Housing to develop strategies and guidance that support pet-friendly housing in the non-profit sector. 2023-NR23 also asked the Province to consider pet friendly housing in the BC Housing Strategy update and to work with stakeholders (including but not limited to landlord’s and tenant’s associations, animal welfare organizations, public health, mental health and seniors organizations, and poverty reduction and homelessness advocates) to find cooperative solutions to increase the availability and affordability of pet-friendly housing for all British Columbians while providing appropriate protections and mechanisms of compensation for landlords.

Conference decision: _____

NR40 Tiny Homes and Recreational Vehicles

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the use of Recreational Vehicles (RV’s) and Tiny homes as an alternative form of affordable housing has become a matter of national importance in the midst of a housing affordability crisis; and despite previously submitted UBCM resolutions addressing tiny homes a satisfactory outcome with respect to this issue has not been achieved;

And whereas in March 2017, members from the modular construction council of the Canadian Home Builders’ Association (CHBA) drafted and submitted fourteen code change requests (CCRs) to the National Building Code to address the reality that some components and design features within tiny homes do not comply with all municipal, provincial, and federal codes or industry standards;

And whereas the BC Housing Research Centre prepared a research paper titled “Tiny Homes – An Alternative to Conventional Housing” that offers solutions for construction standards specific to tiny homes on wheels so they may be used as permitted dwelling units for full-time living:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the Province to advocate for and provide incentives to industry groups to revisit industry standards such as CSA (Canadian Standards Association), and create a new category specific to moveable tiny homes certified for permanent occupancy that separates tiny homes from motorized vehicles, towable RVs and temporary small trailers; and to create a new category specific to RV’s certified for permanent occupancy;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourage the Province that as a matter of national importance to advocate for changes to the National Building Code to recognize and define tiny homes as an allowable dwelling unit and provide specific building requirements; and to follow up any such changes with updates to Part 9 of the BC Building Code.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered the first request made by this resolution asking Province to advocate for and provide incentives to industry groups to revisit industry standards such as CSA (Canadian Standards Association), and create a new category specific to moveable tiny homes certified for permanent occupancy that separates tiny homes from motorized vehicles, towable RVs and temporary small trailers; and to create a new category specific to RV's certified for permanent occupancy;

However, the membership has considered, and supported a resolution similar to the second request, seeking changes to the National Building Code to recognize and define tiny homes as an allowable dwelling unit and provide specific building requirements, and to follow up any such changes with updates to Part 9 of the BC Building Code (2022-NR21).

Conference decision: _____

**NR41 The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification
in BC Buildings**

Saanich

Whereas most British Columbians will encounter some form of accessibility challenges in their lives, the British Columbia Building Code establishes only a minimum level of accessibility for buildings and therefore fails to meet the accessibility needs of all people;

And whereas the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) program aims to improve accessibility in the built environment by evaluating the meaningful access of buildings and sites for people with a range of accessibility requirements including vision, hearing, neurodiversity, and mobility:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia incorporate the latest accessibility standards established by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) into the Provincial Building Code to ensure that all new construction in British Columbia meets accessibility standards;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government commits to achieving the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification gold certification on all its new buildings.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to incorporate the latest accessibility standards established by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) into the Provincial Building Code to ensure that all new construction in British Columbia meets accessibility standards. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province commits to achieving the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification gold certification on all its new buildings.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for Building Code amendments and other tools to require and encourage accessibility standards for new building construction (2016-B53, 2012-B52, 2010-B52, 2010-B53, 2009-B167).

The CSA Group develops and maintains a variety of standards for accessibility including for dwellings and other buildings (<https://www.csagroup.org/standards/areas-of-focus/healthcare-and-well-being/standards-for-building-a-barrier-free-canada/>). The Committee would note that incorporating additional accessibility requirements for all new construction could have unintended consequences such as increased construction costs and associated implications for affordability.

The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification guide is available at: <https://www.rickhansen.com/sites/default/files/2018-10/acp-847-guide-certification.pdf>

Conference decision: _____

NR42 Request to Repeal the Single Exit Stairway Building Code

Burnaby

Whereas the Province of British Columbia amended the British Columbia Building Code (BCBC), effective August 27, 2024, to permit the construction of residential multi-family buildings up to six storeys with a single exit stairway under certain conditions, raising significant concerns among local governments, emergency responders, and public safety associations;

And whereas this amendment presents elevated risks to occupant and first responder safety due to limited egress during emergencies, reduced evacuation efficiency—particularly for people with disabilities—and compounded safety hazards such as smoke inhalation, non-compliance of fire safety systems, and the growing threat of lithium-ion battery fires:

Therefore be it resolved UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to suspend the implementation of the single exit stairway provisions in the BC Building Code and conduct a comprehensive safety review, including consultation with UBCM, emergency service stakeholders, and reference to BC-specific data, to ensure multi-family residential buildings maintain the highest standards of egress and fire safety.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to suspend the implementation of the single exit stairway provisions in the BC Building Code and conduct a comprehensive safety review, including consultation with UBCM, emergency service stakeholders, and reference to BC-specific data, to ensure multi-family residential buildings maintain the highest standards of egress and fire safety.

The Committee also notes that the sponsor has provided the following additional context as background to the resolution:

The single-egress design reduces redundancy in emergency evacuation routes, which are critical in the event of fire, earthquake, or other emergencies. Stakeholder organizations including the British Columbia Professional Fire Fighters' Association (BCPFFA), the Fire Chiefs Association of BC (FCABC), the BC Police Association (BCPA), and national bodies such as the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) have publicly voiced opposition to the change. Data shows that nearly 9 percent of residential fires in BC begin in hallways or stairwells—areas crucial for evacuation—and 68 percent of residential fire deaths result from smoke inhalation, which can rapidly compromise a single stairwell exit. Furthermore, inspections reveal that approximately 40 percent of fire and life safety systems in residential buildings are non-compliant with BC Fire Code requirements, increasing the danger posed by limited egress options. The increasing risk of lithium-ion battery fires adds another layer of complexity and urgency to this issue. The City of Burnaby also notes that the BC Building Code amendment bypassed the national code development process, did not adequately consider BC-specific data, and lacked transparent consultation with key emergency services stakeholders.

Conference decision: _____



NR43 Installation of Early Wildfire Detection Technology

Coldstream

Whereas the Province of BC spent \$1.1 billion on fire management in 2023 and continues to spend millions on fire management annually, and understanding that detecting and responding to fires at their earliest stage saves lives, structures, forests, the environment and reduces the costly burden of wildfire control;

And whereas early wildfire detection technology exists, is financially attainable and has been installed in some interface areas and successfully tested and used to detect fires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to undertake installation of early wildfire detection technology in wildland-urban interface areas with a priority for installation in wildland interface areas bordering local government residential neighbourhoods.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to undertake installation of early wildfire detection technology in wildland-urban interface areas, prioritizing wildland interface areas bordering local government residential neighbourhoods.

In June 2025, the Province announced a partnership with the University of British Columbia Okanagan campus to expand a provincial wildfire camera network to help with the early detection of wildfires. Data captured by the camera network is analyzed using artificial intelligence at UBCO and provides information to first responders to support wildfire response, emergency management and public awareness. The network was originally established in 2024.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR34, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2021-NR10, 2020-EB12, 2020-NR12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

NR44 FireSmart Policy Crown Lands

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas the Province of BC faces the worsening effects of climate change, with wildland urban interface fires becoming more and more prevalent;

And whereas many residents and properties impacted by wildfire are located adjacent to Crown lands;

And whereas residents are encouraged to mitigate the threat of fire to their properties following FireSmart principles, Crown lands adjacent to private property are often not mitigated:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to commit to working with interested parties to develop a policy which would allow residents adjacent to Crown lands to follow FireSmart principles on those adjacent Crown lands (within a prescribed distance of private property) to reduce the risk of wildland urban interface fires.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to allow residents adjacent to Crown lands to follow FireSmart principles on those adjacent Crown lands (within a prescribed distance of private property) to reduce the risk of wildland urban interface fires.

However, the Committee notes that works on Crown Land are regulated by the Forest and Range Practices Act and that authorizations would be required for residents to undertake FireSmart activities on Crown land. Further, some aspects of this proposed work could only be undertaken by professional foresters (Professional Governance Act).

In addition, the Committee notes that allowing residents to undertake work on Crown Land would create significant issues in relation to liability and the safety of people and property. FireSmart activities range substantially, and could include tree pruning, limbing and removal. The Committee advises that this kind of work should only be undertaken by qualified professionals and only if authorization has been granted by the Provincial Crown Land Manager.

The Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction program is administered through the Ministry of Forests in collaboration with the BC Wildfire Service, Natural Resource Regions and Districts, BC Parks, and Mountain Resorts Branch and includes fuel management planning and treatments, focusing on provincial Crown land around higher risk communities.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR34, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2021-NR10, 2020-EB12, 2020-NR12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

NR45 Fire Resilient Forest Practices

Nanaimo RD

Whereas wildfires and interface fires have caused hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to communities in British Columbia, and according to a June 2023 British Columbia Forest Practices Board report, this can be partially attributed to the way forests are managed;

And whereas research shows that monoculture coniferous tree farms are more susceptible to disease, drought, and wildfire while biodiverse forests retain moisture and are more resilient to drought, disease, and wildfire, and that many deciduous trees are fire-resistant:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Government of British Columbia to amend the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, and the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* to ensure that forests in a 3-km radius surrounding communities and community infrastructure, including community drinking water reservoirs, are fire-resistant, resilient, biodiverse forests, and to ban the practice of using herbicides to kill deciduous trees and undergrowth within these fire resistant biodiversity zones.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act, the Forest and Range Practices Act, and the Private Managed Forest Land Act to ensure that forests in a 3-km radius surrounding communities and community infrastructure, including community drinking water reservoirs, are fire-resistant, resilient, biodiverse forests; and, to ban the practice of using herbicides to kill deciduous trees and undergrowth within fire resistant biodiversity zones.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR25, 2024-NR33, 2024-NR34, 2024-NR36, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2020-EB12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5).

Conference decision: _____

NR46 Shift of Provincial Wildfire Response Responsibilities Columbia Shuswap RD onto Regional Districts

Whereas the effects of climate change are increasing disaster intensity, duration, frequency, and scale of emergencies and regional districts do not have the ability to increase the capacity of personnel, finances, or resources to meet the demands within identified jurisdictional fire protection zones to manage the increasing number of local wildfire emergencies;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia has outlined changes to the Cooperative Community Wildfire Response program with an unattainable expectation of the role expected of the regional district that includes the expectation the service area goes beyond established regional district fire protection zones:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to assume full responsibility of wildfire response efforts in areas outside of fire protection zones, with recognition of operational capacities of regional districts;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to support collaboration between BC Wildfire Service and regional districts to share resources in continued efforts to effectively respond to wildfire emergencies and enhance community resilience.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to assume full responsibility of wildfire response efforts in areas outside of a structural fire protection jurisdiction, and to support collaboration between the BC Wildfire Service and regional districts to share resources in continued efforts to effectively respond to wildfire emergencies and enhance community resilience.

The Committee notes that, in 2024, UBCM worked with the BC Wildfire Service to develop the FireSmart Pilot Program for Regional District Cooperative Community Wildfire Response Organizations (CCWR). It has been noted there is general interest in seeing CCWR groups evolve and be supported to engage in wildfire response, but that there are concerns about the design of the funding program. The intent is to assess the funding program after the initial pilot stage (currently scheduled to remain open until May 30, 2025) to determine if and/or how the program may operate in the future.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR34, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2021-NR10, 2020-EB12, 2020-NR12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5, 2014-A1).

Conference decision: _____

NR47 Financial Support for Implementation of the *Fire Safety Act* Pemberton

Whereas the *Fire Safety Act* increases accountability for fire safety and strains financial resources of small municipalities that lack the capacity to conduct additional inspections and manage higher reporting, compliance, and training demands:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide financial support to small municipalities in the form of grant funding to offset the cost of hiring of additional staff to manage new responsibilities under the *Fire Safety Act*;

And be it further resolved that the grant funding be set at an amount to offset 100 percent of the cost to hire new staff in the first year, with the grant funding decreasing by 20 percent each year over the following five years, to allow time for small municipalities to adjust to the costs associated with implementing the *Fire Safety Act*.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide financial support to small municipalities in the form of grant funding to offset the cost of hiring additional staff to manage new responsibilities under the *Fire Safety Act*. Nor has the membership considered the second request that the grant funding be set at an amount to offset 100 percent of the cost to hire new staff in the first year, with the grant funding decreasing by 20 percent each year over the following five years, to allow time for small municipalities to adjust to the costs associated with implementing the *Fire Safety Act*.*

*The Committee advises that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions opposing the Province's decision to download responsibilities under the *Fire Safety Act* (and previously the *Fire Services Act*), to local governments (2019-A1, 2018-SR3, 2015-A3). In particular, UBCM has opposed downloading of responsibilities on to regional*

districts, due to their lack of financial and technical resources, and capacity to take on new duties, including inspections and investigations.

UBCM, through the Single Standard of Fire Safety Working Group, worked with the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) to develop a solution that was endorsed by the UBCM Executive in 2023. This solution sees the OFC perform fire inspections and investigations on behalf of regional districts, when asked by the regional district, at no cost. The Fire Safety Act came into force on August 1, 2024.

Conference decision: _____

NR48 Emergency Social Services Grant Funding for Capital Costs

Smithers

Whereas the Emergency Social Services (ESS) program provides critical support during emergencies and disasters, enabling communities to deliver essential services including reception centers, food, shelter, and basic needs to impacted individuals;

And whereas many local governments have facilities or infrastructure in need of upgrades or renovations to improve their capacity for delivering ESS services in emergencies and disasters including the creation of small-scale reception centers, secure storage for equipment, and training spaces for volunteers to enhance preparedness:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to amend existing Emergency Social Services Grant programs to include capital or renovation costs as eligible expenses, supporting the improvement of facilities used for the delivery of Emergency Social Services in communities across British Columbia.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend existing Emergency Social Services (ESS) Grant programs to include capital or renovation costs as eligible expenses, supporting the improvement of facilities used for the delivery of Emergency Social Services in communities across British Columbia.

The Committee advises that the ESS Grant program is administered by UBCM as part of the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund and funding is generally limited to equipment, training and volunteer support.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB27 which called on the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to proactively consult with local authorities and associated Indigenous Nations in relation to the Provincial guidelines for ESS.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed additional resolutions seeking ongoing funding related to emergency management (2024-EB36, 2023-EB26, 2022-EB34, 2022-EB35, 2022-NR23, 2020-SR1, 2020-EB38, 2019-B11, 2018-B107, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78, 2014-B76, 2013-B44) and disaster recovery (2019-B97, 2019-B104, 2018-B100, 2015-B5, 2012-B114).

Conference decision: _____

NR49 Protections and Support for Emergency Support Services Volunteers

Golden

Whereas Emergency Support Services (ESS) volunteers play a critical role in the province's emergency response efforts, particularly in rural and remote areas;

And whereas the BC Ombudsperson's 2023 report on Emergency Support Services identifies gaps in legal protections, including job protection during activations, as well as appropriate compensation and training resources for ESS volunteers, which negatively affect recruitment, retention, and their capacity to respond during Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to implement legal safeguards ensuring job protection for ESS volunteers during activations, along with appropriate compensation and standardized training supports, to ensure their sustainability and effectiveness.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement legal safeguards ensuring job protection for ESS volunteers during activations, along with appropriate compensation and standardized training supports, to ensure their sustainability and effectiveness.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2011-B6, which asked the Province to fully fund training for volunteer first responders. This followed a similar resolution (2009-B61), that sought for the Province to restore core funding for emergency management, emergency social services and first responder training to 2008/2009 levels.

Please note that the Emergency and Disaster Management Act includes employment protection for volunteers and other protected employees (as defined in the Act) that meet specified criteria.

See resolution NR12

Conference decision: _____

NR50 Provincial Disaster Debris Plan

Nanaimo RD

Whereas climate change has significantly increased the likelihood of a community experiencing an emergency or disaster event resulting in a sudden increase of debris that requires safe and effective disposal;

And whereas debris from emergency or disaster events will be composed of a variety of divertible materials that if not planned for appropriately, will be sent to landfills, taking up already limited landfill airspace:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province establish a province-wide disaster debris management plan that provides logistical, financial, and operational support for local governments in developing their own disaster and debris management plans and implementing those plans as needed.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a province-wide disaster debris management plan that provides logistical, financial, and operational support for local governments in developing their own disaster and debris management plans and implementing those plans as needed.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR36, which asked the Province to develop and implement and expedited process and develop clear policy guidelines for wildfire debris clean-up in riparian areas.

Following the 2021 atmospheric river event, the Province developed its Debris Waste Management Guidance, which seeks to "provide guidance to local governments, Indigenous communities, and any member of the public who has flood debris to dispose of, or who wishes to provide assistance in debris clean up." However, this plan focuses specifically on flood debris, and does not provide the supports requested by the sponsor.

Conference decision: _____

NR51 Disaster Financial Assistance Insurance Eligibility

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas the Province of BC faces the worsening effects of climate change, the disasters resulting in significant costs to rebuild homes and farms;

And whereas many residents and properties impacted by wildfire are located in rural, unincorporated areas outside of fire protection with these residents reporting that trying to obtain insurance has been met with refusal by insurance providers;

And whereas wildfire is considered to be an insurable event and therefore not eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to commit to working with the Insurance Brokers of Canada to ensure it is a legislative requirement that all insurance providers denying coverage provide a letter outlining the reasons insurance is being denied.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to adopt legislation that requires all underwriters providing homeowner insurance coverage in British Columbia to, when insurance coverage is being denied, provide a letter outlining the reasons for this decision.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking changes to disaster financial assistance and/or the Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program, including those that expand the availability of support for residents, businesses and/or local governments (2023-LR2, 2022-NR29, 2019-B97, 2019-B104, 2017-B86, 2015-B78). In October 2023, the Province began a review of its financial assistance regulation by releasing a discussion paper and series of questions for stakeholders to consider. Work to develop a new post-emergency financial assistance regulation, to replace the Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulation, is ongoing.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking better access to insurance, including:

- *asking the Province to introduce and adopt legislation that requires all insurance providers in BC to provide insurance to all homeowners in the province (2022-NR19); and*
- *asking the Province to review insurance practices in British Columbia to identify ways to insure property owners and small businesses during and after a disaster (2019-B103).*

After contacting the sponsor, the Committee can clarify that the sponsor's intent is that a letter be issued if insurance coverage is denied at the time of purchase, and not at the time of a denial of a claim.

Conference decision: _____

NR52 Interim Diking Policy Updates

Squamish

Whereas communities across British Columbia face increasing flood risks due to climate change, extreme weather events, and aging dike infrastructure currently present an unacceptable level of risk to many communities necessitating proactive flood protection measures;

And whereas in 2024 the province put forward "From Flood Risk to Resilience: a BC Flood Strategy to 2035" that highlights the need for adaptive and practical flood risk management solutions, yet many local governments face financial constraints that prevent them from fully upgrading dikes to provincial standards which require costly upgrades that may delay urgent flood protection measures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to amend dike policies to allow interim dike upgrades that are part of a plan to achieve all provincial dike standards, provide practical and meaningful flood protection, serving as a step toward full compliance as funding allows in recognition of both the short-term need to reduce existing risk to communities and the long-term need for the highest standards of flood protection.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend dike policies to allow interim dike upgrades that are part of a plan to meet all provincial dike standards, and serve as a step toward full compliance as funding allows in recognition of both the short-term need to reduce existing risk to communities and the long-term need for the highest standards of flood protection.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions addressing diking standards and upgrades, including:

- *2024-NR50 which called on the Province to engage in meaningful consultation with municipalities, diking authorities, and interested parties to develop and implement revised standards that strike a balance between ensuring public safety and mitigating undue financial burdens on local governments;*
- *2022-EB39 which called on the Province to, in part, fund dike maintenance in order to bring BC dikes up to regulatory requirements and proactively forestall catastrophic dike failures during weather events and spring freshet;*
- *2020-EB14 which called on the Province to consider applications for funding essential and cost-effective minor dike upgrades that may not meet seismic standards;*
- *2018-B33 which, among other things, called on the Province to clarify the roles and responsibilities of local governments in relation to dike upgrades and climate change, and provide long-term funding to support municipal dike corridor upgrade strategies; and*
- *2017-B85 which called on the Province to revise the Seismic Design Guidelines for Dikes to reflect predicted local ground settlement conditions with the primary goal of community flood protection.*

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed multiple resolutions calling on the Province to be established as the diking authority in all local governments (2023-EB29, 2022-SR3, 2015-B52) and in local governments under 20,000 in population (2014-B75).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting support and/or funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2024-EB35, 2022-SR3, 2021-EB6, 2020-SR1, 2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B123, 2018-B37, 2018-B94, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B97, 2014-B76).

Conference decision: _____

NR53 Major Planned Events Advocacy

Comox Valley RD

Whereas local governments, particularly in rural and remote areas, face significant logistical and resource challenges when major planned events occur within or near their jurisdiction, even when these events are outside of local government jurisdictional control and/or enforcement areas;

And whereas such events often require substantial public safety planning and emergency response efforts, yet local governments typically lack the authority to require or enforce event organizers to submit comprehensive emergency response plans, leaving local governments to bear the burden of increased public safety demands and resource strain as a result of these events without the ability to mitigate or control the associated costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to establish province-wide regulations to address gaps in *Local Government Act* bylaws and event permitting powers, ensuring local governments can recover costs for public safety and emergency services related to major planned events beyond their control, and that adequate support, coordination, and reimbursement be provided for resources used in the management and planning of these events.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the BC Government to establish province-wide regulations to ensure that local governments can recover costs for public safety and emergency services related to major planned events beyond their control; and, that adequate support, coordination, and reimbursement be provided for local government resources used in the management and planning of these events.

Following the April 26, 2025, Lapu-Lapu Day Festival tragedy in Vancouver, the Province established the Commission of Inquiry into Community Events Safety in British Columbia. As part its work to inform the work of the Commission, UBCM has sought:

- *A balanced approach to community events safety that ensures local governments have the financial flexibility to host events that meet local needs and circumstances;*
- *For the Province to refrain from a one-size-fits-all approach that ignores different capacity and resource levels among local governments;*
- *Latitude for local governments to oversee local events, including safety planning;*
- *A preference for guidance, support and funding from the Province as opposed to onerous regulations; and*
- *Additional provincial support to address mental health, addictions and complex social issues.*

Conference decision: _____

NR54 Addressing RCMP Staffing and Contract Costs

Fort St. John

Whereas RCMP contracted costs represent a significant portion of local government's annual budgets;

And whereas all contracts contain a method to independently verify their accuracy:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to develop a method for local governments to independently verify RCMP invoices.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to develop a method for local governments to independently verify RCMP invoices.

The Municipal Police Unit Agreement (MPUA) is the 20-year policing agreement between the Province and each BC municipality over 5,000 in population that utilizes the RCMP as their local police service. The MPUA includes several dispute resolution provisions, including article 19.4, which outlines the process for consultation when a dispute pertains to an invoice.

Conference decision: _____

NR55 Creation of Regional Crime Prevention Officer Positions for Rural BC

Dawson Creek

Whereas crime prevention and community safety are essential to the well-being of all residents, and urban centers have dedicated crime prevention resources, including specialized officers;

And whereas rural communities in British Columbia face unique challenges related to limited law enforcement resources and the absence of specialized crime prevention officers;

And whereas the establishment of regional crime prevention officer positions would enhance community safety, improve coordination of crime prevention efforts, and support local law enforcement in rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government for the funding and creation of regional crime prevention officer positions in rural British Columbia to enhance community safety, improve coordination of crime prevention efforts, and support local law enforcement in addressing crime in rural areas.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to create and fund regional crime prevention officer positions in rural British Columbia to enhance community safety, improve coordination of crime prevention efforts, and support local law enforcement in addressing crime in rural areas.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking additional law enforcement resource allocation in rural areas, including:

- *2022-EB43 which sought for the Province to increase the number of officers in the Provincial Police Service, and that police resource allocation "accurately reflect the rural demands for policing.";*

- 2020-EB6 which called on the Province to increase RCMP resources in rural BC;
- 2020-EB7 which sought for the Province to provide regular, ongoing and sustainable funding to support the development and growth of rural safety and crime reduction/prevention groups; and
- 2018-B88 which requested that the Province explore the roles of peace officers and sheriffs in other jurisdictions to determine if similar services could be provided in BC with the intent to increase law enforcement services in rural BC.

Conference decision: _____

NR56 Release of Prolific Offenders in Communities

Williams Lake

Whereas communities across British Columbia are facing unprecedented costs and public safety impacts caused by the revolving door of prolific offenders being released into communities;

And whereas senior levels of government have not taken adequate steps to protect communities from prolific offenders that have been released or are out on bail:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Attorneys General for Canada and British Columbia to address the severe impacts that local governments across British Columbia are experiencing with prolific offenders being frequently released and re-released into local communities, including:

- supporting the widespread use of GPS monitoring of prolific offenders out on bail;
- seeking guidance from senior levels of government on how local governments can effectively communicate the community's concerns to courts considering bail and sentencing of prolific offenders; and
- communicating to senior levels of government that local jurisdictions cannot afford to allocate taxpayer dollars to fund the increased policing and community costs resulting from the revolving door of repeat prolific offenders being released into communities.

And be it further resolved that federal and provincial governments work with UBCM and BC local governments to review and support options to exempt local governments for the full public safety costs resulting from and associated with Crown Counsel's decisions to continually release repeat prolific offenders into BC communities.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution that seeks for the federal government and Province of BC to address the issue of repeat offenders through all of the following measures:

- *supporting the widespread use of GPS monitoring of prolific offenders out on bail;*
- *seeking guidance from federal and provincial governments on how local governments can effectively communicate community concerns to courts considering bail and sentencing of prolific offenders; and*
- *communicating to federal and provincial governments that local jurisdictions cannot afford to allocate taxpayer dollars to fund the increased policing and community costs resulting from the revolving door of repeat prolific offenders being released into communities.*

Nor has the membership considered the request that the federal and provincial governments work with UBCM and BC local governments to review and support options to exempt local governments for the full public safety costs resulting from and associated with Crown Counsel's decisions to continually release repeat prolific offenders into BC communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking provincial and/or federal action, including stricter enforcement measures, to address repeat, prolific offenders:

- consider public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and furthermore that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes “the public interest” with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36);
- impose weightier consequences and greater accountability for repeat offenders, thereby supporting the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities (2022-NR37);
- enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, as well as the consistent use of electronic monitoring when individuals are released on conditions (2021-NR3); and
- ensure prolific offenders are “sentenced effectively,” and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54).

See resolutions EB32, RR18, RR19

Conference decision: _____

NR57 Human Trafficking, Gender Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic

Prince George

Whereas reported cases of gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking are increasing across British Columbia;

And whereas BC’s Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking has not been updated since its publication in 2013:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to declare gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking an epidemic in British Columbia and update BC’s Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to declare gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking an epidemic in British Columbia, and to update BC’s Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (2013-2016).

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing a variety of related topics, including:

- 2019-B86 which asked the Province to provide dedicated, predictable and secure funds for emergency sexual assault response;
- 2018-B164 which asked the Province to develop a Gender-Based Violence Prevention Strategy for Youth; and
- 2015-B53 which asked the RCMP, local police agencies, and local governments to continue to work collaboratively to implement the recommendations found within a report by the National Task Force on Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls in Canada (“NO MORE” Ending Sex-Trafficking in Canada) as well as the Province of British Columbia’s Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that provincial government funding for victim services programs is a long-standing issue. The membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to increase funding for victim services programs, including: 2024-EB34, 2020-EB2, 2019-B6, 2017-B5, 2017-B56, 2016-B83, 2015-B4, 2014-B4.

Conference decision: _____

NR58 Mailing Illegal Substances via Canada Post

Lumby

Whereas Canada Post Corporation is the primary postal operator in Canada;

And whereas it has been reported that Canada Post unknowingly shipped controlled and illegal drug to and from individual residences and postal boxes;

And whereas there is no oversight as to the age of the persons ordering the illegal substances throughout our province;

And whereas British Columbia's communities are experiencing devastation caused by illegal substance use among youth;

And whereas the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General's office is responsible to advocate on behalf of the residents and youth of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General advocate to Canada Post to implement immediate process changes, such as increasing the use of ion scanners, narcotic sniffing dogs, and other means to detect and divert illegal drugs.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to advocate to Canada Post to implement immediate process changes to detect and divert illegal narcotics, such as increasing the use of ion scanners, narcotic sniffing dogs, and other initiatives.

Conference decision: _____

NR59 Sharing Fentanyl Precursors Information with Law Enforcement

Qualicum Beach

Whereas the opioid crisis claimed the lives of more than 2,500 citizens in British Columbia in 2023;

And whereas not all information regarding the distribution of fentanyl precursors is currently being shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province to work with the relevant authorities to ensure pertinent information relating to the distribution of precursors for fentanyl is shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement in a timely manner.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work with the relevant authorities to ensure pertinent information relating to the distribution of fentanyl precursor chemicals is shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement in a timely manner.

However, the Committee notes that the membership previously endorsed resolution 2010-B64, which called on the Province to work with the federal government to restrict the importation of precursor chemicals, and to monitor use of precursor chemicals by authorized businesses.

Conference decision: _____

NR60 Regulating Vape Shops

New Westminster

Whereas Health Canada has stated that they share the concerns of parents, educators, youth and public stakeholders regarding the increase of youth vaping in Canada;

And whereas the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch oversees provincial liquor and cannabis regulations, including licensing and monitoring of private cannabis retailers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the Province of BC include retail stores used primarily for sale of electronic nicotine or e-cigarettes under the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch and thereby include restrictions that regulate where and how many of these retail stores are able to receive business licences in a community.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling upon the Province to restrict the sale of electronic nicotine by regulating where and how many e-cigarette retail stores are able to receive business licences in a community.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolutions seeking to regulate electronic nicotine, e-cigarettes or vape products, including:

- *2019-B59 which asked the Province to enact strict regulations regarding the marketing and selling of e-cigarettes and vapour products to minors;*
- *2019-B173 (Executive endorsed) which asked Health Canada and the provinces and territories to coordinate additional public policy and regulations to address access, sale and appeal of vape products to youth, and offer additional enforcement resources, to halt the growing usage of vape products among youth as a matter of concern to local government and their communities; and*
- *2014-B131 which asked the Province to regulate the use and sale of electronic cigarettes and other vaporizing systems intended to replicate the smoking experience under the British Columbia Tobacco Control Act and Regulations.*

Conference decision: _____

NR61 Creating Safer Streets through Provincial Bear Spray Legislation

Burnaby

Whereas the existing restrictions provided through the Health Canada *Pest Control Products Act*, enforcement through Criminal Code of Canada Sections 90(1) and 92(1) have proven inadequate to prevent the increasing acquisition and criminal misuse of bear spray in urban areas;

And whereas local government bylaws are insufficient to address criminal procurement in other local governments or online:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to develop legislation to control the sale of bear spray in urban areas.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop legislation to control the sale of bear spray in urban areas, such as the Lower Mainland.

The Committee also advises that this type of control or ban can be achieved by bylaw.

Conference decision: _____



Environment

NR62 Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas Clean-up Funding

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia does not have a funding policy in place to offset costs associated to illegal dumping in rural areas of British Columbia;

And whereas the dumping/tipping fees, equipment, and fuel costs to clean-up the effects of abandoned vehicles, garbage, and litter unfairly places hardships on the efforts of dedicated volunteers and requires the backing of private donations to cover the costs associated with the clean-up work;

And whereas these sites are unsightly, negatively impact environmentally sensitive areas including waterways and natural spaces, posing a threat to public safety;

And whereas the sites are located on rural Crown land area, and can be directly associated with the impacts of low inventories of affordable housing in the Province of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to take urgent steps to develop a policy to support a community-based funding model to support clean-up efforts on Crown lands undertaken by volunteers and organized interest groups.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to take urgent steps to develop a policy to support a community-based funding model to support clean-up efforts on Crown lands undertaken by volunteers and organized interest groups.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2021-EB32 which asked 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.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB45 which specifically asked the Province follow through on changes made to the Agricultural Land Commission Act that would in part “invest more resources in prosecuting offenders who unlawfully deposit waste on agricultural land.”

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed three resolutions addressing minimum staffing levels to address illegal dumping, 2024-NR99, 2021-EB30 and 2017-B64, all of which asked the Province, in part, to 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.

Conference decision: _____

NR63 Provincial Waste Hauler Licensing

Nanaimo RD

Whereas unreported waste flowing into and/or out of a Regional District undermines that region’s ability to understand waste generation and waste material flows, causing incorrect assessments of waste reduction efforts as part of Solid Waste Management Plans;

And whereas regional districts lack the authority to require reporting of waste sent to landfills in or out of their region:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province establish a province-wide waste hauler licensing system, which includes a mandatory waste reporting system and an economic framework to encourage the management of waste within the region where it was generated.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province establish a province-wide waste hauler licensing system, which includes a mandatory waste reporting system and an economic framework to encourage the management of waste within the region where it was generated.

Conference decision: _____

NR64 Solid Waste Management Approvals

Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional districts experience lengthy delays in receiving approvals of Solid Waste Management Plans, and those same plans require subsequent program approvals;

And whereas once the plans are approved, regional districts must demonstrate the effectiveness of their solid waste management plans within 10 years, but additional provincial approval requirements often shorten this period, limiting time to assess the plan's impact before renewal:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that once the Minister of Environment and Parks approves a Solid Waste Management Plan, no further approvals be required for a regional district to pursue policy actions outlined in the Solid Waste Management Plan.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Environment and Parks, that once it has approved a Solid Waste Management Plan, it will not require further approvals for regional districts to pursue policy actions outlines in the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Conference decision: _____

NR65 Sustainable Funding for Landfill Gas Regulation Compliance

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the new provincial landfill gas regulations present disproportionate financial challenges for smaller local governments, exacerbating existing disparities in service delivery capacity;

And whereas compliance costs, including infrastructure upgrades, specialized training, ongoing monitoring, and maintenance, represent a significant financial strain for communities with limited revenue streams:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to develop a sustainable funding model that recognizes the diverse financial capacities of local governments and provides targeted financial assistance to ensure equitable implementation of the landfill gas regulations across British Columbia.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop a sustainable funding model that recognizes the diverse financial capacities of local governments and provides targeted financial assistance to ensure equitable implementation of the landfill gas regulations across British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56), both of which address the greenhouse gas emissions from decomposing food waste in landfills, in a whereas clause. As well, endorsed resolution 2009-B113 sought grant funding support for landfill gas reduction projects and greater regulatory flexibility in how local governments reduce emissions from landfills.

Conference decision: _____

NR66 Balanced Emissions Policies

Peace River RD

Whereas British Columbia's natural gas sector has taken significant actions to address emissions, including a 47 percent reduction in methane emissions from 2014 to 2021, while continuing to grow production and economic contributions;

And whereas a sectoral emissions cap would restrict upstream natural gas production, discourage investment, and shift development to jurisdictions with weaker environmental regulations, resulting in job losses and no meaningful net reduction in global emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to not implement a sectoral emissions cap and instead collaborate with industry to develop balanced, competitive emissions policies that support investment while maintaining environmental progress.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2022-NR42 that asked the Province to, in part, enact a GHG emissions cap for natural gas utilities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a range of resolutions calling for greenhouse gas reductions (2020-NR38, 2014-B26), as well as range of low carbon initiatives to support local climate action in buildings, transportation and solid waste (2020-EB28, 2019-B142, 2019-B144, 2018-B31, 2018-B32, 2018-B130, 2018-B131, 2017-B62, 2017-B63, 2017-B132, 2014-B94).

Conference decision: _____

NR67 Nuclear Energy in BC

Mackenzie

Whereas local governments across the Province of BC have declared climate emergencies and nuclear energy is a greenhouse gas free source of electricity;

And whereas BC Hydro has put out a call for electricity production, the first time it has done so in over a decade:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to review the Clean Energy Act, specifically to study the feasibility of a reversal on the current prohibition on nuclear energy in support of electricity production and reduction of greenhouse gas production in British Columbia.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to review the Clean Energy Act, specifically to study the feasibility of a reversal on the current prohibition on nuclear energy in support of electricity production and reduction of greenhouse gas production in British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a range of resolutions calling for greenhouse gas reductions (2020-NR38, 2014-B26) as well as range of low carbon initiatives to support local climate action in buildings, transportation and solid waste (2020-EB28, 2019-B142, 2019-B144, 2018-B31, 2018-B32, 2018-B130, 2018-B131, 2017-B62, 2017-B63, 2017-B132, 2014-B94).

Conference decision: _____

NR68 BC Building Code Amendment to Include Natural Gas

Spallumcheen

Whereas the BC Building Code has incorporated the BC Energy Step code, which sets increasingly stringent energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction requirements for new buildings and major renovations,

effectively limiting the current uses and eliminating the future uses of natural gas as a fuel in areas of BC that use the BC Building Code;

And whereas many local governments, including those with significant agricultural, industrial, and rural residential needs, require flexibility and ongoing energy investment to ensure affordable, reliable, and diverse energy options for residents, businesses, and farms;

And whereas limiting or eliminating natural gas as an energy option could increase energy and construction costs, reduce economic competitiveness, and limit the ability of local governments to attract and retain, families, businesses and agricultural entities that rely on natural gas for their operations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the BC Building Code to ensure that natural gas remains a viable energy option now and in the future, allowing residents, businesses and local governments the flexibility to determine the most appropriate energy solutions for their unique economic, geographic, and community needs, while still supporting reasonable and achievable energy efficiency goals.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the BC Building Code to ensure that natural gas remains a viable energy option now and in the future, allowing residents, businesses and local governments the flexibility to determine the most appropriate energy solutions for their unique economic, geographic, and community needs, while still supporting reasonable and achievable energy efficiency goals.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2023-EB20, 2023-EB21, 2022-EB31, 2022-NR43, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25) and calling for federal and provincial programs to provide incentives for residential energy efficiency (2020-NR52, 2014-B28, 2014-B93, 2012-B25, 2010-B86, 2009-B166, 2007-B33, 2007-B177, 2006-B111).

The Committee also notes that updates to the BC Building Code through the phased implementation of the BC Energy Step Code do not explicitly limit or eliminate natural gas as an energy option, but may make it more challenging for buildings designed with some types of natural gas equipment to achieve updated building efficiency performance standards.

See resolutions EB50, NR106

Conference decision: _____

NR69 Legislating the BC Coastal Marine Strategy

**Langford,
Saanich**

Whereas in July 2024, following extensive consultation with First Nations and stakeholders, the Province of British Columbia released its first ever Coastal Marine Strategy, providing a 20-year vision of a “diverse, productive and resilient coastal marine environment that is valued in its own right and that supports the prosperity, health and well-being of coastal communities now and into the future”;

And whereas the Coastal Marine Strategy details nine important goals (diverse marine life; abundant wild Pacific Salmon; a clean coast; climate-ready communities; a sustainable coastal economy; vibrant coastal communities; trusting, respectful relationships; a robust tool kit; and integrated and balanced management), but does not have

the force of law, and codifying the Strategy into law would support its success and longevity rather than leaving it dependent on the priorities of the government of the day:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to enshrine the BC Coastal Marine Strategy into law.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to enshrine the BC Coastal Marine Strategy into law.

The Committee notes that the Coastal Marine Strategy comprises 24 actions spanning a broad and diverse range of policy issues, not all of which have been endorsed by UBCM's membership.

However, the Committee also notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR45 which sought a Coastal Protection Strategy and law to leverage and coordinate the work of provincial ministries, First Nations, local communities, and stakeholder groups to preserve coastal and ocean health, halt coastal habitat loss, accelerate the completion of a network of marine protected areas to benefit fisheries, biodiversity and the economy, set marine environmental quality objectives from upland activities, and help communities adopt ecosystem-based approaches to manage risks from flooding due to extreme weather events, sea level rise, climate change, and ocean acidification.

Conference decision: _____

NR70 Standardized Wake Surfing Regulation

East Kootenay RD

Whereas the larger, higher energy and displacement waves created by wake surfing have been recognized to be a threat to lake health and the health of the surrounding ecosystem (i.e. wetlands, riparian areas, sensitive shoreline habitat) on lakes and water bodies meeting certain objective criteria;

And whereas Transport Canada, a federal institution, holds the authority through the Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (VORR) to regulate and restrict boating activities in Canadian waters, and has recognized that VORR processes need to be modernized to provide a means to address specific issues caused by wake surfing activities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition Transport Canada to develop objective, science-based, lake and water body characteristics and criteria where the activity of wake surfing would threaten the lake health and the health of the surrounding ecosystem;

And be it further resolved that UBCM to advocate to Transport Canada that Vessel Operation Restriction Regulation restricting wake surfing be applied to those lakes and water bodies meeting the specific characteristics and criteria, by the federal government, using a standardized approach.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking Transport Canada to develop objective, science-based, lake and water body characteristics and criteria where the activity of wake surfing would threaten the lake health and the health of the surrounding ecosystem. Nor has the membership considered the second request that Vessel Operation Restriction Regulation restricting wake surfing be applied to those lakes and water bodies meeting the specific characteristics and criteria, by the federal government, using a standardized approach.

Conference decision: _____

NR71 Financial Incentives for Residential Rainwater Catchment Systems

Tofino

Whereas water security, drought, and climate change are critical issues affecting communities across the Province of British Columbia, with many communities facing challenges related to aging water infrastructure and increasing demand;

And whereas incentivizing the implementation of residential rainwater catchment systems can alleviate pressure on water supply challenges in drought affected communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to offer rebates or financial incentives for residential rainwater catchment systems to help increase water supply and promote efficient water use practices.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling upon the Province to offer rebates or financial incentives for residential rainwater catchment systems to help increase water supply and promote efficient water use practices.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking Provincial support for rainwater harvesting systems, including:

- *2016-B111 which asked the Province to establish objectives, standards and protocols to enhance the ability of small water system operators to implement rainwater source(s) for potable water; and*
- *2016-B106 which asked the Province to establish a rainwater harvesting system rebate program for agricultural users.*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds to protect the water supply (2024-EB66, 2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

Conference decision: _____

NR72 Emergency Water Treatment Plants

Lions Bay

Whereas forested-watershed communities face increasing risks of wildfire-related contamination of their drinking water sources due to the increasing impacts associated with climate change, with wildfires introducing ash, sediment, and other pollutants that can render water supplies unusable for extended periods;

And whereas the cost of advanced water treatment infrastructure required to address such contamination far exceeds the financial capacity of small communities, leaving them vulnerable to prolonged water supply disruptions that pose significant public health and community sustainability risks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia acquire and maintain one to three skid-mounted, 500,000-gallon-per-day (GPD) portable water treatment plants to be held in reserve for emergency deployment to communities experiencing significant wildfire-related water contamination, ensuring rapid response and long-term water security for vulnerable communities.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to acquire and maintain one to three skid-mounted, 500,000-gallon-per-day (GPD) portable water treatment plants to be held in reserve for emergency deployment to communities experiencing significant wildfire-related water contamination, ensuring rapid response and long-term water security for vulnerable communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds; most notably as part of the recent Watershed Security Strategy and related Watershed Security Fund (2024-EB65, 2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2023-EB56, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to establish standards and funding around drinking water, including:

- *Provincial and federal governments to provide ongoing, long-term, and stable funding for local governments to upgrade community water distribution and treatment systems to enable compliance with the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and all subsequent amendments thereto (2024-EB47);*
- *Province to provide leadership and functional involvement in the creation and management of consistent regional water supply strategies with the aim of ensuring that resilient and sustainable drinking water supplies are in place now and for the future (2023-EB38);*
- *Province to assist regional districts by developing a means by which sustainable funding can be provided for very small water systems, so as to ensure these systems are built, operated, and maintained in a sustainable and safe manner (2022-EB81);*
- *Province to provide funding opportunities that reflect the true cost of the upgrades to aging drinking water infrastructure particularly in the rural areas of the province of British Columbia (2011-B107);*
- *Province to standardize water quality and treatment regulations across BC and develop a funding strategy for their implementation (2009-B51);*
- *Province to establish province-wide standards on potable water to be applied universally and implemented consistently in order to protect public health and public confidence in local and regional potable water systems (2007-B123); and*
- *Province to ensure that funding is available to develop the infrastructure required to meet the Province's drinking water standards (2006-B90).*

Conference decision: _____

NR73 Ministerial Oversight of Proposed Sewerage (Septic) Systems

Coldstream

Whereas the Sewerage System Regulation, under the *Public Health Act*, does not require an environmental impact study for sewerage systems (including septic systems) that receive a flow of less than 22,700 litres per day (5,000 Imperial gallons);

And whereas there is no requirement for provincial review of the cumulative effect of multiple systems on a parcel of land or their location relative to water sources that may be present, as part of the onsite sewerage system permitting process:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request, that as part of the onsite sewerage system permit approval process, the Ministry of Environment be required to review all permit applications for onsite sewerage systems when the combined septic effluent from a parcel exceeds 80 percent of the Municipal Wastewater Regulation threshold of 22,700 litres per day and a septic system malfunction could contaminate a municipal water source.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Environment be required to review all permit applications for onsite sewerage systems when the combined septic effluent from a parcel exceeds 80 percent of the Municipal Wastewater Regulation threshold of 22,700 litres per day and a septic system malfunction could contaminate a municipal water source.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has considered resolutions addressing sewer systems and the Sewerage System Regulation, including:

- *2013-B118 which asked the Ministry of Health to implement third party monitoring of sewerage installations on and abutting farm land;*
- *2008-SR1 which asked the Province to address local government concerns with the Sewerage System Regulation;*
- *2008-B28 which asked the Province to ensure water quality and security by, in part, ensuring that compliance with sewage regulations on recreational lease lots; and*
- *2006-B103 which asked the Ministry of Health to amend the Sewerage System Regulation to allow homeowners to conduct installations and repairs of sewerage systems subject to inspection by authorized inspectors.*

See resolution EB49

Conference decision: _____

NR74 Support for Natural Asset Inventory Development

Pemberton

Whereas natural assets, when responsibly managed and preserved, provide service to British Columbia communities on their own and as the foundation of natural infrastructure initiatives that enhance a community's resilience to the effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and the degradation of Earth's ecosystems;

And whereas a natural asset inventory, co-developed with the Indigenous Peoples on whose traditional territory a community is located, is a first step towards the development of sustainable, resilient, natural infrastructure and towards ensuring that natural assets are valued and preserved for future generations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia encourage local governments to develop natural asset inventories in collaboration with their Indigenous hosts by providing funding to local governments and Indigenous peoples to offset the costs of developing the inventories.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to encourage local governments to develop natural asset inventories in collaboration with their Indigenous hosts by providing funding to local governments and Indigenous peoples to offset the costs of developing the inventories.

However, the Committee notes that the membership supported resolution 2023-LR1 which asked the Province to create an inventory of the forestry sector land base, following the 2023 wildfire season.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2020-NR16 which asked the provincial and federal governments to provide appropriate funding for, and promote, natural assets as a viable emergency planning solution.

Conference decision: _____

NR75 Mobile Live Animal Programs

Port Moody

Whereas mobile live animal programs where animals are transported to be displayed to, handled by or offered for sale to the public can create distress for animals and introduce risks of zoonotic disease transmission and injury for people and other animals;

And whereas wild and exotic animals are not domesticated and suffer physically and psychologically when kept, bred, displayed and sold in captivity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to regulate mobile live animal programs to address animal welfare concerns and public health and safety risks;

And be it further resolved UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to update the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to equally prioritize animal welfare considerations alongside public safety, and prohibit the import, keeping, breeding and transport of all exotic species.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to regulate mobile live animal programs to address animal welfare concerns and public health and safety risks;

However, the Committee notes that the membership has considered and endorsed resolutions seeking expanded controls around exotic species. Resolution 2007-B126 asked the Province to amend the Wildlife Act to regulate the keeping and sale of exotic animals in BC by including a list of exotic animals that are prohibited for keeping or sale in BC. The membership also endorsed resolution 2023-NR50 which sought to amend the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to prohibit hybrid exotic cats and dogs, and to further amend the Regulation to create a positive list of permitted species to replace the existing negative list of prohibited species.

Conference decision: _____

NR76 Hybrid Wolfdogs

Nanaimo RD

Whereas exotic animals and their hybrids are not domesticated and suffer physically and psychologically when bred, kept, displayed and sold in captivity, and may pose public health and safety risks to other animals and people;

And whereas the keeping of most wild animals as pets in BC is illegal under the *Wildlife Act*, and hybrid animals, including the breeding of *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs are not protected by this legislation or the provincial Controlled Alien Species Regulation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to immediately amend either the Controlled Alien Species Regulation or the *Wildlife Act* to prohibit the breeding and keeping of all mixed *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend either the Controlled Alien Species Regulation or the Wildlife Act to prohibit the breeding and keeping of all mixed *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations.*

*However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR50 (also from Nanaimo RD) which asked the Province to, in part, amend the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to prohibit all Felids, including Servals, other than the domestic cat (*Felis catus*), and all Canids other than the domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*), including all hybrids of F1-3 generation.*

While resolution 2023-NR50 asked to amend the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to broadly prohibit “all hybrids of F1-3 generation”, this resolution more specifically requests the prohibition of “breeding and keeping of... hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations.”

Conference decision: _____

NR77 Provincial Support for Addressing Feral Rabbits

Saanich

Whereas numerous local governments are struggling with the abandonment and rapid proliferation of feral European rabbits in parks and public spaces, and these invasive animals have a negative impact on ecosystems, native wildlife, urban infrastructure and greenspaces, and public health and safety;

And whereas the current approach to addressing this issue is uncoordinated and poorly funded, placing all of the responsibility on the shoulders of local governments and small underfunded not-for-profits, leading to an inconsistent and ineffective response:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop a coordinated province-wide strategy to address the root causes of feral rabbit abandonment across British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop a coordinated province-wide strategy to address the root causes of feral rabbit abandonment across British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2012-B123 that sought provincial legislation to regulate the sale of unsterilized rabbits.

Alternatively, in 2010, the membership considered, but did not endorse resolution B134, which asked the Province to enact legislation banning the sale of rabbits in pet stores.

The Committee notes that Province enacted changes to BC's Wildlife Act in 2022 to ease permitting requirements that had previously limited the capacity of local governments or other groups to trap, transport, relocate or euthanize feral non-native rabbits.

Conference decision: _____

NR78 Allocation of Wildlife Revenues to Conservation

Kitimat-Stikine RD

Whereas British Columbia's forests and protected lands are vital to its natural heritage, supporting diverse wildlife and ecosystems that require sustainable management and conservation effort;

And whereas licensed hunters and trappers contribute significantly to BC's economy, generating over \$600 million in spending annually and paying approximately \$12 million in fees, which currently go into general provincial revenue rather than directly supporting wildlife conservation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to dedicate all revenues from hunting and trapping licenses, fines, and penalties to wildlife conservation and habitat preservation.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to dedicate all revenues from hunting and trapping licenses, fines, and penalties to wildlife conservation and habitat preservation.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions that address the protection of ecosystem health, biodiversity, species and habitat, including:

- *2024-NR55 which asked the Province to allocate funding to ensure that objective data on natural resources is easily accessible by all stakeholders, ensuring transparency, inclusivity, and ongoing maintenance;*
- *2023-EB32 which asked the Province to establish a fund and other legislative and promotional measures to support local efforts to acquire land for biodiversity and ecosystem health;*
- *2023-EB33 which asked the Province to proceed with legislation that enables legal and financial*

mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health, and species at risk in British Columbia;

- *2022-NR38 which asked the Province to develop new legislation to protect and restore biological diversity and ecosystem health, in a manner consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and with the involvement of local governments, civil society groups, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, scientists, and members of the public;*
- *2010-B35 which asked the Province to develop a Species and Ecosystems Protection Act for BC; and*
- *2008-B87 which asked the Province to enact a strong Species and Ecosystem Protection Act to safeguard British Columbia's exceptional biological richness - in particular, against the threats posed by habitat loss and climate change - recognizing the critical importance of conserving biodiversity to maintaining ecosystem integrity and human well-being.*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase numbers of conservation officers and resources to support wildlife management and to reduce human-wildlife conflict (2024-EB52, 2021-NR38, 2018-B36, 2017-B29, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2013-B27, 2012-B21, 2012-B72, 2010-B25).

Conference decision: _____

NR79 Regulation of Mushroom Harvesting Industry

NCLGA Executive

Whereas wild mushroom harvesting supports local economies, food security, tourism, and cultural traditions, particularly for Indigenous communities and small-scale harvesters;

And whereas the lack of regulatory oversight has led to unsustainable harvesting, environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, and conflicts over access to resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Forests, to develop and implement a regulatory framework for wild mushroom harvesting that establishes science-based harvesting limits, seasonal restrictions, and designated zones; ensures compliance through monitoring and enforcement; protects Indigenous harvesting rights and traditional practices; and supports small-scale harvesters through training, licensing, and market access.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to develop and implement a regulatory framework for wild mushroom harvesting that establishes science-based harvesting limits, seasonal restrictions, and designated zones; ensures compliance through monitoring and enforcement; protects Indigenous harvesting rights and traditional practices; and supports small-scale harvesters through training, licensing, and market access.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolutions addressing the balanced harvesting and protection of other species, including:

- *Moose (2019-B159);*
- *Geoduck shellfish (2018-B65, 2007-B148); and*
- *West coast fisheries (2018-B73).*

Conference decision: _____

NR80 Remove Cigarette Butts from Environment

Powell River

Whereas cigarette butts are non-biodegradable, toxic and have a significant negative impact on the aquatic and terrestrial environment;

And whereas UBCM passed a resolution in 2016 about creation of a Cigarette Butt Deposit Return Program which has not resulted in progress;

And whereas cigarette butts continue to be a significant source of contamination via litter across British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Minister of Environment to require a province wide cigarette butt return program or prohibit the sale of non bio-degradable cigarette butts.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to prohibit the sale of non bio-degradable cigarette butts.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive considered and endorsed two referred resolutions which sought a cigarette butt deposit return program (2020-NR54, 2016-B129).

Conference decision: _____



Regional Districts

NR81 Strengthening Regional Emergency Management Capacity

Lions Bay

Whereas regional districts in British Columbia are responsible for providing only a limited number of mandated services, including emergency management for electoral areas, regional solid waste planning, and governance for electoral areas, as outlined in the *Local Government Act*;

And whereas many small municipalities lack the financial and staff resources necessary to effectively undertake emergency planning and response, including the ability to operationalize an Emergency Operations Centre during a crisis, leaving them vulnerable during major emergencies or disasters:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter*, as necessary, to authorize regional districts to provide emergency planning and response services not only to electoral areas but also to member municipalities that choose to opt in, ensuring a centralized and coordinated approach to emergency management.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Local Government Act and Community Charter, to authorize regional districts to provide emergency planning and response services to member municipalities that choose to opt in.

Under section 21 of the Emergency and Disaster Management Act, regional districts and municipalities, among others, are authorized to join together and establish a multijurisdictional emergency management organization (MJEMO) to "provide, in relation to the areas or matters for which the organization has responsibility, oversight, leadership and coordination of activities with respect to each phase of emergency management." This authority for multiple parties to enter into an MJEMO does not include an opt-in clause for municipalities, as is requested by the sponsor of this resolution. It should be noted that the sponsor's request for a municipal opt-in clause could potentially establish a requirement for regional districts to provide planning and response services for any member municipalities that wish to receive these services.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking ongoing funding and support for emergency management (2024-EB36, 2022-EB34, 2022-EB35, 2022-NR23, 2020-SR1, 2020-EB38, 2019-B11, 2018-B107, 2017-B86, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78, 2014-B76) and disaster recovery (2019-B104, 2019-B97, 2018-B100, 2015-B5).

Conference decision: _____

NR82 Two-Year Term for Regional District Chairs and Vice Chairs

Capital RD

Whereas Section 215 of the *Local Government Act* requires annual elections for Regional District Board Chairs and Vice Chairs;

And whereas annual leadership changes can be disruptive to a Regional Board's operational and strategic decision-making:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the *Local Government Act* to allow for two-year terms for Regional District Board Chairs and Vice Chairs.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the amendment of the Local Government Act to allow for two-year terms for Regional District Board Chairs and Vice Chairs.

However, the Committee notes that members has endorsed resolution 2023-EB66 which asked the Province for a comprehensive review and modernization of the Local Government Act, during the 2022-2026 local government term of office.

In response to the 2023 resolution, the provincial government encouraged "regional districts facing unique challenges" to work with the provincial government on "developing a regulation to implement solutions tailored to those challenges." In particular, the Province expressed interest in "hearing specific areas where a targeted approach to regional district challenges could benefit from direct authorities in the Local Government Act."

Conference decision: _____



Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

NR83 Establishment of a Framework for Intergovernmental Relations with First Nations

Port Alberni

Whereas the Province of British Columbia recognizes the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples, as outlined in the *Constitution Act* of 1982, and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP);

And whereas meaningful collaboration and engagement between municipal governments and First Nations are essential for fostering mutual respect, understanding, and shared decision-making in matters affecting local communities;

And whereas the lack of a consistent and formalized framework for intergovernmental relations has led to challenges in communication, resource sharing, and coordinated service delivery between First Nations and local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial and federal governments for the establishment of a comprehensive framework for intergovernmental relations between First Nations and local governments;

And be it further resolved that this framework should include:

1. Guidelines for Engagement: Clear protocols for consultation and collaboration between local governments and First Nations, ensuring that all parties are involved in decision-making processes that affect their communities.
2. Resource Sharing Models: Mechanisms to facilitate the equitable distribution of resources, funding, and support to First Nations and local governments to advance shared goals and objectives.
3. Capacity Building Initiatives: Programs to enhance the capacity of both First Nations and local governments to engage in effective intergovernmental relations, including training and development opportunities.
4. Conflict Resolution Processes: Established pathways for addressing disputes or challenges that arise in intergovernmental engagements, fostering a culture of cooperation and mutual respect.
5. Monitoring and Evaluation: A system for assessing the effectiveness of the framework and its implementation, allowing for continuous improvement and adaptation based on the needs of the communities involved.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments to establish a comprehensive framework for intergovernmental relations between First Nations and local governments. Nor has the membership considered the five point request in the second enactment clause.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting funding or supports for local governments for reconciliation, relationship building and engagement with First Nations (2024-EB58, 2023-EB72, 2021-EB77, 2019-A4, 2018-B23, 2018-B150).

Conference decision: _____

NR84 Equitable Distribution of Non-Casino Gaming Revenue
Port Moody

Whereas the City of Port Moody advocated for more equitable distribution of gaming revenues, and was subsequently asked by the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to provide viable options for the Ministry's review and consideration to remedy significant funding inequities created by revenue sharing agreements with local governments hosting casinos;

And whereas more broadly and equitably sharing gaming revenue, excluding revenue allocated to casino host communities, with municipalities will reduce the financial inequity that has been inadvertently created by providing significant revenue windfalls to host municipalities and support non-host communities in enhancing the livability of their communities across the province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province amend gaming revenue distribution policies, excluding existing agreements to communities that host casinos, to include advancing equity in the allocation of gaming revenues;

And be it further resolved that the Province establish a working group with interested communities to discuss non-casino gaming revenue sharing and equity policy changes.

Not Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse resolution 2024-NR65, also from the same sponsor, that asked the Province to amend gaming revenue distribution policies to include advancing equity. As well, it asked the Province to establish a working group with Port Moody and other non-host communities to discuss gaming revenue sharing and equity policy changes.

The sponsor has updated this year's resolution to exclude existing agreements to communities that host casinos when it asks to advance equity in the allocation of gaming revenues. It also differs in that the working group is open to all interested communities, whereas the 2024 resolution asked that the working group include only non-host communities.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to share a portion of lottery revenue with:

- *all BC local governments (2011-B28, 2008-B119); and*
- *communities under 10,000 (2020-EB37).*

Further, the membership has endorsed resolutions requesting that BCLC eGaming revenues be used as follows:

- *2023-NR57 which asked to allocate a portion of BCLC's online revenues based on per capita or eGaming revenue earned from each municipal resident spend;*
- *2019-B131 which asked to share 10 percent of net revenue from online gambling with local governments on the basis of population; and*
- *2018-B112 which asked to fund a Community Gaming Grant program to financially support non-host communities with populations of less than 25,000.*

Conference decision: _____

NR85 Agricultural Land Reserve Boundary Review**Cariboo RD**

Whereas the Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR) boundaries were established in the early 1970's, and no province-wide reviews have been conducted since that time in spite of technological progression and data maturity about the suitability of those boundaries;

And whereas it is well known, particularly in rural areas of the province, that large areas of the ALR are unviable for agriculture, and conversely, some areas of high agricultural value were left out in the initial rush to delineate protected agricultural areas in BC, negatively impacting British Columbian's confidence in the value and importance of the ALR:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the provincial government to mandate, appropriately staff, and fund both the ALC and regional districts to conduct a comprehensive, collaborative, data-driven, expeditious, province-wide review of the ALR boundaries to ensure the highest quality agricultural lands are protected for the next 50 years;

And be it further resolved that appropriate lands unsuitable for agriculture be identified in collaboration with regional districts and member municipalities to allow for 20 years of growth, in alignment with provincial housing and land use mandates for local governments.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not considered a resolution to mandate, staff, and fund the ALC and regional districts to conduct a province-wide review of the ALR boundaries and identify lands unsuitable for agriculture in alignment with provincial housing and land use mandates for local governments.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR51, which called on the federal and provincial governments to prioritize funding for regionally tailored agricultural research to develop sustainable solutions for diverse farming challenges across British Columbia.

The Committee also notes that the membership supported resolution 2016-B93 that sought boundary review and adjustment for minimum parcel sizes in the ALR, in relation to the subdivision of ALR land for residential use.

In addition, the Committee notes that UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions that call on the provincial government to adequately fund the ALC and support farming and food production in BC (2014-A3, 2014-B29, 2009-B89).

Conference decision: _____

NR86 Accessory Dwellings in the Agricultural Land Reserve**Cariboo RD**

Whereas manufactured homes are recognized as a common, affordable, and readily available form of housing across the province, particularly in rural areas, having limited long-term impact to underlying soil conditions due to their surface mounted design;

And whereas on December 31, 2021, in an effort to provide housing flexibility in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), the province permitted a second dwelling unit to be constructed within the ALR to a maximum of 90 sq. m. on parcels of 40 hectares or less in size, which represents a non-standard, custom-sized manufactured home, often preventing the construction of flexible additional housing within the ALR:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Agricultural Land Reserve Act* and associated regulations accordingly to permit the construction of either a 90 sq. m. accessory dwelling unit or a standard-sized manufactured home up to a maximum 148 sq. m. total floor area on parcels under 40 ha within the ALR.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not considered a resolution to amend the Agricultural Land Reserve Act and associated regulations to permit the construction of either a 90 sq.m. accessory dwelling unit or a standard-sized manufactured home up to a maximum 148 sq. m. total floor area on parcels under 40 ha within the ALR.

The Committee also advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2022-NR50 which asked the Province to increase the allowable maximum size for additional dwellings on ALR land.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing dwellings, and in support of secondary or ancillary dwellings, on ALR land, including:

- *2024-NR31 which asked the ALC to adopt the definition of floor area within the BC Building Code Regulations for buildings in the Agriculture Land Reserve;*
- *2020-EB64 which asked the ALC to keep amendments that allow for additional dwellings on ALR land, to remain permanent and not expire;*
- *2019-B168 which asked the Province to reinstate the previous provisions of the legislation which facilitated the construction of additional dwellings for farm help, manufactured homes for immediate family members, accommodation above an existing farm building, or a second single family dwelling;*
- *2017-B139 which asked, in part, that the ALC allow the siting of other moveable dwellings on ALR land; and*
- *2014-B115 which asked the ALC to allow permanent secondary residences to be built on ALR land.*

Conference decision: _____

NR87 Permit Vacation Rentals within the Agricultural Okanagan-Similkameen RD
Land Reserve

Whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is no longer permitting vacation rentals on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land;

And whereas local governments may have an objective to support agriculture and the local economy through agritourism;

And whereas allowing vacation rentals supports tourism and the local economy:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Agricultural Land Commission to permit vacation rentals within the Agricultural Land Reserve and remove the existing requirement for a resident owner.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Agricultural Land Commission to permit vacation rentals within the Agricultural Land Reserve and remove the existing requirement for a resident owner.

In contrast, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR70 which asked the ALC to work with local governments to update event rules to ensure that farming is the primary use of ALR Lands, and that events avoid disruption of farming activities on nearby parcels, considering changes including (but not limited to):

- *number of permitted events aligned to parcel size;*
- *stronger criteria for confirming farming is the primary use of a parcel; and*
- *ability of local governments to restrict events on a parcel in response to complaints from neighbouring properties.*

The Committee notes that there are multiple legislative tools that dictate permitted accommodations in the ALR: the ALC Act, the ALR Use Regulation and the Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act (STRAA). Under ALR Use Regulation, two types of tourism related accommodations in the ALR are permitted without requiring an application to the ALC: 1) Agri-tourism accommodation requires the parcel to be actively farmed, have Class 9 - Farm classification, and that the accommodation is offered in relation to an agri-tourism activity; 2) Bed and breakfast type accommodation does not require the parcel to be farmed or have farm classification to conduct the use but is restricted to no more than 4 bedrooms in the principal residence where the landowner resides. Short-term rental of an entire principal residence (for example, via AirBnB or VRBO) is not permitted by this regulation and requires an application to the ALC.

As of May 2024, STRAA limits short-term rentals of certain residences, in some areas of the province in order to encourage long-term rentals to address BC's housing crisis. However, the STRAA does not exempt a landowner from complying with the ALCA and ALR Use Regulation with respect to tourist accommodation and agri-tourism accommodation.

Conference decision: _____

NR88 Small-Scale Farm-to-Table Restaurants in the Agricultural Land Reserve

Central Saanich

Whereas farms in British Columbia are facing increasing pressure from rising costs, climate disruptions, workforce shortages, and global market volatility—including tariffs—making it harder to remain viable and threatening the province's food security and rural economies;

And whereas Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) regulations currently permit food and beverage service lounges for alcohol-producing farms if 50 percent of the primary product is grown on-site, but farms focused on food production face a more complex, uncertain, and inequitable approval process:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province for amendments to ALC regulations that would enable local governments to allow food-producing farms to operate restaurant lounges under the following conditions:

1. At least 50 percent of the food served in the restaurant lounge must be produced on the farm where the restaurant is located;
2. The restaurant lounge must comply with existing size restrictions applicable to food and beverage service lounges for alcohol-producing businesses (125 m² indoors and 125 m² outdoors); and
3. The UBCM work with the ALC to ensure that these amendments support the sustainability and economic viability of farms while maintaining the integrity of the Agricultural Land Reserve.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the ALC regulations to enable local governments to allow food-producing farms to operate restaurant lounges under the following conditions:

- 1. At least 50 percent of the food served in the restaurant lounge must be produced on the farm where the restaurant is located;*
- 2. The restaurant lounge must comply with existing size restrictions applicable to food and beverage service lounges for alcohol-producing businesses (125 m² indoors and 125 m² outdoors); and*
- 3. The UBCM work with the ALC to ensure that these amendments support the sustainability and economic viability of farms while maintaining the integrity of the Agricultural Land Reserve.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR70 which sought to update event rules to ensure that farming is the primary use of ALR lands, limiting events.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2023-NR60 which asked the Agricultural Land Commission to allow for expanded non-farm usage on farmlands through a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) system.

Conference decision: _____

NR89 Soil and Other Material Tracking

Richmond

Whereas the movement and subsequent deposition of soil and other material has the potential to negatively impact all lands - including ALR lands within the Province of British Columbia;

And whereas local governments, the Agricultural Land Commission and other provincial agencies must address issues and related impacts associated to the movement, removal, and deposition of soil and other material which often requires enforcement measures to be taken;

And whereas the movement, removal, and deposition of soil and other material has the potential to negatively impact the environment, farmland, private and public property and infrastructure;

And whereas the removal of soil and other material from lands located within local governments in British Columbia is not mandated by local governments or the provincial government to be tracked using available GPS and logistics management software technology;

And whereas a variety of technological solutions exists to track soil and other material transferred between sites:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to mandate that all source and deposit sites that fall within the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Land Commission in the Province of British Columbia in which soil and other material is to be removed be monitored and tracked using appropriate technology to ensure source site soil and other material is taken only to approved sites within the province.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to mandate that all source and deposit sites that fall within the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Land Commission in the Province of British Columbia in which soil and other material is to be removed be monitored and tracked using appropriate technology to ensure source site soil and other material is taken only to approved sites within the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions that address soil and fill, including:

- *Contaminated soil authorized fill location (2024-NR57);*
- *Contaminated soil permitting process (2016-B34);*
- *Contaminated soil relocation (2013-B37, 2012-B120);*
- *Placement of fill on ALR land and its impact on surrounding lands (2012-B82); and*
- *Soil removal fee (2011-B32, 2008-B135).*

The Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) requires that landowners within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) that intend to place fill or remove soil or aggregate, for reasons other than an Exempted Activity under Part 5 of the ALR Use Regulation, must submit the Notice of Intent prior to initiating an activity. Local governments are notified when a Notice of Intent is submitted, and if it is approved, but are not involved in the decision.

The Committee also notes that the membership has many endorsed resolutions that address illegal dumping and which call for adequate funding and enforcement (2023-EB45, 2021-EB30, 2021-EB31, 2021-EB32, 2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B64, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89). In particular, resolution 2023-EB45 specifically asked the Province to follow through on changes made to the Agricultural Land Commission Act that would in part “invest more resources in prosecuting offenders who unlawfully deposit waste on agricultural land.”

Conference decision: _____

NR90	Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement Ticketing	Richmond
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Whereas currently only the Agriculture Land Commission's (ALC) Chief Executive Officer has the authority to issue an Administrative Penalty i.e. financial penalty against an individual or company found to be in noncompliance with the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and associated regulations;

And whereas currently ALC Compliance and Enforcement staff do not have the authority to ticket and fine an individual or company found to be in non-compliance with the ALC Act and associated regulations;

And whereas providing additional administrative tools to ALC Compliance and Enforcement staff in order to obtain compliance will provide the potential to obtain compliance faster and at less cost to the Government of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to authorize that Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement staff be provided the authority to individually ticket and fine property owners and others responsible for the unauthorized filling of lands within the Agricultural Land Reserve and other issues of non-compliance related to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and associated regulations.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to authorize Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement staff to

individually ticket and fine property owners and others responsible for the unauthorized filling of lands within the Agricultural Land Reserve and other issues of non-compliance.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed two resolutions that seek additional funding and resources for the Agricultural Land Commission so that it can continue to be independent, to function and to achieve its mandate of preserving agricultural land for agriculture (2014-A3 and 2011-B48).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR68 which asked the Province to assume responsibility for the enforcement of Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) decisions and any local government costs incurred as a result of ALC decisions.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB45 which specifically asked the Province to follow through on changes made to the Agricultural Land Commission Act that would in part “invest more resources in prosecuting offenders who unlawfully deposit waste on agricultural land.” It reflects the membership’s support for additional resources needed by the ALC to ensure compliance and enforcement of its own legislation.

See resolution EB59

Conference decision: _____

NR91 Private Managed Forest Lands

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program is crucial for sustainable forest management in British Columbia;

And whereas local governments, First Nations, and PMFL landowners have provided comprehensive recommendations in 2019 to enhance the PMFL Program, including better protection of environmental, community, and Indigenous values, and the need for improved regulatory frameworks, enforcement, communication, and transparency:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Forests implement the recommendations provided by local governments and First Nations during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Land Program review.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement the recommendations provided by local governments and First Nations during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Lands Program review.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions asking that the Province enact legislation requiring private managed forest lands to be regulated and managed to the same standards as crown managed forest lands; referencing the current challenges with water quality and safety of drinking water in community watersheds (2023-NR67, 2021-EB29, 2020-EB48, 2019-B48, 2019-B49, 2018-B41, 2011-B50, 2008-B34).

The Committee acknowledges that the provincial government seems to have left the PMFL Program review process hanging, with little closure for Indigenous and local governments, and no clear policy direction on the program moving forward.

The Committee is not acquainted with the full range of specific recommendations provided by local and Indigenous governments during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Lands Program review. It is not clear whether the recommendations are aligned with each other, or there is the possibility that some might be at odds with other recommendations. For this reason, the Committee would hesitate to provide a recommendation in support of this resolution.

Conference decision: _____

NR92 Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Associations

**Bulkley-Nechako RD,
Fraser-Fort George RD**

Whereas recent legislation supporting watershed governance, and the 2024 NDP-Green Party Accord recognize the importance of local knowledge around water management;

And whereas well established multi-interest watershed health organizations are working throughout BC to restore watershed ecosystems from past excessive resource exploitation, and future proof them to adapt to climate impacts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government share a portion of natural resource royalty income to provide financial support to local watershed governance organizations.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to share a portion of natural resource royalty income to provide financial support to local watershed governance organizations.

However, Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to establish standards and funding around drinking water, including:

- *Province to build on their initial investment in the BC Watershed Security Fund to create a dedicated, sustainable, annual funding source that provides \$100 million annually for community-driven watershed security initiatives (2024-NR71);*
- *Province to assist regional districts by developing a means by which sustainable funding can be provided for very small water systems, so as to ensure these systems are built, operated, and maintained in a sustainable and safe manner (2022-EB81);*
- *Province to provide funding opportunities that reflect the true cost of the upgrades to aging drinking water infrastructure particularly in the rural areas of the province of British Columbia (2011-B107);*
- *Province to standardize water quality and treatment regulations across BC and develop a funding strategy for their implementation (2009-B51);*
- *Province to establish province-wide standards on potable water to be applied universally and implemented consistently in order to protect public health and public confidence in local and regional potable water systems (2007-B123); and*
- *Province to ensure that funding is available to develop the infrastructure required to meet the Province's drinking water standards (2006-B90).*

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds; most notably as part of the recent Watershed Security Strategy and related Watershed Security Fund (2024-EB64, 2024-EB65, 2024-EB66, 2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2023-EB56, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

In addition, the Committee notes that in line with previously endorsed resolutions, the enactment clause referencing 'local watershed governance organizations' should be viewed as inclusive of local governments receiving funding as local governments are frequently part of watershed governance organizations.

Conference decision: _____

NR93 Dedicating Water Rental Fees to Watershed Security

Cumberland

Whereas British Columbia communities are facing rapidly increasing pressures to watershed security, including climate-fueled droughts, landslides, floods and wildfires, the cumulative impacts of industrial development as well as privately owned managed forest land in our watersheds;

And whereas increased and sustained funding is required for local governments to provide safe, sustainable drinking water for communities, and to work in active partnership with First Nations to improve watershed governance and management to address the challenges we are facing in our watersheds:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC and the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Management dedicate at least 10 percent of the revenue collected from provincial water rental fees to support watershed security at the local level;

And be it further resolved that water rental fees for large industrial water users be increased to make this a revenue-neutral solution for the Province.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province and Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Management to dedicate at least 10 percent of the revenue collected from provincial water rental fees to support watershed security at the local level. Nor has the membership considered that the water rental fees for large industrial water users be increased to make this a revenue-neutral solution for the Province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds (2024-NR71, 2024-EB65, 2023-EB37, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

Conference decision: _____

NR94 Provincial Financial Support for Municipal Industrial Land Planning

Squamish

Whereas a sufficient supply of industrial land in all categories (i.e. production, distribution, repair, manufacturing, transportation, trade-enabling, warehouse, wholesale, etc.) is critical for local, regional and provincial economies and workforce growth, and industrial lands face scarcity and underdevelopment challenges and loss and conversion to other uses;

And whereas balanced attention to local and regional industrial land protection and planning is disadvantaged by lack of available funding for local governments to assist with the unique planning and development challenges and opportunities for these lands:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government provide new funding programs for local and regional governments to support preparation or updating of industrial land inventories, assessments, strategies, plans, and guidelines for their protection and optimal development.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide new funding programs for local and regional governments to support preparation or updating of industrial land inventories, assessments, strategies, plans, and guidelines for their protection and optimal development.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse resolution 2006-B120, which asked the Province to invite affected communities, industry groups and other stakeholders to form an Industrial Lands Committee, tasked with conducting an advisability and feasibility study in consultation with affected communities, industry groups and other stakeholders on the establishment of an Industrial Land Reserve.

Conference decision: _____

NR95 Updated Ancillary Uses for Airports Located on Crown Land

**Okanagan-Similkameen RD,
Oliver**

Whereas airports located on Crown Land have Crown Grants from the Province of BC to operate and must adhere to the ancillary airport uses listed in the Land Use Operational Policy;

And whereas the list of airport uses is restrictive and limited to what is considered necessary for the viable operation and management of a public airport;

And whereas capital renewal and operational costs for Crown Grant Airports continue to increase and are far outpacing the revenue generating opportunities from ancillary land use leases, and the socio-economic impacts from Crown Grant Airports is significant for local municipalities and their surrounding area:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to work with Crown Grant Airport owners to update the list of ancillary uses in the Land Use Operational Policy to allow for increased revenue generating opportunities to improve the economic viability of Crown Grant Airports.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work with Crown Grant Airport owners to update the list of ancillary uses in the Land Use Operational Policy to allow for increased revenue generating opportunities.

While different than expansion of ancillary uses, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking sustainable provincial and federal government funding for small community airports, as well as funding for upgrades to those small airports (2012-B64, 2009-B162).

Conference decision: _____

**NR96 Supporting Housing Affordability Through Taxation
Changes and Financial Commitment**

Port Moody

Whereas housing affordability is impacted by the rising cost of housing for both rental and ownership, and incomes have not kept up to the cost of living across the province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs and BC Assessment Authority to support housing affordability through taxation changes and financial commitment by undertaking the following:

- adjust the assessment value of rental properties to reflect the existing building on the site instead of the full development potential (the highest and best use);
- explore variable tax rates for land and improvement including a land value tax to help control land price escalation and speculation;
- amend property taxation regulations to allow for variable property taxation rates with sub-classifications within each property class and a new classification for affordable housing; and
- allow for progressive property taxation based on the assessed value and current use including rates for vacant lands.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that that UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province and BC Assessment Authority to support housing affordability through taxation changes and financial commitments as noted in the four bulleted points.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking legislative amendments to authorize municipalities to set different property tax rates for land and improvements, in order to encourage the development and improved maintenance of derelict buildings and vacant land and improve housing affordability. Relevant resolutions endorsed by the membership include:

- 2024-EB90 new assessment classification for vacant residential lands;
- 2021-EB19 vacant land property tax;
- 2020-EB44 option to set different property tax rates for land and improvements;
- 2019-B19 extension of vacancy taxation to local government;
- 2017-B14 restoration of Land Value Tax;
- 2011-B24 and 2008-B18 levying separate tax rates for each of land and improvements for each property;
- 2008-B18 levying separate tax rates for each of land and improvements for each property; and
- 2007-B72 option of setting differing property tax rates for Land and Improvements, thus encouraging development and improved maintenance of derelict buildings and vacant land.

Conference decision: _____

NR97 Burden of Delinquent Property Taxes

Merritt

Whereas the current *Community Charter* allows for taxpayers to become delinquent on their property taxes over a period of three years;

And whereas the *Local Government Act* further exacerbates the collection of taxes for an indefinite number of collection years regarding mobile homes;

And whereas property tax arrears significantly impact the operating capacity of municipalities thereby forcing significant tax increases or limits to essential services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the provincial government revise the *Community Charter* by reducing the number of years a property owner can be in arrears on their property tax;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government implement a province-wide, cost-effective solution for municipalities to recover taxes owed by mobile homes; and revise the *Local Government Act* and other related Acts, such as the *Manufactured Homes Act*, accordingly.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolution Committee advises that this resolution deals with two separate but related issues. The first enactment clause requests a reduction in the number of years before any property can be sold at tax sale. The second enactment clause is specific to mobile (manufactured) homes where the option of a tax sale for unpaid taxes or utility fees does not exist.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2012-B128 that cites the length of time taxes can go unpaid before a property can go to tax sale as having an impact on budgets, and requests a change in legislation to allow for collection of property taxes in a timely manner. The membership also endorsed resolutions 2018-B19 and 2016-B78 that requested improvements in tax collection processes.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the UBCM membership endorsed several resolutions concerning collection of taxes, including delinquent taxes, on manufactured homes (2005-B16, 1999-B10, 1995-B23, 1994-B50). The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

Conference decision: _____



Transportation

NR98 Localized Input on Highway Maintenance Contracts

Elkford

Whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Transit is responsible for providing safe, well-maintained highways and oversees the privatized service contracts according to terms set out by the Province that define road maintenance standards across British Columbia;

And whereas contract terms and local area specifications included in highway maintenance agreements apply to broadly scoped regions, creating critical gaps in safety and service standards, especially pertaining to communities that face severe winter conditions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit meet with local governments prior to the negotiation of highway maintenance contracts to receive localized input to inform the negotiations with the goal of improved highway maintenance standards.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to consult with local governments prior to the negotiation of highway maintenance contracts, to receive localized input on improving highway maintenance standards, that can inform the negotiations.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions seeking improved road and highway maintenance, including 2024-EB78, 2023-EB62, 2022-EB69, 2021-EB14, 2020-EB18, 2020-EB20, 2020-EB22, 2020-EB23, 2020-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2017-B12, 2017-B58, and 2017-B59. However, these resolutions have not sought local government consultation on provincial negotiation of provincial highway maintenance contracts.

The Committee would observe that this resolution seems to suggest involving local governments in procurement processes between the provincial government and provincial contractors. Is this a role that local governments desire, and do they have the capacity to take on this role?

See resolution RR35

Conference decision: _____

NR99 Commercial Transport Training Standards

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas serious crashes and other incidents, such as truck fires, involving commercial transport trucks continue to happen more frequently on BC highways in all weather conditions;

And whereas crashes involving commercial transport trucks often result in serious injuries or death, and crashes often lead to lengthy highway closures that cause significant disruptions and detours for other commercial and non-commercial motorists;

And whereas some commercial transport truck crashes may be attributed to unsafe driving actions or poor driver training, which puts all drivers at risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) investigate whether commercial transport driver training standards are satisfactory and rigorous, (including for Class 1 and 3 licensing, Air Brake endorsements, and Mandatory Entry Level Training requirements), to increase in-class and on-the-road training to meet a higher standard and reach a level of safety that the traveling public should expect from professional drivers;

And be it further resolved that MOTT investigate and report publicly on enforcement actions taken against commercial transport trucks by BC Highway Patrol, the Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement branch, RCMP, and other agencies if applicable.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions seeking improvements to commercial vehicle driver license training in BC, including an accredited training program, graduated licensing system, re-assessment/re-testing of commercial drivers, and holding carriers responsible (2009-B20, 2005-B78).

However, the Committee advises that the second request in this resolution, for MOTT to report publicly on enforcement actions taken against commercial transport trucks by BC Highway Patrol, the Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement branch, RCMP, and other agencies, has not previously been considered.

Conference decision: _____

**NR100 Saving Money and Saving Lives: Provincial Default 30 km/h
for Local Streets with No Centre Line**

Saanich

Whereas the current default speed limit on local roads (roads without a centre line) is 50 km/h, and empirical evidence shows that both the likelihood and severity of collisions - particularly involving vulnerable road users - rise sharply as vehicle speeds increase from 30 km/h to 50 km/h, and as a result reducing vehicle speeds on local roads is a proven strategy to improve safety, enhance livability, reduce social costs, and support increased active transportation mode share;

And whereas existing legislation obliges municipalities to reduce speed limits via bylaws and requires that municipalities install signed speed-limit reductions on every block of local roads, which imposed substantial financial and administrative burdens on municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* to establish a default provincial speed limit of 30 km/h on local roads without a centre line, while preserving municipal authority to increase speed limits on such roads on a case-by-case basis through bylaw and posted signage.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to establish a default provincial speed limit of 30 km/h on local roads without a centre line, while preserving municipal authority to increase speed limits on such roads on a case-by-case basis through bylaw and posted signage.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions calling for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) to enable municipalities to implement blanket speed limits (2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14) within their municipal boundaries.

In response to resolution 2019-B7, the provincial government indicated that it would not consider any changes to the MVA to redefine the statutory speed limit at 30 km/h.

The Committee is recommending "No Recommendation" as this resolution is prescriptive in nature, wanting to set a specific speed limit. Whereas EB71, also from the same sponsor, is enabling, seeking to empower local governments to set specific speed limits, as they see fit.

See resolution EB71

Conference decision: _____

**NR101 Ministry of Transportation and Transit Approval on
Minor Rezoning Applications**

Kamloops

Whereas rezoning applications within 800 metres from the intersection of a controlled access highway with any other highway requires approval from the Ministry of Transportation and Transit;

And whereas Kamloops is like many other local governments which have many kilometres of highways through their jurisdiction;

And whereas minor rezoning applications are considered those not requiring a Traffic Impact Assessment by generating no more than 100 new trips in the peak hour;

And whereas the approval times for rezoning applications can be many months:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province that minor rezoning applications not require approval of the Ministry of Transportation and Transit.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking that “minor” rezoning applications—as defined by the City of Kamloops—within 800 metres of controlled access highway intersections not require approval of the Ministry of Transportation and Transit.

The Resolutions Committee would observe that as written, the resolution would require all local governments to take on a new responsibility for a specific set of zoning approvals, a responsibility presently held by the Province. The Committee would encourage UBCM members to exercise caution around ideas of local governments taking on provincial zoning approval functions for intersections with provincial highways.

Conference decision: _____

NR102 Updating the Name of the *Motor Vehicle Act*

Saanich

Whereas the name of the *Motor Vehicle Act*, RSBC 1996, c 318 ("the MVA") does not reflect its purpose of regulating rights and responsibilities in relation to all road users nor of its primary goal of ensuring safety;

And whereas roads must serve a wide range and growing number of users in addition to motor vehicles, including pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, those using other mobility devices and public transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to change the name of the *Motor Vehicle Act* to the Road Safety Act.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to change the name of the *Motor Vehicle Act* to the Road Safety Act.*

The Committee acknowledges that this issue is outside the scope of local government jurisdiction, and as such, it cannot provide comments as to the merit, impact or consequences of this resolution's request.

Conference decision: _____

NR103 Traffic Controls at Inactive Railroad Crossings

Qualicum Beach

Whereas there are many railways that are inactive (where the average daily railway movement is zero), except for railway maintenance traffic, across British Columbia, and there are no active trains on the Southern Railway of BC railway North of Nanaimo;

And whereas the federal *Canada Transportation Act*, the *Railway Safety Act*, and the Grade Crossings Regulation require vehicular traffic to stop at railway crossings, except in limited circumstances, even when the railway is inactive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby Transport Canada for the amendment of the legislation, including the Grade Crossings Regulation to permit the reconfiguration of railway crossing traffic controls to have railway maintenance traffic come to a stop on the rail at roadway intersections of inactive railway crossings and to remove stop signs for vehicular traffic at these locations.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the federal government to amend the Canada Transportation Act, the Railway Safety Act, and the Grade Crossings Regulation, to make Canada-wide changes to the signage and rules that apply to vehicles on roads that cross railway tracks. The sponsor proposes that for railway crossings perceived to be “inactive”, vehicles on roads should not be required to stop at the railway tracks; instead, railway maintenance vehicles should be required to stop at the road. This proposal represents a wholesale reversal of the traffic rules and procedures used for railway crossings nationwide.

The Committee understands that there is no mechanism to designate a grade crossing as “inactive” under the Canada Transportation Act, Railway Safety Act, and Grade Crossings Regulation. Rather, the Grade Crossings Regulation provides that its own regulatory requirements do not apply to a public grade crossings with less than three average daily railway movements.

The sponsor indicates that the section of railway track north of Nanaimo that is owned by the Southern Railway of BC sees less than three average daily railway movements. If this is the case, then the Committee would ask why the sponsor does not seem to be approaching the Southern Railway of BC and Transport Canada to change the average annual daily movements on record for that section of track, to less than three. This could address the issue of stop signs for vehicular traffic at certain railway grade crossings, without having to seek federal legislative and regulatory amendments.

Conference decision: _____

NR104 Priority Ferry Boarding for Livestock and Agricultural Products

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas Vancouver Island food production is both a) insecure due to dependence on off-island processing facilities and the requirement to import feed, fertilizer and seed, and b) of extreme importance to the well-being and safety of island inhabitants due to the fragility of the food distribution system and high cost of food;

And whereas access to mainland markets and processing facilities remains the only economically viable alternative for some livestock and agricultural commodities and they can only be shipped through BC Ferries,

and having to wait in ferry queues without access to water and feed causes significant amounts of stress on livestock in the transit process and causes some agricultural commodities to spoil;

And whereas overland shipping delays to ferry terminals can occur due to circumstances beyond producers' control, such as road closures, which negates their ability to depend on reservations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that BC Ferries reinstate priority boarding for livestock and agricultural products at all ferry terminals.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the BC Ferries to reinstate priority boarding for livestock and agricultural products at all ferry terminals.

More generally however, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to ensure food security for British Columbians (2023-NR48, 2023-NR61, 2022-NR8, 2021-EB70, 2020-EB78, 2019-B66, 2014-A3, 2011-B100, 2011-B101).

Conference decision: _____



Legislative

NR105 Payment In Lieu of Works and Services for Land Development

Nanaimo City

Whereas Section 506 and Section 506.03 of the *Local Government Act* enable a local government to regulate and require the provision of works and services in respect to the development of land;

And whereas there is no mechanism currently in the *Local Government Act* to allow for local governments to accept payment of money in lieu of the provision of works and services, unlike in other circumstances in the *Local Government Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to allow for the payment of money in lieu of works and services in respect to the development of land being established through subdivisions and building permits, enabling local governments to pool funding for more impactful projects which could benefit a broader area and better assist in achieving community goals for safety, connectivity or transportation management.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Local Government Act to allow for the payment of money in lieu of works and services in respect to the development of land being established through subdivisions and building permits,

enabling local governments to pool funding for more impactful projects which could benefit a broader area and better assist in achieving community goals for safety, connectivity or transportation management.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed a resolution which made a related request around the development of land. Resolution 2024-NR32 asked the Province to amend the Local Government Act to allow municipalities to obtain highway dedications, and the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for works and services, and public access through Building Permit issuance without the approval of subdivision or rezoning. As well, endorsed resolution 2023-NR15 asked the Province to expand the tools for local governments to request road dedications, statutory-rights-of-way and infrastructure servicing upgrades through the development permit and/or building permit process; and to provide a legislative framework for amenity contributions, tenant relocation requirements, and other requirements to be applied at the development permit or building permit phase rather than being tied to rezonings.

Conference decision: _____

NR106 Balanced Approach to Building Code Updates

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has been implementing frequent and substantial updates to the BC Building Code to enhance safety, energy efficiency, and accessibility;

And whereas local governments require sufficient time and resources to adapt to these changes, including training staff, updating bylaws, and supporting local builders and developers in compliance efforts;

And whereas an accelerated pace of code revisions can create unintended challenges, including increased construction costs, delays in project approvals, and difficulties for smaller local governments with limited capacity to enforce new requirements effectively:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to implement a more measured approach to Building Code updates by ensuring:

1. Longer transition periods between code changes to allow for adequate training and implementation;
2. More extensive consultation with local governments, industry stakeholders, and Indigenous communities to assess the practical impacts of proposed changes;
3. Increased financial and technical support for local governments, especially smaller communities, to effectively adapt to new requirements; and
4. A focus on stability and predictability in the code update schedule to reduce uncertainty in the construction and development industry.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement a more measured approach to Building Code updates by ensuring:

1. *Longer transition periods between code changes to allow for adequate training and implementation;*
2. *More extensive consultation with local governments, industry stakeholders, and Indigenous communities to assess the practical impacts of proposed changes;*
3. *Increased financial and technical support for local governments, especially smaller communities, to effectively adapt to new requirements; and*
4. *A focus on stability and predictability in the code update schedule to reduce uncertainty in the*

construction and development industry.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR73 which asked that the BC Building and Safety Standards Division assess regional financial disparities making building affordability and flexible low cost building methods a priority for the revision of the BC Building Code in 2022. It also asked that additions to building code that are beyond structural integrity and safety be addressed through incentives, not punitive or prescriptive measures.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2020-EB87 that addresses the Building Code's requirements around Energy Step Code requirements, and asked the Province to assist communities with Energy Step Code implementation in an equitable way by working with communities to address barriers.

See resolutions EB50, NR68

Conference decision: _____

NR107 Leaves of Absence Provisions for Elected Officials

Cariboo RD

Whereas local government elected officials are required to attend meetings, conventions, and conferences to perform their official duties, often requiring absences from their place of employment to do so;

And whereas there are no provisions in provincial or federal employment legislation for local elected officials to allow them to take such absences as required to perform their official duties:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government for amendments to the *Employment Standards Act* to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties;

And be it further resolved that UBCM and FCM lobby the federal government for amendments to the Canada Labour Code to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Employment Standards Act to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties. As well as the request that UBCM and FCM lobby the federal government for amendments to the Canada Labour Code to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions seeking parental leave for local elected officials (2024-NR89, 2023-NR85, 2022-EB79, 2021-NR1, 2016-B99). Resolution 2023-NR85 made a broader request, referencing personal leaves which included both parental leaves, as well as caregiving or compassionate care for loved ones.

Conference decision: _____

NR108 Codes of Conduct

Whistler

Whereas in 2021 the Province of BC passed the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act* (No. 2), which requires a local government to consider the adoption of a code of conduct for council members, but does not require a local government to adopt such a code of conduct;

And whereas many local governments in British Columbia cannot afford or do not have an independent non-partisan ethics commissioner to review and adjudicate allegations of misconduct:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province appoint a provincial Municipal Ethics Commissioner who will:

1. develop a mandatory municipal code of conduct;
2. review and adjudicate allegations of misconduct; and
3. direct sanctions (including council member disqualification) for code of conduct violations.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to establish an integrity or ethics commissioner office to support local governments (2024-EB88, 2023-EB69, 2022-EB77, 2021-2020-NR1).

However, the Committee advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2021-NEB1 which called for a mandatory Code of Conduct for local elected officials.

The Committee also notes that the Province of BC introduced legislative amendments to disqualification rules the Local Government Act, Community Charter and Vancouver Charter in 2022 to allow for disqualification of an elected official at the time of conviction for an indictable offense.

In 2024, UBCM and LGMA released a discussion paper, Potential for Change, that explored mandatory codes of conduct as a policy option to strengthen the practice of responsible conduct.

Conference decision: _____



Assessment

NR109 More Formalized Property Assessment Processes for Communities in BC

Houston

Whereas it has been identified that there are inaccuracies in the assessed values of properties which may have a negative effect on the tax revenue generated on the property values, and staff of municipalities and regional districts are potentially in the best position to assist BC Assessment with identifying the need for a review and revision of assessed property values;

And whereas BC Assessment is responsible for assessing over 2 million properties in British Columbia as of July 1 each year, with only three offices in Northern BC, which may limit the capacity for thorough and timely assessments in this region:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to support the development of a coordinated effort between BC Assessment and local municipalities and regional districts to improve the accuracy of assessed property values, particularly in areas of BC with few to no BC Assessment offices, to ensure fair and equitable property taxation throughout BC.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution seeking a coordinated effort between BC Assessment and local municipalities and regional districts to improve the accuracy of assessed property values, particularly in areas of BC with few to no BC Assessment offices, to ensure fair and equitable property taxation throughout BC.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR93 which called on the Province to update the Assessment Act to significantly reduce the number of drastically under-assessed properties year over year.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR86 which addressed the assessed valuation of major industrial and electrical properties, advocating for greater transparency in major industrial and electrical property assessments and the lessening of closure allowances available to major industrial and electrical proponents when they cease operations in communities.

The Committee additionally notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2014-B111 which noted that limited and infrequent property sales may not accurately reflect market values in many rural areas of British Columbia, and asked the provincial government to provide the BC Assessment Authority with more flexibility when assessing properties in rural British Columbia.

The Resolutions Committee notes that Section 16 of the Assessment Act provides BC Assessment with broad access to property information, including the right to examine the property and access books and accounts for the property. Section 19 of the Assessment Act prescribes in detail the assessment methodology to determine market value. The Resolutions Committee is unable to confirm whether the current process results in flawed assessment/valuation data in areas of BC with few to no BC Assessment offices.

Conference decision: _____



Community Economic Development

NR110 Forestry Industry and Sustainable Fibre

Port Alberni

Whereas hundreds of jobs have been lost in the forest industry in BC in 2024 and hundreds more are at risk due to the increasing cost of accessing fibre and multiple other reasons;

And whereas the forest industry crisis has the potential for population declines as well as declines in industrial property tax revenues many communities throughout British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to partner financially in localized efforts to ascertain the fibre type and volume available on a sustainable basis, to secure investment in appropriate technologies to maximize the value of that fibre, and to retrain forest industry workers to utilize that approach.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2023-LR1 and 2015-B37, both of which called on the provincial government to conduct a comprehensive inventory of available timber supply.

In response to the 2023 resolution, the Province highlighted the work of the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch (FAIB) of the Ministry of Forests to update and project the provincial forest inventory, particularly the “annual inventory of approximately 3 million hectares of new forest”; efforts to update the provincial forest inventory with new photo-interpreted information; use of Lidar to model and enhance inventory attributes across timber supply areas; and extensive network of field sample plots.

The Committee notes that the provincial response to the 2023-LR1 resolution did not touch on the idea of provincial funding for local inventory efforts, as the above resolution is requesting.

Conference decision: _____

NR111 Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas Strategy

**Fort St. John,
Peace River RD**

Whereas the global energy landscape is rapidly evolving due to geopolitical shifts that are redefining energy security, trade, and competitiveness for decades to come;

And whereas British Columbia must position itself as a leader in responsible natural gas development to attract investment, create jobs, and strengthen its role as a secure supplier of low emission Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), recognizing that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy cannot occur overnight:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to develop an integrated natural gas value-chain and export strategy to strengthen infrastructure and policies that support the entire value chain - from upstream production to processing and export.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop an integrated natural gas value-chain and export strategy.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2014-B107 which asked the Province and First Nations to convene and co-chair a strategic economic and environmental impact assessment of LNG development in British Columbia. Also in 2014, the membership endorsed resolution B30 which asked the Province to develop an LNG plan to provide immediate and meaningful assistance to local governments in British Columbia that have limited staffing capacity and resources to deal with the demands and challenges associated with major industrial project development.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2012-B85 which encouraged the Province to develop strategies that will address the long-term domestic supply, satisfy existing commitments, and provide incentives to build an infrastructure for ancillary enterprises that will support the natural gas sector in BC.

Conference decision: _____

NR112 Economic Impact and Resource Revenue Sharing

Terrace

Whereas many communities across British Columbia are directly dependent on natural resource industries like fishing, agriculture, forestry, mineral exploration and mining, and natural gas to provide significant economic opportunities through employment, taxation, and peripheral economic activity;

And whereas each job in the natural resource sectors adds more to the provincial economy than any other sector;

And whereas all levels of government must balance policy and legislation that impact resource-based industries with climate and sustainability goals;

And whereas communities required to plan for their future growth, or decline, cannot do so without clear understanding of the economic impacts of provincial policy:

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

- ensure that all significant land based, and natural resource related legislation includes a publicly available economic impacts brief to identify the likely impact on jobs and economic development; and
- share an appropriate portion of revenue and benefits of development through funding unencumbered by project-specific granting streams to affected local governments to maintain and grow community infrastructure and services.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to publish an economic impact brief for all legislation related to land use and natural resources. Nor has the membership considered the request for the Province to share revenue and benefits of developments to affected local governments.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to return to communities a share of resource revenues (2019-B23, 2014-B59, 2012-B20, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2009-B30, 2005-B39). The Committee further notes that revenue sharing is one of the tools highlighted in the 2013 UBCM report "Strong Fiscal Futures: A Blueprint for Strengthening BC Local Governments' Finance System".

Conference decision: _____

NR113 Local Government Response to US Imposed Tariffs

Lake Country

Whereas the US government is imposing tariffs on manufacturers in many local government jurisdictions;

And whereas federal and provincial officials are considering counter tariffs on US products;

And whereas federal and the provincial officials want to encourage more made in Canada goods:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the federal government to set aside funds collected from US counter tariffs for local governments to access to create economic opportunities for local Canadian manufacturers to invest in their communities.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the federal government to provide local governments with a portion of the revenues from counter tariffs on US products, to create economic opportunities for local Canadian manufacturers to invest in their communities.

Conference decision: _____

NR114 Canada-First Local Government Procurement Strategy

NCLGA Executive

Whereas local governments play a critical role in local economic development and can strengthen Canadian industries by prioritizing domestic procurement of goods and services;

And whereas reviewing and adapting local government procurement policies to prioritize Canadian products and services can support local businesses, enhance economic resilience, and mitigate the risks associated with international trade disruptions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to support a Canada-first local government procurement strategy by facilitating local and domestic sourcing opportunities, encouraging local governments to review their procurement practices, and providing policy and financial support to strengthen Canadian supply chains.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to support a Canada-first local government procurement strategy by facilitating local and domestic sourcing opportunities, encouraging local governments to review their procurement practices, and providing policy and financial support to strengthen Canadian supply chains.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions 2013-B40, 2012-B87, 2012-B88, and 2010-B108 all addressing the Canada European Union Trade Agreement, calling on the Province to protect local government authority for local procurement, and the use of public spending as a tool for economic development.

The Resolutions Committee acknowledges that local governments may be revisiting their procurement policies in response to tariffs imposed by the United States. The Committee would highlight a report that UBCM commissioned April 10, 2025 from Stewart McDannold Stuart, that outlines general information for local governments to consider. The report is available in the Current Issues section of the UBCM website (ubcm.ca), and provides comment on selected options, including:

1. *Excluding US suppliers: Might not violate a local government's trade agreement obligations, but the policy rationale should be considered to ensure that it is within the local government's powers. Can be*

challenging to determine whether a particular supplier or good is a “US supplier” or a “US good”. Legal advice should be sought, with careful consideration of the parameters and reasons for such a policy.

2. *Local preference policies: Purchasing policies that give preference to local suppliers should only be applied below the procurement thresholds established by the New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA), to avoid challenges under the trade agreements that local governments are expected to comply with.*
3. *Buy Canadian policies: A “Buy Canadian” policy that applies below the Canadian-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) thresholds may be consistent with the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA), but the policy must define in clear terms which suppliers and which goods qualify as “Canadian”, and should be reviewed for consistency with the CFTA.*

Conference decision: _____

NR115 Eliminating Interprovincial Trade Barriers

NCLGA Executive

Whereas interprovincial trade barriers restrict market access for businesses and limit opportunities for local governments to source competitively within Canada;

And whereas eliminating these barriers would facilitate economic growth, encourage interprovincial commerce, and provide local governments with greater flexibility in procurement decisions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to take immediate action to reduce and eliminate interprovincial trade barriers, improving market access for Canadian businesses and enabling local governments to procure goods and services from across the country more efficiently.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial and federal governments to take immediate action to reduce and eliminate interprovincial trade barriers, improving market access for Canadian businesses and enabling local governments to procure goods and services from across the country more efficiently.

The Committee is aware that the provincial government introduced Bill 7, Economic Stabilization (Tariff Response) Act on March 13, 2025. Bill 7 in part provides for the removal of barriers to trade between British Columbia and other provinces or territories of Canada.

The Resolutions Committee would observe that historically, the UBCM membership has opposed trade, investment, and labour mobility between Canadian provinces - particularly in the context of the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) (2007-A3).

Conference decision: _____



Elections

NR116 Ranked Voting for Mayoral Elections

Nelson

Whereas the current First Past the Post (FPTP) voting system used in municipal mayoral elections in British Columbia can result in elected mayors who are not a preferred choice of a majority of voters;

And whereas ranked choice voting can ensure that elected mayors have broader support from the electorate, encourage more positive campaigning, and provide voters with more choice in electing the most preferred candidate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Local Government Act* to create a ranked choice voting system for mayoral elections.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Local Government Act to create a ranked choice voting system for mayoral elections.

The sponsor clarified that the intent of this resolution is for the ranked voting to apply only to mayoral candidates, and not to those running for councillor or electoral area director.

Conference decision: _____

NR117 Aligning the By-Election Provisions of the *School Act* with those of the *Local Government Act*

Coquitlam

Whereas the provincial government establishes the legislative framework under which all local governments in British Columbia deliver local government and school trustee by-elections;

And whereas the provisions in the *School Act* related to the timelines for setting a general voting day for a by-election differ from those in the *Local Government Act*, with the latter providing more flexibility;

And whereas a certain degree of flexibility is needed in setting a general voting day for a by-election in order to address timing challenges and minimize potential conflicts for candidates and voters, and to address logistical considerations and operational needs:

Therefore be it resolved that in order to allow local governments the same flexibility in setting a general voting day for a school trustee by-election as for a local government by-election, that UBCM request that the provincial government revise the wording in Section 36(3.1) of the *School Act* to align with the wording in Section 54(4) of the *Local Government Act*, to read as follows:

“36.(3.1) In the case of a trustee election required to be conducted by a municipality, the municipal council must appoint a chief election officer as soon as practicable after being notified under subsection 3(b)”



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to revise the wording in Section 36(3.1) of the School Act to align with the wording in Section 54(4) of the Local Government Act, to allow local governments the same flexibility in setting a general voting date for a school trustee by-election as for a local government by-election.

Conference decision: _____



Selected Issues

NR118 Reinstatement of Federal Funding for Settlement Programs

Richmond

Whereas Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), as of April 1, 2025, has reduced or discontinued funding to organizations providing immigrant and refugee settlement programs in communities across British Columbia in response to reductions in federal immigration levels planned over the next three years;

And whereas the reduction and discontinuation of federal funding for settlement programs immediately reduces the availability of and access to services and supports that are vital to the social and economic integration of approximately 200,000 recent immigrants currently living in British Columbia (2021 Census):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province advocate to the federal government to immediately reinstate Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada funding for settlement programs to BC organizations that were funded in 2024 for a multi-year period;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to advocate to the Government of Canada to conduct an engagement process with provincial and local governments, community-based service providers of settlement programs, and recent immigrants to inform the development of a long-term, stable funding model that ensures continued provision of supports that help newcomers to thrive in Canada, regardless of fluctuations in immigration targets.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the federal government to immediately reinstate Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada funding for settlement programs to BC organizations that were funded in 2024 for a multi-year period. Nor has the membership considered a request for the federal government to conduct an engagement process with provincial and local governments, community-based service providers of settlement programs, and recent immigrants to inform the development of a long-term, stable funding model that ensures continued provision of supports that help newcomers to thrive in Canada, regardless of fluctuations in immigration targets.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers in the past, including:

- *2024-SR3 which asked the Province to develop, coordinate and fund new dedicated temporary shelters and appropriate support services for asylum seekers and for the federal government to provide funding in accordance with their responsibility for immigration and refugee services;*
- *2022-NR35 which asked the provincial government to terminate its immigration detention arrangement with the Canada Border Services Agency, stop incarcerating immigration detainees in BC jails, and call on the federal government to do away with immigration detention altogether;*
- *2015-LR1 which asked the federal government to significantly increase federal commitments to receive Syrian refugees in Canada matching or exceeding historic levels;*
- *2012-B101 which asked the federal government to reconsider the closure of 19 small Citizenship and Immigration Offices which could impact Canada's place in the competitive market of attracting immigrants; and*

- *2009-B177 which asked the federal government to immediately cancel all outstanding refugee transportation and pre-entry medical loan debt and to cease seeking repayment of the transportation and pre-entry medical costs for new Government Assisted Refugees coming to Canada.*

Conference decision: _____

NR119 Safe Welcome Communities

Squamish

Whereas UBCM, its members, and the province of BC have advocated for, and implemented programs, projects, and investment to support a just, equitable, safe, and welcoming society;

And whereas political extremism that proposes isolation, exclusion, and division is attempting to gain foothold globally, threatening the values we hold dearly:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and its members reiterate their unwavering commitment to a just, equitable, safe, welcoming society;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourage the Province of BC to do the same.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM, its members and the Province to reiterate their unwavering commitment to a just, equitable, safe and welcoming society.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions that seek to address different forms of discrimination (2021-EB76, 2017-B123, 2016-B98, 2016-B103, 2013-B87).

Conference decision: _____

NR120 BC Human Rights Tribunal

Sooke

Whereas the BC Human Rights Tribunal plays a critical role in upholding and addressing human rights by delivering the “just and timely resolution of discrimination complaints under the British Columbia Human Rights Code” (Tribunal Annual Report, 2023/24, pg. 3);

And whereas a large backlog of complaints and a growing volume of new submissions has led to extensive adjudication delays that exacerbate the harm experienced by complainants, leaving British Columbians without timely support or closure;

And whereas additional provincial funding committed in 2023 has improved timelines but is nonetheless proving insufficient in effectively processing existing and new case files:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the Province of British Columbia act immediately on Recommendation #12a of the BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner’s From Hate to Hope report, namely that “The Attorney General should take steps to enable the BC Human Rights Tribunal to be more responsive to hate, including by: a. Ensuring adequate funding to the Tribunal to effectively process complaints.”



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement recommendation #12a of the report "From Hate to Hope", by ensuring "adequate funding to the [BC Human Rights] Tribunal to effectively process complaints."

Conference decision: _____

NR121 Adopting European Elevator Standards to Improve Accessibility and Affordability

Saanich

Whereas European elevator codes and standards permit elevators with smaller cabin sizes, and the European standard for elevator parts have become the global standard, creating a large market for affordable, standardized elevators and replacement parts;

And whereas a recent report from the Centre for Building has found that the US and Canada have some of the most expensive elevator costs in the world, and that adopting European elevator codes standards would reduce costs and improve accessibility, particularly in low- and mid-rise buildings:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province to adopt European codes and standards for elevator construction and maintenance, reducing building costs and encouraging more elevators to be installed in new buildings.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to adopt European codes and standards for elevator construction and maintenance, reducing building costs and encouraging more elevators to be installed in new buildings.

Conference decision: _____

NR122 Municipal Infrastructure Plan Library

Sicamous

Whereas hiring firms to design common infrastructure buildings such as municipal halls, firehalls, water treatment plants and wastewater treatment plants requires substantial time, money, and resources;

And whereas "For Construction" drawings represent substantial public investment and technical expertise;

And whereas a centralized repository of these designs would allow local governments to efficiently reuse existing designs, thereby expediting infrastructure projects and saving public funds and resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province implement an infrastructure plan library that is accessible to local governments.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement an infrastructure plan library that is accessible to local governments.

Conference decision: _____

Section RR Resolutions

Section RR contains Referred Resolutions. These are resolutions that are similar to others in the same year; that relate to larger UBCM policy initiatives underway, such as policy papers, working groups or intergovernmental consultation processes; that are being referred back to the sponsor as they require more work; that are being referred to an Area Association as they regionally focused; or that are recommended Refer to UBCM Executive. Resolutions placed in Section RR will not be admitted for debate.

Part One of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred to other resolutions within the Resolutions Book.

RR1 – RR43

Part Two of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred back to the sponsor for fine-tuning.

RR44

Part Three of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred to Area Associations due to being of a regional nature.

RR45 – RR48

Part Four of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred to the UBCM Executive as the request put forward is the decision/responsibility of the UBCM Executive.

RR49 – RR50

Section RR – Part One

RR1 Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials

**Fernie,
Sparwood**

Whereas the stresses faced by local elected officials are increasing due to a degradation in the tone of civil discourse;

And whereas additional mental health supports for local elected officials would be beneficial beyond what is provided by Medical Services Plan and extended health plans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders in British Columbia.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

*UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR11

See also resolution RR2

RR2 Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials

Cariboo RD

Whereas the stresses faced by local elected officials are increasing due to a degradation in the tone of civil discourse;

And whereas additional mental health supports for local elected officials would be beneficial beyond what is provided by the Medical Services Plan and extended health plans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders in British Columbia.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

*UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR11

See also resolution RR1

RR3 Expand Alert Ready Program

Nakusp

Whereas ineffective public notice for planned or unplanned emergency room closures creates immediate life-and-death situations for BC citizens, especially in rural communities where the next emergency room may be hours away;

And whereas Health Authorities are responsible for providing public notice for service disruptions, and health services are the responsibility of the Province, which already has access to the Alert Ready notification program that the Province identifies the criteria for using the service as:

1. there is a threat to human life;
2. the threat is immediate; and
3. there are recommended actions that may save lives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to expand the Alert Ready Program to include Health Services so that Health Authorities can effectively reach the public and advise of emergency room closures.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR8

See also resolution EB1

RR4 Implement a Regionally Balanced Approach to Supportive Housing Penticton

Whereas the Province of British Columbia, through BC Housing, has made significant investments in supportive housing and shelter services, yet many smaller and rural communities continue to face challenges in accessing these resources;

And whereas ensuring that individuals experiencing homelessness can access housing and supports within their home communities promotes stability and well-being;

And whereas a more equitable distribution of supportive housing and shelter services would ensure that all communities – urban, rural and regional – have access to supportive housing and shelter services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to implement a regionally balanced approach to supportive housing by increasing dedicated funding streams for smaller and rural communities, ensuring supportive housing projects are proportionally distributed based on local needs assessments, and providing targeted incentives for non-profits and service providers to operate outside major urban centers and regional hubs.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR5, RR6

RR5 Regional Approach to Homelessness Nelson

Whereas homelessness is a complex and multifaceted challenge that affects communities across BC;

And whereas the lack of a coordinated regional strategy and insufficient resources worsen this issue, leaving many vulnerable populations without adequate housing, and shelter, and as a result, many are forced to leave their home communities to seek these basic services that are available in other communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to coordinate a regional approach to homelessness by increasing funding and resources to support housing, and shelter initiatives across the province, and support initiatives fostering collaboration among local governments, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, housing authorities, and community members to ensure effective coordination, resource allocation, and holistic support for the unhoused population.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR4, RR6

RR6 Equitable Distribution of Emergency Shelter Beds

Chilliwack

Whereas the Province of British Columbia, through BC Housing, is responsible for ensuring that emergency shelter beds are available to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness across all communities;

And whereas some communities have a disproportionately high number of emergency shelter beds per capita compared to other jurisdictions, causing unsustainable pressure on local resources and services in those communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia and BC Housing to develop and implement a comprehensive, regionally equitable strategy for the distribution of emergency shelter beds, ensuring that all communities have available proportional and sustainable shelter capacity relative to their population and local service capacity.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR4, RR5

RR7 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Vancouver

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the National Housing Strategy Act (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR8, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13, RR14

RR8 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Burnaby

Whereas housing as a human right is recognized globally, particularly within the framework of international human rights law;

And whereas British Columbia has faced a severe housing crisis characterized by skyrocketing housing prices, a lack of affordable rental options, and rising rates of homeless;

And whereas marginalized groups, including low-income individuals, Indigenous communities, and persons with disabilities, face disproportionate barriers to accessing adequate housing:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13, RR14

RR9 Housing as a Human Right

Nanaimo City

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the National Housing Strategy Act (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call for the British Columbia Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13, RR14

RR10 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Saanich

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR11, RR12, RR13, RR14

RR11 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

North Vancouver City

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR10, RR12, RR13, RR14

RR12 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Victoria

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR13, RR14

RR13 Declaring Housing as a Human Right

Langley City

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call for the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR14

RR14 Housing as a Human Right

Port Moody

Whereas recognizing housing as a human right fundamentally shifts government motivations by adding critical urgency and responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing (meaning housing costs are aligned with income) through policies that prevent homelessness, address the escalating housing and homelessness crisis, eliminate discrimination, and prioritize the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations;

And whereas the Government of Canada affirmed the right to housing as a matter of international law and enshrined it domestically through the *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019), recognizing housing as a human right and establishing mechanisms for accountability and inclusion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the BC Government to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR17

See also resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9, RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13

RR15 RCMP Cost Sharing

Kamloops

Whereas the difficulty faced by local governments in responding to rapidly increasing policing costs combined with limited mechanisms to generate revenue is putting significant pressure on local budgets and creating challenges for local governments to adequately address other mandated responsibilities;

And whereas the RCMP contract policing model, which includes Police Service Agreements negotiated by provincial and federal orders of government, leaves local governments with very minimal control over policing decisions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government, as part of the upcoming Police Service Agreement negotiations, work with BC local governments to develop a new RCMP cost-sharing arrangement that considers local government revenue streams, mandated responsibilities and ability to pay.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions EB28, EB29, EB30, RR16

RR16 Municipal Costs of Contract RCMP Services Beyond 2032

Pemberton

Whereas the Municipal Police Service Agreement and Municipal Police Unit Agreements expire in 2032;

And whereas small municipalities that will cross the population threshold of 5,000 between the 2026 and 2031 censuses need to begin planning now to manage the increased policing costs that will devolve to them in 2032:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the RCMP, Public Safety Canada, and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to ensure that a new contract policing framework to replace the Municipal Police Service Agreement and the Municipal Police Unit Agreements in 2032 establishes transparency and a fair allocation of police costs to municipalities, mitigates the concerns of small municipalities summarized in the federal government's Contract Policing Assessment: "What We Heard" report, and incorporates the recommendations of the Local Government Police Modernization Roundtable.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions EB28, EB29, EB30, RR15

RR17 Compensation for Road Rescue Services

Sicamous

Whereas the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness does not compensate local governments for providing road rescue service in response to highway accidents within their jurisdiction;

And whereas provincial funding mechanisms fail to account for the full cost of road rescue, including training, equipment and operational costs;

And whereas ICBC, despite being the Province's primary auto insurer, does not contribute to road rescue response costs;

And whereas rural and remote municipalities provide road rescue services within and outside their jurisdictions, placing additional financial strain on local governments;

And whereas many non-profit road rescue societies in the province are experiencing reduced numbers of volunteers, resulting in pressure for more local governments to take on the service:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to establish a sustainable funding model to fully compensate road rescue service providers for response, training, equipment and operational costs.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB34

RR18 Catch and Release of Repeat Offenders

Kamloops

Whereas a disproportionate amount of crime is perpetuated by a small number of repeat offenders in British Columbia local governments;

And whereas jurisdiction for crime is shared between the Province and the federal government;

And whereas catch and release is the Province's entrenched practice of handling criminal cases, particularly in instances where individuals are released without charges after being caught, and the system allows for violent offenders to recommit crimes, which has resulted in a 75 percent increase in no-charge assessments under the current provincial government;

And whereas this has also given rise to a revolving door of injustice that perpetuates harm to the broader community and leniency without punishment or civil consequences for criminals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to end the detrimental practice of catch and release of repeat offenders in British Columbia immediately;

And be it further resolved that the federal government work on bail reform for the safety and security of the people of British Columbia.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB32

See also resolutions NR56, RR19

RR19 Provincial Reforms to Bail Administration

Sicamous

Whereas repeat and high-risk offenders are frequently released on bail and continue to commit offences while awaiting trial, undermining public safety and placing additional burden on local law enforcement;

And whereas the repeated catch and release of high-risk offenders erodes public confidence in the justice system, strains law enforcement resources, discourages front line officers and leaves communities vulnerable to further harm:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Attorney General work together to direct a more rigorous approach to bail hearings involving repeat and high-risk offenders, including recommending stricter conditions or detention in cases where there is a demonstrated risk to community safety.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB32

See also resolutions NR56, RR18

RR20 Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas the small water systems in rural British Columbia, which are administered by local governments, provide essential services to rural residents and communities, yet they face unsustainable financial burdens due to the high costs of water treatment systems, ongoing maintenance, and replacing aging infrastructure, which can amount to millions of dollars;

And whereas it is not possible for rural residents and communities to finance these systems through local taxation alone, threatening the viability of these water systems and the communities they serve, while also posing a significant risk to local food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial and federal governments to establish long-term sustainable funding programs specifically for small water systems to address high cost and regulatory compliance requirements and to safeguard local food security, and for a collaborative approach to funding and

RR23 Enforcement and Education for Use of Crown Land**Elkford**

Whereas the usage of Crown Land for overnight camping and other recreational uses is increasing, in part due to the provincial housing shortage;

And whereas increased backcountry use results in the additional need for compliance resources to mitigate aesthetic and environmental impacts, human wildlife conflicts, and improve public safety:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to provide appropriate conservation service resources (staffing and funding) for increased enforcement and education for use of Crown Land.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB35

See also resolutions RR21, RR22

RR24 Aligning Housing and Homelessness Initiatives with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**Williams Lake**

Whereas local government decision-making plays a significant role in the lives of First Nations peoples, including enforcement of bylaws that deal directly with homeless encampments, and few local governments in British Columbia have developed strategies for adopting or implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);

And whereas UBCM has endorsed UNDRIP and requested the Province of BC to provide an ongoing funding stream for local governments and Indigenous partners to advance the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and local reconciliation actions, and the First Nations Leadership Council (comprised of the BC Assembly of First Nations, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and the First Nations Summit) have called upon BC local governments to implement UNDRIP by co-developing working agreements and action plans with territorial rights holders to ensure alignment of local government policy, bylaws and housing and homelessness initiatives with UNDRIP:

Therefore be it resolved that British Columbia local governments be encouraged to adopt and implement UNDRIP, take steps toward its full application within the bounds of their jurisdiction;

And be it further resolved that the Province of BC be requested to fund the co-development of guidance toolkits for BC local governments to align housing and homelessness initiatives with UNDRIP.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR4

RR25 Provincial Funding for Public Libraries**Hudson's Hope,
Prince George**

Whereas core funding for public libraries in British Columbia has remained unchanged since 2009, despite BC's population growing 29 percent, limiting their ability to expand and evolve their programming as demand for their services increases;

And whereas the operational requirements of public libraries increasingly require significant and diverse resources to provide front-line community services, including supporting patrons with mental health and addiction issues as well as barriers to housing, providing critical locations of refuge during extreme weather events, providing services to new Canadians, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to increase core funding for public libraries on a yearly basis in line with inflation and immediately increase annual core funding for libraries to \$30 million as requested by the BC Public Library Partners and recommended by the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR3

See also resolutions RR26, RR27, RR28, RR29

RR26 Increased Core Funding for Public Libraries

**Creston,
Grand Forks,
Nelson**

Whereas in the past 15 years, BC's population has grown 29 percent while public libraries have continued to rely on stagnant funding to provide services in increasingly challenging circumstances, including addressing the province's important goals of enhancing economic growth, reducing costs for families, and making communities safer;

And whereas public libraries continue to meet these goals by supporting the economic and social health of their communities, providing information and services for consumers, individuals seeking employment and career enhancement, entrepreneurs and small businesses, providing critical locations of refuge during emergencies, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to recognize the evolving and challenging situation for public libraries as well as their unique role in keeping costs low for British Columbians and making communities safer, and increase the annual core provincial funding for libraries to \$30 million in keeping with the long-standing request made by the BC Public Library Partners and the recommendation of the Province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services;

And be it further resolved this increase in core funding be increased on a yearly basis in keeping with cost of living and inflationary pressures.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR3

See also resolutions RR25, RR27, RR28, RR29

RR27 Increased Capital Funding for Libraries

Smithers

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia lack adequate, stable, and dedicated capital funding for local government-owned library facilities, hindering their ability to provide essential educational, cultural, and social services that support community well-being;

And whereas public libraries face increasing demand for services, technology, and infrastructure improvements, yet many struggle with aging facilities and insufficient resources to meet these growing needs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities to meet community needs.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

Refer to resolution SR3

See also resolutions RR25, RR26, RR28, RR29

RR28 Provincial Funding for Public Libraries: Overdue

**North Vancouver City,
Squamish,
Surrey**

Whereas in the past 15 years, BC's population has grown 29 percent while public libraries have continued to rely on stagnant funding to provide services in increasingly challenging circumstances, including addressing the province's important goals of enhancing economic growth, reducing costs for families, and making communities safer;

And whereas public libraries continue to meet these goals by supporting the economic and social health of their communities, providing information and services for consumers, individuals seeking employment and career enhancement, entrepreneurs and small businesses, providing critical locations of refuge during emergencies, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to recognize the evolving and challenging situation for public libraries as well as their unique role in keeping costs low for British Columbians and making communities safer, and increase the annual core provincial funding for libraries to \$30 million in keeping with the long-standing request made by the BC Public Library Partners and the recommendation of the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

Refer to resolution SR3

See also resolutions RR25, RR26, RR27, RR29

RR29 Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries

Powell River

Whereas Provincial funding to public libraries has been frozen at \$14 million for over ten years, limiting the ability to expand and evolve programming;

And whereas public libraries provide equitable access to vital resources including internet, computers, digital tools and in-person services from expert staff and provide low-barrier services that support job seekers and small businesses, advance reconciliation and promote equity and inclusion;

And whereas public libraries significantly contribute to the government's goals for building a stronger economy and society as well as enabling a stronger environment for a resilient future for all British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to recognize the evolving and challenging situation for public libraries as well as their unique role as community spaces by establishing an Advisory Body per section 52(1) of the *Library Act*, the objectives of which will be to:

1. Undertake a review of core annual provincial funding of public libraries in the Canadian context;
2. Make recommendations to the Minister with respect to core, sustainable funding approaches for BC's public library sector.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR3

See also resolutions RR25, RR26, RR27, RR28

RR30 Importance of Inland Ferry Service

**Central Kootenay RD,
Nakusp**

Whereas under section 25 of the *Coastal Ferry Act*, which supersedes the BC Labour Relation Code, the Act states, "it is deemed that the delivery of ferry services is necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of British Columbia";

And whereas inland ferry services in the interior create part of the highway, providing access to and from BC communities, some of which are entirely or partly accessed by ferry and have been limited by labour relation disruptions affecting citizens' ability to access essential services such as health services, emergency services, fuel for heating homes and business, food supply chain, and access to schools and work, but they are not designated as necessary for the protection of health, safety and welfare of the residents for the interior of the Province of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to recognize that all ferry services are essential to the health, safety and welfare of British Columbians and that a minimum requirement is set for the number and frequency of daily sailings on a site by site basis to provide adequate access to communities that are entirely or partly accessed by inland ferry.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB64

See also resolution RR31

RR31 Essential Service Levels of Inland Ferries

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas inland ferries provide historically critical infrastructure to the communities served, equivalent to roads, highways and bridges;

And whereas inland ferry services are essential services whose costs are funded by a portion of the taxes on sales of gasoline and diesel:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government that all inland ferries are entitled to the same legal status as roads, highways and bridges, that all remain toll-free, and that the regular schedule of each inland ferry (whether on-demand or set schedule) be deemed the minimum necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the communities served.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB64

See also resolution RR30

RR32 BC Ferry Advisory Committees

North Coast RD

Whereas Ferry Advisory Committees provide route-specific input and advocacy and exist as part of BC Ferries' strategic goal to be customer and community centred;

And whereas BC Ferries has dissolved the Ferry Advisory Committees;

And whereas the BC Government's Coastal Ferry Services Contract, last amended on March 31, 2024, states that it is committed to "ongoing engagement in support of provincial reconciliation efforts":

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to amend the Coastal Ferry Services Contract and include a provision for BC Ferries to develop an engagement framework that meaningfully considers input from local governments and Indigenous communities that rely on the BC Ferry system.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB63

RR33 Support and Resourcing for Active Transportation Projects

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Province of BC has developed the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide as an initiative of CleanBC to provide consistent, appropriate planning and engineering guidance on the design of active transportation infrastructure, for jurisdictions of all sizes across BC, including urban and rural communities;

And whereas the Province of BC is committed to working collaboratively in partnership with local governments to plan for active transportation as part of the BC Active Transportation Strategy, Move.Commute.Connect, that works towards creating community-specific active transportation networks that are safe, accessible and convenient for a wide range of uses for all ages and abilities;

And whereas the Province of BC, under the CleanBC initiative, recognizes that the Provincial road system is a crucial connection for active transportation users – especially in more rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit commit the necessary staff resources to work with local governments to support the planning, design, and expedient approval and development of active transportation infrastructure along rural Provincial roadways, consistent with the Active Transportation Design Guide, to improve the safety and mobility of active transportation users in rural areas in efforts to achieve the provincial target of doubling the proportion of trips taken using active transportation by 2030.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB73

RR34 Removal of the BC Port Tax Cap

North Coast RD

Whereas a number of communities in BC host federal port facilities within their jurisdiction;

And whereas many of these communities struggle with raising taxation revenue to support infrastructure deficits and service provision;

And whereas the BC government has restricted municipal taxation on ports under the *Ports Property Tax Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to remove or increase the port tax cap thereby ensuring that port industries pay a fair share of taxes in the local communities in which they operate.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB62

**RR35 Highway Road Maintenance Agreements – Addressing Pouce Coupe
Regional Adaptation**

Whereas the standardized structure of highway maintenance contracts in British Columbia does not adequately account for the diverse geographic, climatic, and infrastructure needs of the interior and northern regions;

And whereas the existing contract specifications, including aggregate supply, response times, and maintenance standards, fail to address regional challenges such as extreme winter conditions and local material availability:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to revise the structure of Highway Road Maintenance Contracts to incorporate regional specifications, flexible contract standards, and consultation with local governments to ensure that highway maintenance better meets the needs of diverse regions across British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR98

**RR36 Lobbyist Registration New Westminster,
Vancouver**

Whereas the Government of BC has recognized the potential impact of lobby activities for its public office holders and introduced the *Lobbyist Transparency Act* to provide the Government of BC legal tools to oversee, monitor and enforce lobbyist activities in pursuit of open, accessible, and accountable government;

And whereas unregulated lobbying activities at the municipal and regional district level can lead to undue influence from special interest individuals, groups, or organizations and BC municipal governments and regional districts are not afforded the same statutory authority to moderate local lobbyist activities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the Government of BC introduce legislative reform that either:

- (i) enables municipalities and regional districts to use the Office of the Registrar of Lobbyists for BC, or
- (ii) enables municipal councils and regional district boards to establish, monitor, and enforce lobbyist activities within their jurisdictions parallel to mechanisms available under the *Lobbyist Transparency Act*.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB95

RR37 Financial Support for Infrastructure Costs

Canal Flats

Whereas small communities face ongoing challenges relating to rising infrastructure costs and increased provincial permitting requirements for providing essential services such as drinking water;

And whereas the additional funds to upgrade infrastructure to meet current infrastructure regulations is too great to be passed onto residents by taxation and is far above borrowing capacity or funding by small local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM engage in discussions with relevant provincial authorities to develop funding opportunities for infrastructure projects and to provide additional funding to address the challenges faced by smaller local governments that are less than 5,000 in population to support the delivery of essential services.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR38, RR39, RR40, RR41, RR42, RR43

RR38 Infrastructure and Capital Projects Requiring Electoral Approval

Nanaimo City

Whereas the current infrastructure and capital project funding model in Canada is outdated and unsustainable, as outlined in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' report Making Canada's Growth a Success: The case for a Municipal Growth Framework, leaving local governments with limited options to pay for growth-related infrastructure which is critical for local governments to meet their housing needs;

And whereas British Columbia is the only province in Canada requiring elector approval to allow local governments to borrow money for necessary infrastructure-related projects:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Community Charter* to expand the criteria for the type of infrastructure and capital projects that utilize borrowing without the requirement of electoral approval, to better assist local governments in securing adequate funding for projects that are necessary for the delivery of local government services.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR39, RR40, RR41, RR42, RR43

RR39 Unmet Demands on Social and Community Infrastructure as a Result of Provincial Housing Targets

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas the mandate letters of the sitting provincial government include:

- Growing the economy;
- Affordability;
- Strengthening healthcare; and
- Community safety;

And whereas the Province has mandated accelerated and densified housing, placing historical and unmet demands on social and community infrastructure such as education, transit, social welfare and supportive housing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to focus on strengthening complete communities and make historically significant investments in schools, community mental health, and transit to accommodate the mandated housing growth.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR38, RR40, RR41, RR42, RR43

**RR40 Infrastructure Support for Specified Municipalities –
 Housing Supply Act**

Abbotsford

Whereas the Government of BC introduced the *Housing Supply Act* in 2022 and Bill 44 in 2023, setting housing targets for specified municipalities and mandating increased density for many local governments;

And whereas these new requirements place undue financial pressure on those local governments due to the corresponding infrastructure upscaling requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Government of BC to establish and provide long-term, stable and predictable infrastructure funding for local governments to support new housing supply.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR38, RR39, RR41, RR42, RR43

**RR41 Funding Support for Infrastructure Upgrades Required
 Due to Bill 44**

Revelstoke

Whereas in the fall of 2023, the BC government passed Bill 44: *Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act, 2023*, which amends the *Local Government Act* to support the supply of significantly more homes, faster, in British Columbia;

And whereas the provincial requirement to allow small-scale, multi-unit housing has a significant impact on existing municipal and regional district infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the government of British Columbia to provide consistent funding to municipalities and regional districts to manage the infrastructure costs resulting from increased densification under Bill 44.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR38, RR39, RR40, RR42, RR43

**RR42 Consistent and Predictable Funding for Housing, Infrastructure
and Rural Economic Development**

Nakusp

Whereas inconsistent grant-based programs favour communities that already have the resources and capacity to apply for grants to pursue and complete projects simultaneously, creating inequities for smaller communities where an inordinate amount of time is spent on pursuing grants instead of doing the work of community development;

And whereas federal programs like the Community Works Fund provide local governments with stable, predictable and dedicated funding equitably for all local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to implement consistent and predictable funding for housing, infrastructure and rural economic development.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

*UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR38, RR39, RR40, RR41, RR43

RR43 Allocation of Provincial Sales Tax for Infrastructure Renewal

Nakusp

Whereas communities across British Columbia are experiencing significant infrastructure funding deficits for replacements and improvements as they reach the end of their useful lifespan at a cost solely burdened to the property owners, even though the infrastructure provides benefits to residents and tourists alike;

And whereas the ever-increasing downloading of requirements on each local government with no associated changes on how local governments can generate funds has adverse effects on the ability of local governments to raise adequate revenue;

And whereas downloading also places increased pressure on finite local government staff capacity to continuously research and apply for the current grant-based infrastructure funding model provided by the provincial government, which is biased towards benefiting larger or jurisdictions with greater economic resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to allocate one (1) percent of the seven (7) percent collected as Provincial Sales Tax to be used solely for investment in local government infrastructure and asset renewal for a defined time period and that the proportion each local government receives be related to the amount of the PST that is generated within each local government boundary.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

*UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR5

See also resolutions RR37, RR38, RR39, RR40, RR41, RR42

Section RR – Part Two

RR44 Improvement Districts Policy Revision

qathet RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia abdicated their obligation to improvement districts through their ill-planned and failing Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement 2006 policy filled with idyllic and unrealistic objectives driven by discriminatory and segregated protocols;

And whereas the acceptance of defeat by improvement districts has failed as pride and independence has won over which has led to most, if not all, improvement districts being in desperation and beyond the point of no return when they seek conversion, making assets and capital improvement conversions cost prohibitive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to modernize their policy regarding the ongoing viability of improvement districts, ramp up their staffing complement to handle the required improvement district oversight, look to more practical and cost-efficient methods for conversions, incentivize and reward financially stable and going concern improvement districts by enabling them to access borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia and restore the ability for financially stable and going concern improvement districts to apply for sustainable sewer and water infrastructure grant opportunities.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer Back to Sponsor

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to modernize their policy regarding the ongoing viability of Improvement Districts, ramp up their staffing complement to handle the required Improvement District oversight, look to more practical and cost-efficient methods for conversions, incentivize and reward financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts by enabling them to access borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia and restore the ability for financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts to apply for sustainable sewer and water infrastructure grant opportunities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking grant funding for improvement districts, including:

- *2022-NR49 which asked the Province for a one-time, new fund to bring all rural water systems operated by improvement districts into compliance with health regulations;*
- *2020-EB39 which asked the Province to establish a process for Improvement Districts to have access to Provincial and Federal Infrastructure Grant funds, and still maintain their autonomy;*
- *2019-B130 which asked the provincial government to change the Improvement District Governance Policy to allow citizens residing in improvement districts equal access to provincial and federal infrastructure grant monies; and*
- *2017-B74 which asked the provincial government to provide access to grant funding for water improvement districts similar to the access provided to regional districts.*

The Committee notes that the Province has an Improvement District Policy Statement (2006) that restricts access to Ministry grants with an objective of dissolving and transferring Improvement Districts to local governments. The majority of past and current capital funding programs have supported dissolution of Improvement Districts through capital funding to bring the water system into compliance with local and provincial standards.

The Committee would also note that for any given year, there is a finite amount of infrastructure funding available to local governments. Any time eligible applicants/recipients are expanded, that could potentially result in less infrastructure funding being received by local governments.

The Resolutions Committee is unable to confirm some statements in the whereas clauses including whether the 2006 Policy is filled with idyllic and unrealistic objectives driven by discriminatory and segregated protocols.

The Committee contacted the sponsor to work with them to move away from the unverifiable language, but the sponsor did not want to change their resolution. As such, the Committee is recommending this resolution be referred back to the sponsor for fine tuning.

Section RR – Part Three

RR45 Enhanced Wraparound Supports and Second-Stage Housing for Individuals in Recovery in Rural Northern Communities

Chetwynd

Whereas individuals returning to communities after completing addiction treatment often face significant barriers, including lack of stable housing, employment opportunities, mental health support, and community reintegration services;

And whereas the absence of comprehensive wraparound supports, including second-stage housing, case management, peer support, and access to mental health and substance use services, increases the risk of relapse and reduces the long-term success of recovery efforts:

Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA lobby the provincial government to develop and fund a provincial strategy that expands access to:

1. Second-stage and transitional housing for individuals completing treatment to provide stability as they reintegrate into their communities particularly in rural Northern regions.
2. Integrated case management services, including mental health, employment, and life skills programs, to support sustained recovery.
3. Community-based wraparound supports, including Indigenous-led healing programs, peer support networks, and long-term addiction recovery services;

And be it further resolved that NCLGA urge the provincial government to work in collaboration with local governments, Indigenous communities, health authorities, and non-profit organizations to ensure equitable access to these supports in rural and northern communities, where services are often limited or unavailable.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Area Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling upon the Province to develop and fund a strategy to specifically address the three points noted, along with a focus on rural and northern communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to address mental health and addictions in rural and remote communities, including:

- *2019-B61 which asked for more funding for detox and rehabilitation throughout the Province, particularly in rural and remote communities;*
- *2010-B145 which asked, in part, for more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment beds, to be made available in every local government in BC;*
- *2007-B51 which asked for more funding for detox centres in more areas of the Province; and*
- *2006-B8 which asked for more regional detox centres.*

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-EB1, 2024-EB4, 2024-EB5, 2024-EB6, 2024-EB7, 2024-NR1, 2024-NR2, 2024-NR3, 2024-NR6, 2023-SR3, 2022-EB9, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-SR3, 2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81). In particular, resolution 2024-EB25 requests the strengthening of wrap-around services to accompany shelter spaces.

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking more housing in rural areas (2024-EB20, 2022-EB24, 2021-EB65, 2021-EB75).

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is too regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

RR46 Quesnel North-South Interconnector

Cariboo RD

Whereas Highway 97 is a very significant provincial highway that is critical to the continued economic prosperity of Northern and Central BC and all British Columbia;

And whereas Highway 97 is at a considerable and growing risk level for extended delays due to aged-out highway infrastructure in Quesnel, and unacceptable construction delays in the future based on the current plans by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA lobby the provincial government to commit capital financing to complete the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project.

Endorsed by the Executive of the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Area Association**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the Province to commit capital financing to complete the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project (Hwy 97).

The Committee also advises that membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2011-B161, calling on the Province to four-lane the Alaska Highway/97 North. Members considered resolution 2007-C51, seeking the four-laning of the Cariboo Connector (Hwy 97); and resolution 2023-RR30, seeking upgrades to the West gate of Jasper National Park, both as too regional and referred them back to the Area Association.

Conversely, however, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolution 2008-B110, which asked the Province to complete the Heartland Connector (Hwy 97).

The Committee would suggest that the 2025 resolution is regional in scope, and advocacy on the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

RR47 Blood Plasma Donor Centre for Northern BC

NCLGA Executive

Whereas plasma is a critical component in life-saving treatments for individuals with immune deficiencies, cancer, kidney disease, and other serious medical conditions;

And whereas Canada collects less than 20 percent of the plasma required to meet domestic patient needs, relying heavily on international supply chains despite growing demand for plasma-based treatments;

And whereas Canadian Blood Services closed its whole blood donation centre in Prince George in 2015, leaving Northern BC residents with no local option to donate plasma, while new plasma donor centres have been established in other remote regions such as Thunder Bay, Ontario:

Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Health, and Canadian Blood Services to establish a Blood Plasma Donor Centre in Northern BC, to improve access for donors, and strengthen Canada's domestic plasma supply.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Area Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province and Canadian Blood Services to establish a Blood Plasma Donor Centre in Northern BC, improve access for donors, and strengthen Canada's domestic plasma supply.

The Committee acknowledges that this issue is outside the scope of local government jurisdiction, and as such, it cannot provide comments as to the merit, impact or consequences of this resolution's request.

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is too regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

RR48 Psychiatric Hospital for Northern BC

**Fort St. James,
Vanderhoof**

Whereas in the face of the drug use epidemic, the rise in homelessness, and increases in related crime and the influence on mental health, Northern British Columbia communities are experiencing a critical lack of access to long-term secure psychiatric care;

And whereas the closure of Riverview Hospital in 2012, the province's only psychiatric hospital, has created an unnecessary strain on the residents of our communities, families, local police services, and hospitals;

And whereas psychiatric patients are either released prematurely or forced to be admitted to acute care hospital beds causing cancelled surgeries, emergency department overcrowding, long emergency room waits, violence in emergency rooms, and staff attrition:

Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA endorse and advocate for the provincial government to work with the Northern Health Authority to recognize this urgent need and open a psychiatric hospital in northern British Columbia to contribute to the overall health and stability of our communities.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Area Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province and Northern Health Authority to recognize this urgent need and open a psychiatric hospital in northern British Columbia to contribute to the overall health and stability of our communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2013-B83 which asked the Province to invest in resources to create an efficient process of mental health patient intake, including the provision of secure holding facilities and security personnel trained to guard patients in order to reduce the use of police resources in this capacity. The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2010-B143 which sought involuntary treatment for youth struggling with addiction and substance abuse, when all other options for voluntary treatment have failed.

The Committee further notes that membership has endorsed multiple resolutions seeking crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67, 2005-B3).

The Committee additionally notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2014-B34, requesting that the Province develop a long-term, multi-faceted strategy to help people suffering from concurrent disorders to avoid becoming chronic offenders, by providing integrated health and psychiatric care, criminal justice reform, and access to affordable housing. Several subsequently endorsed resolutions (2020-SR8, 2015-A2) have similarly sought to address the increasing demand on police and the justice system by seeking long-term provincial strategies that would provide integrated health and psychiatric care, affordable housing, and additional resources for mental health and addictions services.

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is too regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

Section RR – Part Four

RR49 UBCM Voting Schedule

Vernon

Whereas the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention is the main forum for BC local governments to take a united position on key issues through resolutions submitted at the annual Convention;

And whereas these resolutions, if supported, are carried to other orders of government and other organizations involved in local affairs;

And whereas voting on submitted resolutions at the Convention currently occurs during the last 3 days, creating time constraints for all items to be addressed and for all members to be in attendance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM change the Convention agenda by scheduling resolutions at the start of Convention, providing time to address all resolutions submitted and allowing members to schedule their attendance accordingly.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to UBCM Executive**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to change the convention agenda by scheduling resolutions at the start of convention, providing time to address all resolutions submitted and allowing members to schedule their attendance accordingly.

The Committee notes that the UBCM Executive is the most appropriate body for making scheduling decisions for the UBCM Convention and is therefore recommending that this resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive.

RR50 Commercial Rent Control

Victoria

Whereas the current economic instability is applying financial pressure on small businesses (defined as 49 or fewer employees) across our communities;

And whereas the Province has greater jurisdictional power to decrease the economic pressures on small businesses through a variety of policy changes related to rental rates:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM membership directs UBCM staff to research and investigate the costs and benefits of Commercial Rent Control and report back to the UBCM membership before any future conference deadlines.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to UBCM Executive**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on UBCM staff to research and investigate the costs and benefits of Commercial Rent Control and report back to the UBCM membership before any future conference deadlines.

However, the Committee notes that the membership supported resolution 2024-NR78 that called on the Province to provide local governments with the legislative authority to enable special economic zones where commercial

rent control and demo/renoviction policies could be applied to ensure predictability in commercial lease costs, so local small businesses and community-serving commercial tenants can continue to serve their communities.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2023-NR70 that called on the Province to establish a rental limit increase on commercially zoned properties operated by small businesses similar to the rental increase limitation(s) that govern residential rental properties.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to assist commercial property owners, in particular those that are small or independently owned, with their assessments and property taxes or rents:

- *2019-B78 asked the Province to create new assessment sub-classes for small businesses to allow local governments to apply differentiated non-residential property tax rates to smaller businesses and cultural hubs;*
- *2018-B115 sought provincial assessment and tax reform to support the long-term viability of independent small businesses in BC;*
- *2018-B160 sought a Legacy Business Registry and Grant program to provide relief from prohibitive increases in rent or property tax for independently-owned local businesses; and*
- *2018-B115 which sought relief for independent small businesses through Provincial assessment and taxation reform.*

The Committee further notes that Section 198.1 of the Community Charter now enables a municipality to provide tax relief to class 6 properties meeting certain criteria that would be passed on to a tenant under a triple net lease; and advises that there would be operational and budget impacts for local governments to take on the job of monitoring and enforcing rent control policies and demo/renoviction policies.

The Committee is recommending that this resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, as this is the most appropriate body to make decisions regarding the potential use of UBCM resources and staff time.

Appendix A



Extraordinary Resolution Backgrounder

*This resource provides context for the Extraordinary Resolution
that will be considered during the first resolutions session
Wednesday, September 24, 2025.*

Union of BC Municipalities
August 2025

Extraordinary Resolution

The Resolutions Committee is seeking membership support to amend the UBCM Bylaws through an Extraordinary Resolution. An Extraordinary Resolution requires a three-fifths super majority of membership support. The intent of the resolution to amend UBCM’s Bylaws is to apply additional criteria to the resolutions that are brought forward to Convention each year.

Current Policy and Approach to Resolutions

The current approach to resolutions can be summarized as follows:

- Local governments draft and submit resolutions to Area Associations or directly to UBCM;
- No limits are placed on the number of resolutions a local government or Area Association can submit; and
- All resolutions endorsed by an Area Association along with eligible resolutions submitted directly to UBCM are categorized and dealt with at UBCM’s annual Convention.

There are positive elements to the current approach. Every local government has an equal opportunity to present issues for consideration by their peers. The process is also transparent, democratic and grass roots. These positive aspects have resulted in a consistently high number of resolutions to be considered each year at Convention, with an average of close to 220 annually over the past eight years.

Year	Number of Resolutions Published in the Resolutions Book
2025	276
2024	267
2023	205
2022	206
2021*	113
2020*	210
2019	279
2018	208

*Virtual Conventions held during the COVID pandemic

The very success of the resolutions process, as reflected in the volume of submissions, is at the same time a source of several deficiencies.

The volume of resolutions requires that many are dealt within one of two consent agenda blocks, resulting in these resolutions not being considered individually. The volume of resolutions also means that the process to consider them is rushed, and/or that some resolutions do not make it to the floor and are dealt with at a later date by UBCM’s Executive. The current process also does not provide any scope criteria. Finally, the sheer number of resolutions of conveyed to the Province

poses significant practical challenges for UBCM capacity and organizational effectiveness. UBCM has also heard that the volume of resolutions strains provincial capacity.

Recent Attempts to Streamline

Attempts to streamline the resolutions process are not new. Following a policy paper in 2009, a series of modest adjustments were made to UBCM Bylaws and procedures.

Most recently, in 2022-23, the Resolutions Committee undertook a resolutions process by holding a series of workshops at each Area Association and surveying the membership at the 2023 Convention. A set of five survey questions sought member input on proposed areas to streamline the resolutions process. The [results of the survey](#) were mixed with an equal amount of agreement and disagreement for most questions. This did not provide clear direction to address the deficiencies in the process resulting from the volume submitted.

Proposed New Approach

The Extraordinary Resolution proposes the adoption of four lenses to screen the resolutions received each year.

Should a resolution be captured by one or more of the four lenses, that resolution would not be put forward for consideration by the membership, and instead would be listed in an appendix of the Resolutions Book.

The four lenses are as follows:

1. Resolution is existing UBCM policy (as set by the membership endorsing or not endorsing a previous resolution or policy paper).
2. Resolution is outside of the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations.
3. Resolution is within the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations but does not meet UBCM criteria for format or clarity.
4. Resolution is regional in focus.

The following commentary provides additional context for each of the proposed lenses.

Lens #1 - Resolutions that reaffirm existing policy

The Resolutions Committee proposes that a five-year window would be established to set existing policy. Resolutions that align with those considered during the previous five years (whether endorsed or not) would not be voted on and instead would be listed in an appendix. A [resolutions database](#) can be found on the UBCM web site with historical resolutions that date back 20 years. This is a helpful resource for the membership to reference as they draft resolutions to ensure they are not re-submitting requests that have been made during the last five years.

The general intent of this lens is to filter out resolutions that reiterate existing policy, that has been set in the last five years.

Lens #2 - Resolutions outside of local government scope

The Resolutions Committee suggests that limiting resolutions for consideration to those that directly relate to local government operation and service delivery will strengthen the efficacy and credibility of UBCM’s advocacy.

When an endorsed resolution from UBCM is conveyed to the Province, it should seek to effect change for issues which impact the ability of local governments to effectively operate and deliver services within their jurisdiction.

Requests that are outside of local government scope may be directed to their local MLA and/or the relevant Minister to seek change, to help reduce the volume of resolutions being considered by the membership.

Lens #3 - Resolutions that are unclear or poorly formatted

UBCM staff and the Resolutions Committee currently devote considerable time working with the sponsors to help them to clarify and format their resolutions. The application of this lens will encourage those drafting resolutions to meet established standards for clarity and format.

The clarity of a resolution is important to ensure the membership can understand what is being requested as they cast their vote. As well, should the resolution be endorsed, clarity is necessary so that the Province understands what is being requested. [Resources](#) are available on the UBCM web site to help members draft a clear resolution, including writing guidelines and a sample resolution.

Lens #4 - Resolutions that are regional in focus

Resolutions for consideration at UBCM should have a province-wide focus. Resolutions that are regional in focus should be considered and acted upon by Area Associations.

In summary, the Resolutions Committee is seeking to reduce duplications, focus on local government issues, improve clarity, and ensure that the resolutions have a province-wide focus.

Testing the Proposal: Application to the 2025 Resolutions

To demonstrate the impact of the application of the four lenses, they have been applied to the resolutions found in the 2025 Resolutions Book. As a result of their application, a total of **121** resolutions were captured by one or more of the four lenses. In the case of two resolutions, two lenses were applied to each. These 121 resolutions would not have been included in the 2025 Resolutions Book, had the use of the four lenses currently been in effect.

Below is a table of the 2025 resolutions indicating when each of the four lenses were applied.

Res No.	Resolution Title	Lens 1 – Existing Policy	Lens 2 – Outside of Local Government Scope	Lens 3 – Clarity and Format	Lens 4 – Too Regional
	ENDORSE BLOCK (EB)				
EB1	Addressing Temporary Emergency Room Closures	X			
EB2	Streamlining Licensing for Out-of-Province and International Healthcare Professionals	X			
EB3	Health System Modernization Engagement	X			
EB4	Provision of Free Adrenaline Auto-Injectors		X		
EB5	Volunteer Fire Department Funding Model	X			
EB6	Reimbursing Local Governments for Medical Services Provided by Local Government Fire and Rescue Services	X			
EB7	BC Ambulance Service	X			
EB8	Rural Health Transportation	X			
EB9	Implementation of Provincially Mandated Accessibility and Inclusion Plans	X			
EB10	Enhancing a Collaborative, Sustainable, and Inclusive Approach to Food Security and Well-Being	X			
EB11	Continue Funding Programs for Local Poverty Reduction Initiatives	X			
EB12	Strengthening Supported Child Development	X			
EB13	Mental Health and Addictions Resources for Youth	X			
EB14	Strategy for Rehabilitation, Homelessness and Public Safety	X			
EB15	Funding Off-Site Works for Affordable Housing	X			
EB16	Housing Requires Urgent Action	X			
EB17	Long Term Supported Housing	X			
EB18	The Village Model of Housing	X			

EB19	Advancing Home Relocation and Deconstruction in British Columbia	X			
EB20	Speculation Housing and Vacancy Tax in Rural Communities	X			
EB21	Speculation and Vacancy Tax	X			
EB22	Increase Funding for Wildfire Prevention				
EB23	FireSmart and Wildfire Mitigation Funding	X			
EB24	Initial Fire Attack Crew Relocation	X			
EB25	Referendum for the Replacement of Fire Apparatus	X			
EB26	Fire Inspections and Investigations				
EB27	Implementation of the BC Flood Strategy to Protect Flood-Prone Communities	X			
EB28	Modernize the Police Cost Sharing Formulas	X			
EB29	Managing Policing Contract Costs Through Engagement in RCMP Collective Bargaining	X			
EB30	Police Services Funding Model	X			
EB31	Funding for 911 Services	X			
EB32	Addressing Repeat Offenders	X			
EB33	Victim Services Program Funding	X			
EB34	Motor Vehicle Response – Compensation Model	X			
EB35	British Columbia Conservation Officer Service Capacity	X			
EB36	Moose Habitat Considerations in Landscape Planning		X		
EB37	Non-Migratory Resident Canada Geese		X		
EB38	Increased Defence Against Invasive Mussels	X			
EB39	Controlling Invasive Scotch Broom	X			
EB40	Conserving BC Landfill Capacity	X			
EB41	Provincial Circular Economy Strategy	X			
EB42	Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector Recyclables	X			
EB43	Producer Responsibility for Sustainable Packaging in BC's Recycling Regulation	X			
EB44	Inclusion of Agricultural Plastics Under Recycling Regulation	X			

EB45	Biodiverse Climate Resilient Ecosystems	X			
EB46	Tackling Energy Poverty and Increasing Workforce Capacity by Working with Youth Climate Corps	X	X		
EB47	Incentives to Invest in Low-Carbon Power Generation	X			
EB48	Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems	X			
EB49	Modernization of Municipal Wastewater Regulations and Sewerage System Regulation				
EB50	Supporting Rural Contractors for Effective Home Retrofits	X			
EB51	Including Rail-Related Activities in the Environmental Assessment Act Scope	X			
EB52	Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities	X			
EB53	Sustainable Growing Communities Fund	X			
EB54	Provincial Oversight of Water, Streams, Wetlands and Riparian Areas	X			
EB55	Efficient Resource Permitting	X			
EB56	Expedite Municipal Applications for Crown Lands				
EB57	Approval of Aggregate Activities				
EB58	Provincial Funding for Archaeological Costs Borne by Local Government	X			
EB59	Strengthening Agricultural Land Commission Enforcement Capabilities	X			
EB60	Unpaid Fines by Transfer to Property Taxes				
EB61	Taxation of Utility Companies				
EB62	BC Port Tax Cap	X			
EB63	BC Ferry Advisory Committees	X			
EB64	Equitable Status and Funding for Inland Ferries as Essential Infrastructure				
EB65	Accessible Public EV Charging Stations	X			
EB66	Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for Remote Communities	X			
EB67	Emergency Road Network Planning	X			
EB68	Forest Service Road Closures	X			
EB69	Road Access to Provincial Parks	X			
EB70	Highway Speed Limits	X			

EB71	Saving Money and Saving Lives: Empower Municipal Default Speed Limits				
EB72	Twinning of Highway 16				
EB73	Active Transportation Infrastructure on Rural Highways	X			
EB74	Enhancing Rural Transit Systems	X			
EB75	Increasing Transit Service Expansion	X			
EB76	Small Community Transit Service Fund	X			
EB77	Provincial Consultation on Legislative Changes	X			
EB78	Provincially Funded WorkSafe BC Coverage - Elected Officials	X			
EB79	Unruly Behaviour – Development of Task Force	X			
EB80	Review of the BC Library Act				
EB81	Bylaw Enforcement Notice Penalty Increase for Development Violations	X			
EB82	Assessment Data Amendments and Municipal Financial Impact	X			
EB83	Forest Sustainability	X			
EB84	Forestry Industry and Fibre Decline	X			
EB85	Support for Additional Dead Wood Salvage	X			
EB86	Engagement Protocols in Resource Development Processes	X			
EB87	Inclusion of Rural and Resource Communities in Provincial Economic Decision-Making	X			
EB88	Consultation on Removal of Crown Land	X			
EB89	Increased Ministry Funding for Agriculture	X			
EB90	Industrial Electrification Expansion	X			
EB91	Investment in Recreational Tourism	X			
EB92	Rural-Focused Immigration Policy	X			
EB93	Increased Funding and Requirement for Civics Education				
EB94	BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Representation in Rural BC Communities				
EB95	Lobbyist Registration				

	NOT ENDORSE BLOCK (NEB)				
NEB1	Primary Care Clinic Space	X			
NEB2	Personal and Defamatory Attacks on Local Government Leaders	X			
NEB3	Provincial Government Water Panel	X			
	NO RECOMMENDATION (NR)				
NR1	Ensuring Equitable Access to Child Care Funding				
NR2	Child Care Licensing Requirements				
NR3	Hiring More Qualified Medical Professionals				
NR4	Strengthening Rural Healthcare Through Scope-Based Compensation Models				
NR5	Addressing Rural Physician Shortages Due to Practice Ready Assessment-BC and Longitudinal Family Physician Changes		X		
NR6	Local Voices, Stronger Healthcare: Enabling Healthcare Collaboration Frameworks in Rural BC				
NR7	Expanding Career-Life Connections with Rural Practicum Program				
NR8	Emergency Room Closure Notification				
NR9	Rural Foundry Centres				
NR10	Strengthening the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy				
NR11	Mental Health Support for Local Government Officials				
NR12	Health and Wellbeing of BC's Public Safety Personnel				
NR13	Advancing Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices				
NR14	Support for Communities with Correctional Facilities				
NR15	Free Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy as part of Postpartum Care in British Columbia		X		
NR16	Adequate Public Sanitary Facilities and Toilets				
NR17	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
NR18	Homeless Encampments within City Limits on Provincial Land				

NR19	Mandatory Good Neighbour Agreement				
NR20	Supportive Housing Targets and Treatment				
NR21	Enhancing Housing Stability through Preventive Measures and Supportive Programs				
NR22	Simplifying Access to Public Land for Housing				
NR23	Co-op Housing Program and Sustainable Funding for Housing				
NR24	Lowering Financial Barriers for Community Housing Projects				
NR25	Amenity Cost Charges and Affordable Housing				
NR26	Provincial Development Cost Charges Deferment Program				
NR27	Property Transfer Tax Exemption for Local Government Housing Corporations				
NR28	Discharging Restrictive Land Covenants to Support Small Scale Multi-Unit Housing				
NR29	Provincial Reform on School Planning				
NR30	Supporting Climate-Resilient and Infrastructure-Ready Housing Targets				
NR31	Preventing Deaths from Extreme Heat by Amending Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing Legislation				
NR32	Response to Extreme Heat Events				
NR33	Provincially Backed Affordable Home Insurance		X		
NR34	Protecting Homeowners Access to Insurance and Mortgages in the Wake of Emergency and Disaster Management Act Implementation		X		
NR35	Income Tax on Secondary Suites and In-Home Rentals				
NR36	Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act Exemption Flexibility for Small Communities				
NR37	Maximum Municipal Bylaw Ticket Fines				
NR38	Ending Residential Tenancies due to Income Eligibility				

NR39	Advocating for Pet-Friendly Rental Housing				
NR40	Tiny Homes and Recreational Vehicles				
NR41	The Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification in BC Buildings				
NR42	Request to Repeal the Single Exit Stairway Building Code				
NR43	Installation of Early Wildfire Detection Technology				
NR44	FireSmart Policy Crown Lands				
NR45	Fire Resilient Forest Practices				
NR46	Shift of Provincial Wildfire Response Responsibilities onto Regional Districts				
NR47	Financial Support for Implementation of the Fire Safety Act				
NR48	Emergency Social Services Grant Funding for Capital Costs				
NR49	Protections and Support for Emergency Support Services Volunteers				
NR50	Provincial Disaster Debris Plan				
NR51	Disaster Financial Assistance Insurance Eligibility				
NR52	Interim Diking Policy Updates				
NR53	Major Planned Events Advocacy				
NR54	Addressing RCMP Staffing and Contract Costs				
NR55	Creation of Regional Crime Prevention Officer Positions for Rural BC				
NR56	Release of Prolific Offenders in Communities				
NR57	Human Trafficking, Gender Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic				
NR58	Mailing Illegal Substances via Canada Post			X	
NR59	Sharing Fentanyl Precursors Information with Law Enforcement				
NR60	Regulating Vape Shops				
NR61	Creating Safer Streets through Provincial Bear Spray Legislation				
NR62	Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas Clean-up Funding				
NR63	Provincial Waste Hauler Licensing				

NR64	Solid Waste Management Approvals				
NR65	Sustainable Funding for Landfill Gas Regulation Compliance				
NR66	Balanced Emissions Policies				
NR67	Nuclear Energy in BC				
NR68	BC Building Code Amendment to Include Natural Gas				
NR69	Legislating the BC Coastal Marine Strategy				
NR70	Standardized Wake Surfing Regulation				
NR71	Financial Incentives for Residential Rainwater Catchment Systems				
NR72	Emergency Water Treatment Plants				
NR73	Ministerial Oversight of Proposed Sewerage (Septic) Systems				
NR74	Support for Natural Asset Inventory Development				
NR75	Mobile Live Animal Programs				
NR76	Hybrid Wolfdogs				
NR77	Provincial Support for Addressing Feral Rabbits				
NR78	Allocation of Wildlife Revenues to Conservation				
NR79	Regulation of Mushroom Harvesting Industry				
NR80	Remove Cigarette Butts From Environment				
NR81	Strengthening Regional Emergency Management Capacity				
NR82	Two-Year Term for Regional District Chairs and Vice Chairs				
NR83	Establishment of a Framework for Intergovernmental Relations with First Nations				
NR84	Equitable Distribution of Non-Casino Gaming Revenue				
NR85	Agricultural Land Reserve Boundary Review				
NR86	Accessory Dwellings in the Agricultural Land Reserve				
NR87	Permit Vacation Rentals within the Agricultural Land Reserve				

NR88	Small-Scale Farm-to-Table Restaurants in the Agricultural Land Reserve				
NR89	Soil and Other Material Tracking				
NR90	Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement Ticketing				
NR91	Private Managed Forest Lands				
NR92	Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Associations				
NR93	Dedicating Water Rental Fees to Watershed Security				
NR94	Provincial Financial Support for Municipal Industrial Land Planning				
NR95	Updated Ancillary Uses for Airports Located on Crown Land				
NR96	Supporting Housing Affordability Through Taxation Changes and Financial Commitment				
NR97	Burden of Delinquent Property Taxes				
NR98	Localized Input on Highway Maintenance Contracts				
NR99	Commercial Transport Training Standards				
NR100	Saving Money and Saving Lives: Provincial Default 30 km/h for Local Streets with No Centre Line				
NR101	Ministry of Transportation and Transit Approval on Minor Rezoning Applications				
NR102	Updating the Name of the Motor Vehicle Act		X		
NR103	Traffic Controls at Inactive Railroad Crossings				
NR104	Priority Ferry Boarding for Livestock and Agricultural Products				
NR105	Payment In Lieu of Works and Services for Land Development				
NR106	Balanced Approach to Building Code Updates				
NR107	Leaves of Absence Provisions for Elected Officials				
NR108	Codes of Conduct				
NR109	More Formalized Property Assessment Processes for Communities in BC				

NR110	Forestry Industry and Sustainable Fibre				
NR111	Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas Strategy				
NR112	Economic Impact and Resource Revenue Sharing				
NR113	Local Government Response to US Imposed Tariffs				
NR114	Canada-First Local Government Procurement Strategy				
NR115	Eliminating Interprovincial Trade Barriers				
NR116	Ranked Voting for Mayoral Elections				
NR117	Aligning the By-Election Provisions of the School Act with those of the Local Government Act				
NR118	Reinstatement of Federal Funding for Settlement Programs				
NR119	Safe Welcome Communities				
NR120	BC Human Rights Tribunal				
NR121	Adopting European Elevator Standards to Improve Accessibility and Affordability				
NR122	Municipal Infrastructure Plan Library				
	REFERRED RESOLUTIONS (RR)				
RR1	Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials				
RR2	Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials				
RR3	Expand Alert Ready Program				
RR4	Implement a Regionally Balanced Approach to Supportive Housing				
RR5	Regional Approach to Homelessness	X			
RR6	Equitable Distribution of Emergency Shelter Beds	X			
RR7	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR8	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR9	Housing as a Human Right				
RR10	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR11	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR12	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR13	Declaring Housing as a Human Right				
RR14	Housing as a Human Right				

RR15	RCMP Cost Sharing	X			
RR16	Municipal Costs of Contract RCMP Services Beyond 2032	X			
RR17	Compensation for Road Rescue Services	X			
RR18	Catch and Release of Repeat Offenders	X			
RR19	Provincial Reforms to Bail Administration	X			
RR20	Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems	X			
RR21	Support for BC Conservation Officer Services	X			
RR22	Conservation Officer Advocacy	X			
RR23	Enforcement and Education for Use of Crown Land	X			
RR24	Aligning Housing and Homelessness Initiatives with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	X			
RR25	Provincial Funding for Public Libraries	X			
RR26	Increased Core Funding for Public Libraries	X			
RR27	Increased Capital Funding for Libraries	X			
RR28	Provincial Funding for Public Libraries: Overdue	X			
RR29	Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries	X			
RR30	Importance of Inland Ferry Service				
RR31	Essential Service Levels of Inland Ferries				
RR32	BC Ferry Advisory Committees	X			
RR33	Support and Resourcing for Active Transportation Projects	X			
RR34	Removal of the BC Port Tax Cap				
RR35	Highway Road Maintenance Agreements – Addressing Regional Adaptation	X			
RR36	Lobbyist Registration				
RR37	Financial Support for Infrastructure Costs	X			
RR38	Infrastructure and Capital Projects Requiring Electoral Approval	X			
RR39	Unmet Demands on Social and Community Infrastructure as a Result of Provincial Housing Targets	X			

RR40	Infrastructure Support for Specified Municipalities – Housing Supply Act	X			
RR41	Funding Support for Infrastructure Upgrades Required Due to Bill 44	X			
RR42	Consistent and Predictable Funding for Housing, Infrastructure and Rural Economic Development	X			
RR43	Allocation of Provincial Sales Tax for Infrastructure Renewal				
RR44	Improvement Districts Policy Revision			X	
RR45	Enhanced Wraparound Supports and Second-Stage Housing for Individuals in Recovery in Rural Northern Communities				X
RR46	Quesnel North-South Interconnector				X
RR47	Blood Plasma Donor Centre for Northern BC		X		X
RR48	Psychiatric Hospital for Northern BC				X
RR49	UBCM Voting Schedule				
RR50	Commercial Rent Control				
	TOTAL	107	10	2	4



2025 Resolutions Book

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