

2026 Resolutions Book



Resolutions to be Considered at the 2026 UBCM Convention

Vancouver Convention Centre Vancouver, BC

The resolutions sessions are presently scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 16

10:30am to 11:45am

Extraordinary Resolution

Special Resolutions

Endorse Block of Resolutions

No Recommendation Resolutions (*time permitting*)

Thursday, September 17

8:55am to 11:15am

No Recommendation Resolutions (*cont'd*)

Friday, September 18

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 2026 Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee is pleased to welcome members to Convention.

Resolutions

Two hundred and twenty-five 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 three Special Resolutions (SR) for consideration. This makes a total of 229 resolutions in 2026.

This year, 79 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.

Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1

Last year a super majority of UBCM members voted to endorse Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1 Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws to Streamline the Resolutions Process. This put in place four criteria to be applied to the resolutions: 1) Existing Policy, 2) Local Government Scope, 3) Clarity/Format, 4) Regional. Should any resolution be captured by one or more of these criteria, it will be placed in an Appendix and not considered at Convention. The placement in an Appendix is a record of these resolutions having been submitted.

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 the Extraordinary Resolution (ER).

Then the individual consideration of the Special Resolutions (SR).

Next, members will consider the one consent agenda block of resolutions the Endorse Block (EB) 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.

2026 UBCM Resolutions Committee

Councillor Pete Fry, Chair
Councillor Gord Klassen, Vice-Chair
Councillor Kevin McIsaac
Councillor Jenna Stoner

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)	- Resolutions that support established UBCM policy - Recommendation: Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment	Considered as a block
NOT ENDORSE BLOCK (NEB)	- Resolutions that are contrary to established UBCM policy - Recommendation: Not Endorse	Considered as a block
NO RECOMMENDATION (NR)	- New issues - Recommendation: No Recommendation or No Action Required	Considered individually
REFERRED RESOLUTIONS (RR)	- 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
APPENDIX (APX)	Resolutions captured by one of the four criteria, per Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1: - Existing Policy - Local Government Scope - Clarity / Format - Regional	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. No motions to vary the agenda will be permitted to consider those resolutions that are captured by the four criteria as cited in the UBCM Bylaw s. 15(c) and which are listed in an Appendix of the Resolutions Book. [Bylaw s. 15(c)]

19. 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:

20. 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]

21. 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]

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. 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

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

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

28. 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]

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

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

31. 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

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

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

34. 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]

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

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

37. 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

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

39. 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

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

41. 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

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

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

44. 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]

45. 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]

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

47. 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

48. 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.

49. 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.

50. 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.

51. 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.

52. 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.

53. 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.

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

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

56. The Emergency Resolution will after reading be properly before the Convention and the procedures for handling No Recommendation resolutions will apply. (Rules s. 42-47)

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

57. 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)]

58. 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)]

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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**

UBCM Executive

Whereas there is an ongoing desire to ensure that the UBCM Executive represents the organization's membership, and elected representatives from some members have expressed concerns about challenges faced in achieving election to positions on the Executive;

And whereas an independent governance review commissioned by UBCM identified options for creating or amending Executive positions to improve member inclusion, representation by population size, as well as continuity of representation;

And whereas amendments to the UBCM Bylaws are required to modify the composition of the Executive; with Extraordinary Resolution being the means to make amendments to the Bylaws:

Therefore be it resolved that the current UBCM Bylaws (2025) be amended by replacing those sections in the column marked "Current" in the Table of Proposed Amendments to the UBCM Bylaws, with those sections appearing in the column marked "Proposed", in order to advance the breadth, effectiveness, and continuity of member representation on the UBCM Executive;

And be it further resolved that the proposed amendments be phased in to take effect over the 2027 and 2028 UBCM Annual Conventions.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

In response to member queries, as well as resolutions endorsed by the UBCM membership, the UBCM Executive approved the terms of reference for a governance review to take place in 2025-26. UBCM engaged Neilson Strategies to lead the review and prepare a Governance Review Report. Arising from the Governance Review Report and related member engagement process, the UBCM Executive adopted a series of recommendations to change and clarify the composition of the UBCM board.

Changes to the UBCM board composition require amendments to the UBCM Bylaws. Amendments to the UBCM Bylaws must be enacted by Extraordinary Resolution and endorsed by a three-fifths (60%) majority of UBCM members present at the Annual Convention. The UBCM Executive presents this Extraordinary Resolution for member consideration, to amend the UBCM Bylaws to change and clarify the composition of the UBCM board.

The following materials are included, to support and provide context for the Extraordinary Resolution:

- *Table of Proposed Amendments to the UBCM Bylaws (See below)*
- *Current version of the UBCM Bylaws (2025) (See Appendix B)*
- *UBCM Governance Review Report (August 2026) (See Appendix C)*

The proposed amendments to the UBCM Bylaws have been reviewed by legal counsel.

The proposed changes to the composition of the UBCM Executive, as represented in the proposed amendments to the UBCM Bylaws, are summarized as follows:

- *Increase the upper population limit for the Small Community Representative from 2,500 to 5,000;*
- *Repurpose one of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representative positions as an Urban Community Representative position for municipalities with a population of 100,000 or greater; and*
- *Introduce staggered two-year terms for all Executive positions, except the Past President, Officers, and the five Area Association Representatives.*

Regarding the proposed two-year terms for selected Executive positions, the intent is to stagger the election of these positions so that roughly half would be elected at a given UBCM Annual Convention. This would avoid mass turnover of Executive positions, supporting continuity and organizational effectiveness. Implementation of staggered elections for Executive positions with two-year terms would necessarily be phased in over the course of two years (two Annual Conventions).

In addition, the governance review process identified two instances where the language used in the UBCM Bylaws to describe positions on the Executive unintentionally excludes elected representatives from UBCM member First Nations from running or voting for those positions. It is proposed that clarifying language be added to the UBCM Bylaws, to achieve the following:

- *clarify that elected representatives from First Nation members of UBCM, who meet the population criteria, are eligible to run and vote for the Small Community Representative position; and*
- *clarify that elected representatives from First Nation members of UBCM who are members of the GVRD are eligible to run and vote for the Vancouver Metro Area Representative position.*

The Extraordinary Resolution asks the UBCM membership to endorse the proposed amendments to the UBCM Bylaws, and specifies that the changes will come into effect over the course of the 2027 and 2028 UBCM Annual Conventions.

Conference decision: _____

Table of Proposed Amendments to the UBCM Bylaws

- The section number of the UBCM Bylaws is noted in the “Section” column.
- Text to be struck from the UBCM Bylaws is highlighted in **red** in the “Current” column.
- Text to be added to the UBCM Bylaws is **bolded** in the “Proposed” column.
- The rationale for the proposed amendments is provided in the “Purpose” column.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
3.(a)	There shall be an Executive which shall be composed of: • the Officers of the Union; • the Immediate Past President, who shall be the last president to have completed the term of office as President; • a Vancouver Representative, who shall be a member of the Vancouver City Council; • a Small Community Representative, who shall be a member of a Council of a Village or a municipality with a population not greater than 2,500; • an Electoral Area Representative, who shall be	There shall be an Executive which shall be composed of: • the Officers of the Union; • the Immediate Past President, who shall be the last president to have completed the term of office as President; • a Vancouver Representative, who shall be a member of the Vancouver City Council; • a Small Community Representative, who shall be a member of a Council of a Village, or a municipality or First Nation with a population not greater than 5,000; • an Electoral Area Representative, who shall be	Increases the upper population limit of Small Community Representative to 5,000 and clarifies that First Nations are eligible for the position. Changes the number of Metro Vancouver Area Representative s from two to one and

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	an Electoral Area Director of a Regional Board; - a GVRD Representative who must be a member of the GVRD Board; - five Directors representing the five Area Associations as defined in Section 21; - five Directors at Large; and two representatives [Vancouver Metro Area Representatives] who must be elected members of either or both a council of a member municipality of the GVRD or of the GVRD Board. The members of the Executive shall be the Directors of the Union.	an Electoral Area Director of a Regional Board; - a GVRD Representative who must be a member of the GVRD Board; - five Directors representing the five Area Associations as defined in Section 21; - five Directors at Large; a Vancouver Metro Area Representative who must be an elected member of either or both a council of a member municipality or First Nation of the GVRD, or of the GVRD Board; and an Urban Community Representative, who must be a member of a Council of a municipality with a population of 100,000 or greater. The members of the Executive shall be the Directors of the Union.	clarifies that First Nations are eligible for the position. Adds the position of Urban Community Representative.
3.(b)	The Officers, the Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative and the Vancouver Metro Area Representative], shall be elected annually at the Annual Convention, and except as herein otherwise provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected at the next Annual Convention. The Vancouver Representative shall be appointed annually by the Vancouver City Council, the GVRD Representative shall be appointed annually by the Board of the GVRD and the five Area Association Directors shall each be appointed by their respective Area Associations as identified in Section 21. All such appointments shall be communicated to the Nominating Committee by the appointing body pursuant to Section 4(b).	The Officers shall be elected annually at the Annual Convention, and except as herein otherwise provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected at the next Annual Convention. The Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative, the Vancouver Metro Area Representative, and the Urban Community Representative, shall be elected at the Annual Convention, and except as herein otherwise provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected at the second Annual Convention that follows their election. The Vancouver Representative shall be appointed every two years by Vancouver City Council, for a term ending on the appointment of their successor.	Changes the term of office from one year to two years for all positions on the Executive, with the exception of the four officer positions, the position of Past President, and the Area Association Representative positions.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
		The GVRD Representative shall be appointed every two years by the Board of the GVRD, for a term ending on the appointment of their successor. The five Area Association Directors shall each be appointed by their respective Area Associations as identified in Section 21. All such appointments shall be communicated to the Nominating Committee by the appointing body pursuant to Section 4(b).	
3.(c)	Except for the Immediate Past President, all members of the Executive, including Officers of the Union, shall hold office only so long as they remain elected representatives of a member of the Union. If a person holding the office of Immediate Past President ceases to be an elected representative of a member of the Union while holding the office such person shall only hold the office for the remainder of the then current term.	[No amendment proposed.]	Including for reference to clarify an eligibility requirement to serve in any Executive position, with the exception of Immediate Past President.
3.(d)	No person shall hold a position as Officer of the Union unless elected as an Officer by the membership of the Union and no person shall be elected more than twice, whether consecutively or otherwise, as President of the Union. In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the Officers, the next ranking Officer willing to serve shall fill the vacancy, provided that if the office of President cannot for any reason be filled as aforesaid, the Executive shall call a special election for the office of President and such election may be held by mail or electronic ballot pursuant to the rules and procedures established and determined by the Executive.	No person shall hold a position as Officer of the Union unless elected as an Officer by the membership of the Union and no person shall be elected more than twice, whether consecutively or otherwise, as President of the Union. In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the Officers, the next ranking Officer willing to serve shall fill the vacancy, provided that if the office of President cannot for any reason be filled as aforesaid, the Executive shall call a special election for the office of President and such election may be held by mail or electronic ballot pursuant to the rules and procedures established and determined by the Executive.	Clarifies the term of office for an Acting Director at Large appointed to fill a vacancy amongst the Officers. Clarifies the term of office for a Director at Large, Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or Urban

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	In the event of a vacancy: - amongst the Officers, other than President, the Executive may appoint, from amongst persons qualified to be elected to the Executive, Acting Directors at Large equal to the number of vacancies; - amongst the Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative, or the Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or the Executive may appoint a person qualified to hold the office to fill the position for the term remaining; - in the position of Vancouver Representative, GVRD Representative or amongst the five Directors appointed by the Area Associations such vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.	In the event of a vacancy: - amongst the Officers, other than President, the Executive may appoint, from amongst persons qualified to be elected to the Executive, Acting Directors at Large equal to the number of vacancies, to fill the positions for the term remaining; - amongst the Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative, the Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or the Urban Community Representative, the Executive may appoint a person qualified to hold the office to fill the position for the term remaining; - in the position of Vancouver Representative, GVRD Representative or amongst the five Directors appointed by the Area Associations such vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.	Community Representative appointed to fill a vacancy.
4.(b)	The Nominating Committee shall elect a Chair from amongst the members of the Committee and shall prior to the Annual Convention: - issue a call for nominations for each of the positions of Officer of the Union and for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five Directors at Large, and the Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or; - encourage potential nominees to come forward as candidates for office and as requested provide information to such person relating to duties, responsibilities and roles	The Nominating Committee shall elect a Chair from amongst the members of the Committee and shall prior to the Annual Convention: - issue a call for nominations for each of the positions of Officer of the Union and in those years where the term of the following elected members of the Executive will end, for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, Urban Community Representative, and the five Directors at Large; - encourage potential nominees to come forward as candidates	Outlines the nomination process for positions with two-year terms. Includes the Urban Community Representative in the nominations process.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	pertaining to the various offices; - review the credentials of nominees to ensure that each nominee is qualified to hold office pursuant to Section 4(j); - accept qualified nominees nominated by two elected officials of members of the Union; - obtain the name of a qualified person who has been appointed by the City of Vancouver to assume office as the Vancouver Representative, the name of the GVRD Representative and the names of the five Area Association Directors who have each been appointed to assume the office of Area Association Director by the respective Area Association; - at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention, prepare and provide to all members of the Union a report on nominations accepted for each office that have been received by the close of business on the last business day of July and on the persons appointed by the City of Vancouver, by the GVRD and the five Area Associations. Such report shall be neutral and the Nominating Committee shall not recommend any nominee or group of nominees.	for office and as requested provide information to such person relating to duties, responsibilities and roles pertaining to the various offices; - review the credentials of nominees to ensure that each nominee is qualified to hold office pursuant to Section 4(j); - accept qualified nominees nominated by two elected officials of members of the Union; - obtain the name of a qualified person who has been appointed by the City of Vancouver to assume office as the Vancouver Representative, the name of the GVRD Representative and the names of the five Area Association Directors who have each been appointed to assume the office of Area Association Director by the respective Area Association; - at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention, prepare and provide to all members of the Union a report on nominations accepted for each office that have been received by the close of business on the last business day of July and on the persons appointed by the City of Vancouver, by the GVRD and the five Area Associations. Such report shall be neutral and the Nominating Committee shall not recommend any nominee or group of nominees.	
4.(e)	If, at the close of nominations, only one candidate for each position of Officer stands validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith proclaim the candidate elected.	If, at the close of nominations, only one candidate for any position of Officer stands validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith proclaim the candidate elected.	Changing to be consistent with language used section 4.(f).

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
4.(f)	If, at the close of nominations, more than one candidate stands validly nominated for any of the positions of Officers, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall cause an election to be held.	[No amendment proposed.]	Including for reference regarding section 4.(e).
4.(g)	On the second day of the Annual Convention at the time after the results of the election of Officers have been announced, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall present the nominations for the positions of: • Small Community Representative; • Electoral Area Representative; • for the five positions of Director at Large; and • the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives. After the Chair's report on these positions has been read, the Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for each of the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, for the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representative.	In those years where the term of the following members of the Executive will end, on the second day of the Annual Convention at the time after the results of the election of Officers have been announced, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall present the nominations for the positions of: • Small Community Representative; • Electoral Area Representative; • Vancouver Metro Area Representative; • Urban Community Representative; and • the five positions of Director at Large. After the Chair's report on these positions has been read, the Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for each of the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, Urban Community Representative, and the five positions of Director at Large.	Outlines the nomination process for positions with two-year terms. Includes the Urban Community Representative in the nominations process.
4.(h)	If, at the close of nominations: only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Small Community Representative, or only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Directors at at Large, only five persons stand validly nominated; or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, only	If, at the close of nominations: only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Small Community Representative, or only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Electoral Area Representative, or only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or only one person stands validly nominated	Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	two persons stand validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith declare the only candidates in each of the categories to be elected.	for the position of Urban Community Representative , or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, only five persons stand validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith declare the only candidates in each of the categories to be elected.	Representative, once the number of positions changes from two to one.
4.(i)	If, at the close of nominations, more than one person stands validly nominated for the positions of Small Communities Representative, Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, more than five persons stand validly nominated, or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives more than two persons stand validly nominated , the Chair shall cause an election to be held.	If, at the close of nominations, more than one person stands validly nominated for the positions of Small Communities Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, Urban Community Representative , or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, more than five persons stand validly nominated, the Chair shall cause an election to be held.	Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area Representative, once the number of positions changes from two to one.
5.(a)	If, at the close of nominations, more than one candidate stands validly nominated for each position of the Officers, and for the position of Small Community Representative, and for the position of Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, more than five such candidates stand, or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, more than two candidates stand, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall cause elections to be held as may be required.	[Strike the section.]	Existing section 5.(a) duplicates existing section 4.(i). It is proposed to strike section 5.(a) to reduce redundancy.
5.(b)	The election of Officers shall be held on the afternoon of the first day and the morning of the second day of the Annual Convention.	[Renumber to section 5.(a) .]	Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
5.(c)	The election of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five positions of Director at Large, and the two positions of Vancouver Metro Area Representative shall be held on the afternoon of the second day and the morning of the third day of the Annual Convention.	The election of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, Urban Community Representative, and the five positions of Director at Large, shall be held on the afternoon of the second day and the morning of the third day of the Annual Convention. [Renumber to section 5.(b).]	Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area Representative. Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.
5.(d)	If any election is to be held, ballots shall be prepared and distributed. In the case of an election for Officer positions, one ballot shall be used. In the case of elections for Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, individual ballots shall be used for each category. The names of the candidates shall be listed alphabetically in order of surnames on the ballots, and shall show only the candidates' names, official positions, municipality, regional district or other member affiliation and Area Association. Before any ballot is taken, any person nominated may decline or withdraw their name by giving two hours' notice thereof prior to the start of the election.	If any election is to be held, ballots shall be prepared and distributed. In the case of an election for Officer positions, one ballot shall be used. In the case of elections for Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, Urban Community Representative, and the five positions of Director at Large, individual ballots shall be used for each category. The names of the candidates shall be listed alphabetically in order of surnames on the ballots, and shall show only the candidates' names, official positions, municipality, regional district or other member affiliation and Area Association. Before any ballot is taken, any person nominated may decline or withdraw their name by giving two hours' notice thereof prior to the start of the election. [Renumber to section 5.(c).]	Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area Representative. Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.
5.(e)	Scrutineers shall be appointed by the President and it shall be among the duties of such Scrutineers to count the votes, or verify the votes,	Scrutineers shall be appointed by the President and it shall be among the duties of such Scrutineers to count the votes, or verify the votes,	Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	or both, on such ballots and declare the result of such elections to the Chair of the Nominating Committee who shall report the results of the elections to the Convention. In the case of a ballot vote being held for the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives , all ballots marked for more than the number to be elected shall be counted as spoiled ballots.	or both, on such ballots and declare the result of such elections to the Chair of the Nominating Committee who shall report the results of the elections to the Convention. In the case of a ballot vote being held for the five positions of Director at Large, all ballots marked for more than the number to be elected shall be counted as spoiled ballots. [Renumber to section 5.(d) .]	Metro Area Representative, once the number of positions changes from two to one. Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.
5.(f)	All elected representatives from members who are present at the Convention shall be entitled to vote for Directors at Large. Only representatives from Small Communities and members who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Small Community Representative. Only representatives from Electoral Areas who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Electoral Area Representative and only representatives of the GVRD and the delegates from its member Municipalities may vote for Vancouver Metro Area Representative. No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed.	Elected representatives from members who are present at the Convention shall be entitled to vote in elections for Executive positions. All elected representatives from members who are present at the Convention shall be entitled to vote for Officers and Directors at Large. Only elected representatives from Small Community members who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Small Community Representative. Only elected representatives from electoral areas of regional district members who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Electoral Area Representative. Only elected representatives of the following members : • GVRD • member municipalities or First Nations of the GVRD who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Vancouver Metro Area Representative. Only elected representatives from Urban Community members who are present at the	Clarifies eligibility to vote in elections for Executive positions. Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area Representative. Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
		Convention shall vote for the Urban Community Representative. No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed. [Renumber to section 5.(e).]	
5.(g)	In the event that the result of election for the position of any Officer of the Union, Small Community Representative or Electoral Area Representative cannot be declared because of an equality of votes between two or more persons receiving the greatest number of votes, then the Chair shall hold a run-off election amongst those persons who received equal votes. In the case of an election for the position of Vancouver Metro Area Representative, the Chair shall declare elected the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes. If a candidate cannot be elected because of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Chair shall hold a runoff election for the positions remaining undeclared in which the only candidates shall be the unsuccessful candidates in the original election who do not withdraw. In the case of an election for office as Director at Large, the Chair shall declare elected the five candidates who received the highest number of votes, provided that if a candidate cannot be declared elected because of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Chair shall hold a run-off election for the positions remaining undeclared in which the only candidates shall be the unsuccessful candidates in the	In the event that the result of election for the position of any Officer of the Union, Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, Vancouver Metro Area Representative, or Urban Community Representative cannot be declared because of an equality of votes between two or more persons receiving the greatest number of votes, then the Chair shall hold a run-off election amongst those persons who received equal votes. In the case of an election for office as Director at Large, the Chair shall declare elected the five candidates who received the highest number of votes, provided that if a candidate cannot be declared elected because of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Chair shall hold a run-off election for the positions remaining undeclared in which the only candidates shall be the unsuccessful candidates in the original election who do not withdraw. [Renumber to section 5.(f).]	Includes the Urban Community Representative in the elections process. Clarifies the elections process for Vancouver Metro Area Representative, once the number of positions changes from two to one. Renumber in accordance with striking section 5.(a) above.

Section	Current	Proposed	Purpose
	original election who do not withdraw.		

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 – SR3

Section SR



SR1 Reinstatement of Community Housing Fund

UBCM Executive

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has imposed housing targets on municipalities, including expectations for affordable below-market units;

And whereas the Province has indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, its primary capital program for non-market and affordable rental housing, thereby stalling shovel-ready projects, stranding pre-development investments by non-profit societies and local governments, and worsening housing pressures for renters, working families, seniors, and employers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to reinstate the Community Housing Fund, providing funding to support cancelled or stalled projects, and predictable, ongoing capital funding to support the delivery of non-market and affordable housing;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province to align housing target orders with the availability of provincial housing funding, and to refrain from penalizing municipalities for unmet targets arising from the suspension or withdrawal of provincial funding, or from other factors beyond municipal control.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide, and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities (2025-NR20, 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).

UBCM membership has also consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable, allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments to support growth and complete communities, and to recognize the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current fiscal 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).

Finally, membership endorsed Special Resolutions 2024-SR2 and 2025-SR5, which asked that the Province provide long-term, predictable, allocation-based funding to support the expansion and operation of local government infrastructure services needed to accommodate provincially mandated housing growth, as well as several other resolutions seeking better alignment between housing targets and funding for infrastructure, housing, and services (2025-NR30, 2025-NR20, 2025-NR29).

See resolutions RR1, RR2, RR3, RR4, RR5

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution to consolidate recent UBCM resolutions and advocacy concerning the pausing of the Community Housing Fund (CHF) and the resulting impacts on the ability of municipalities to meet provincially mandated housing targets.

In Budget 2026, the Province indicated that it would slow delivery of its housing commitments and reallocate \$1.4 billion from its housing strategy. Following further inquiry, UBCM learned that part of this reallocation would come from the Community Housing Fund, resulting in the cancellation of the current intake and the indefinite postponement of future intakes. This decision came as the Province continues to implement its housing targets program, including through guidelines that set expectations for affordable below-market units in municipalities subject to housing target orders.

In 2025, UBCM collaborated with the BC Urban Mayors' Caucus to examine gaps in provincial housing delivery and funding, and the associated cost implications for local governments (<https://www.ubcm.ca/about-ubcm/latest-news/ubcm-bcunc-calling-bc-prioritize-supportive-housing>). The resulting survey found that, in the absence of sufficient provincial funding, local governments are increasingly incurring significant costs to respond to homelessness, including costs related to shelter and housing provision. This project also highlighted the scale of below-market housing expected under provincial housing target guidelines. Among the 13 caucus member municipalities assigned housing targets, the provincial guidelines recommend 30,974 below-market rental units, including 2,374 supportive rental units.

More broadly, local governments are increasingly providing services that have historically fallen within provincial and federal jurisdiction. Members care deeply about their communities and have felt compelled to help address service gaps in areas ranging from emergency medical response to subsidized housing and community health services. This support carries significant financial costs and diverts property tax revenues away from core local government services.

UBCM Policy Position

This resolution is consistent with existing policy calling for increased long-term, predictable funding for affordable housing, as well as for the amenities and infrastructure needed to support mandated densification and housing targets.

Current Status

UBCM continues to advocate for provincial investments in areas of provincial responsibility to support mandated housing targets and densification.

Conference decision: _____



Community Safety

SR2 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Program

UBCM Executive

Whereas the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports (FCFS) program is administered by UBCM to provide critical funding to First Nations and local governments for FireSmart planning and mitigation activities that reduce community wildfire risk;

And whereas, due to a lack of funding, the FCFS program transitioned to a competitive, adjudicated intake which creates uncertainty and reduces local governments' ability to sustain ongoing wildfire risk reduction capacity;

And whereas communities throughout British Columbia rely on FCFS funding to deliver local wildfire risk reduction initiatives, and funding instability, reduction and uncertainty creates downstream impacts on staffing retention and multi-year planning that undermines the continuity and effectiveness of local wildfire risk reduction efforts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to reinstate stable, predictable, long-term funding for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program sufficient to support ongoing local

FireSmart staffing and mitigation operations, and to ensure communities can plan and implement multi-year wildfire risk reduction initiatives.

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 reinstate stable, predictable, long-term funding for the UBCM FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program sufficient to support ongoing local FireSmart staffing and mitigation operations, and to ensure communities can plan and implement multi-year wildfire risk reduction initiatives.

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 (2025-EB23, 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).

See resolutions RR7, RR8, RR9

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing this Special Resolution forward to consolidate recent resolutions and advocacy and to amplify the message of the critical nature of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (FCFS) that many local governments have sent directly to the Province in the past months.

The FCFS Supports program provides funding to First Nations and local governments in BC to increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire. The program was initiated in 2018, with the first funding intake in 2019, as a replacement for the previous Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative.

To date, 132 First Nations and 148 local governments have received funding through the FCFS. The Province has provided over \$175 million for this program since 2018.

The FCFS program closed in January 2026 due to a lack of funding. To ensure a fair process for administering the remaining funds available, the program reopened in February 2026 with a competitive adjudicated grant process. This intake closed on April 30 and applications are under review. Decisions are expected in July. In addition to the shift to an adjudicated funding model, several other changes were made to assist the management of the remaining funds, including:

- fuel management and impacts from wildfire are no longer funded;*
- eligible FireSmart activities were modified; and*
- all funding requests are limited to one-year projects.*

While the impact on communities will vary, most local government and First Nation-run FireSmart programs depend on this funding and will likely be reduced or discontinued without the FCFS program. In addition, as the program supports local capacity building through the employment of FireSmart Coordinators, it is likely that many of these positions will be discontinued when current funding expires.

UBCM Policy Position

There is a lengthy history of resolutions calling for sustainable funding for wildfire risk reduction activities. However the current lack of funding for the program and the subsequent program cut-backs are emerging issues and, as such, there is no policy directed related to the current issue of the winddown of the FCFS program.

The UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for long-term, predictable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery: 2025-EB23, 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.

Current Status

The future of the program after the closed intake is unknown at this time. The Province has signalled the desire to undertake an engagement process regarding wildfire mitigation funding but no details have been provided.

Since the changes were announced, UBCM has written to the Premier to request consideration of continued funding for the program. UBCM is aware that numerous local governments have written to the Minister of Forests as well asking for a reinstatement of funding. Although Budget 2026 committed \$15 million to the program, this is likely to provide short term funding only.

Conference decision: _____



Selected Issues

SR3 Non-Disclosure Agreements

UBCM Executive

Whereas the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* establish a legislated commitment for the Province to consult with local governments on matters that directly affect communities and local government responsibilities;

And whereas local governments are essential partners in delivering services, implementing provincial priorities, and ensuring policies are informed by local knowledge and community needs;

And whereas early, open, and meaningful engagement with local governments improves policy development, strengthens implementation, and reduces the risk of unintended consequences;

And whereas the increasing use of broad non-disclosure agreements (NDA) during provincial consultation processes, including at the policy development stage, can limit open dialogue and diminish trust between the Province and local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province to restrict the use of non-disclosure agreements in consultations with local governments to exceptional circumstances where confidentiality is demonstrably necessary, to promote transparency and respect for local governments, informed decision-making, and effective policy outcomes.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution specifically requesting stronger local government engagement through the restricted use of non-disclosure agreements (NDA).

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB87 which sought to achieve the same outcome of stronger local government engagement. That resolution asked the provincial government

to review and improve its consultation processes with local governments, particularly for legislative and regulatory changes that affect municipalities. The goal was to strengthen engagement, increase transparency, and enable more timely and effective information sharing between the province, local governments, and other stakeholders.

Background

The UBCM Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution in response to ongoing member and UBCM concerns regarding the use of non-disclosure agreements in the development of provincial policy, regulation and legislation.

Over the past several years, the Province has increasingly required the use of non-disclosure agreements in the early development of provincial policy, regulation and legislation. Rather than restricting NDAs to the review of draft legislation or regulation following extensive local government consultation and input, they have been introduced in policy concept stage discussions along with aggressive consultation timelines.

The widespread use of the NDAs across all ministries has limited the ability of local governments to provide meaningful input in a transparent manner respectful of local government decision-making processes and jurisdiction. UBCM, and local governments, have communicated the value of early transparent engagement to the Province as necessary to respect local governments as an order of government and partner with the Province, to mitigate the risk of unintended consequences, and strengthen local support for, and trust in, the Province's legislative agenda.

The broad use of NDAs has prompted UBCM to withhold the signing of NDA's during the development of legislation, such as the Infrastructure Project Act and the Heritage Conservation Act, as well as call for the withdrawal or pause on draft legislation. The UBCM Executive has also directly advocated for a change in the use of NDAs during its annual Advocacy Days. It recently called for a directive from the Premier's office to issue guidelines that would limit the use of NDAs except for the review of draft legislation and regulation following fulsome consultation.

The Province is currently implementing a local government awareness project in the public service through the Minister of State for Local Government. The initiative is designed to raise awareness of the value of proper consultation with local governments along with the approach and timelines for meaningful engagement.

This special resolution seeks to formalize UBCM and member concerns on the broad use of NDAs as well as advance UBCM's advocacy positions on proper engagement and consultation with local governments as an order of government and provincial partner.

UBCM Policy Position

This resolution is consistent with existing policy that calls for stronger engagement and consultation with local governments to ensure that the membership's interests are reflected in provincial policy, regulatory, and legislative development.

Current Status

UBCM continues to identify the challenges of using non-disclosure agreements in Executive discussions with the Minister of State for Local Government, in senior staff discussions with the Province, and Executive advocacy at the Legislature.

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 – EB38

Section EB



Health and Social Development

EB1 Reaffirming Provincial Commitment to the Expansion of \$10/Day Port Coquitlam **Child Care in BC**

Whereas the expansion of the \$10/day child care program has provided meaningful financial relief to families across British Columbia while increasing workforce participation, particularly for women and young families struggling with the rising cost of living;

And whereas municipalities are increasingly being called upon to support growing communities through investments in housing, infrastructure, recreation, and family services, and affordable child care remains a foundational component of healthy and economically resilient communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to reaffirm its commitment to the continued expansion of the \$10/day child care program without pause or delay through accelerated efforts to create additional licensed child care spaces through planning in partnership with local governments, school districts, and community providers, with a focus on ensuring equitable access for families in rapidly growing communities.

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 reaffirm its commitment to the continued expansion of the \$10/day child care program without pause or delay through accelerated efforts to create additional licensed child care spaces through planning in partnership with local governments, school districts, and community providers, with a focus on ensuring equitable access for families in rapidly growing communities.

As part of Budget 2026, the \$10/day child care program was paused for the next 3 years. There will not be any new enrollments into the initiative, and no further expansion of spaces.

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). In particular, resolution 2023-NR1 addresses the \$10/day child care program, noting that demand for \$10/day care outstrips supply.

Conference decision: _____

EB2 Long term Care Beds Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas since 2016 the number of people waiting to be admitted to long-term care has increased by 200% and the provincial average wait time to access such care has grown by 98% over the past eight years;

And whereas a lack of, or prolonged waiting times to access, long-term care can have significant negative impacts on patients, their families and health care professionals/caregivers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to increase the number of long-term care beds in the province.



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 more long-term care beds in BC, including:

- *2024-EB13 which asked, in part, that the Province increase investment in publicly owned and operated and not-for-profit long-term care facilities; and*
- *2021-EB65 which asked the Province to increase the number of care beds in rural communities to allow seniors to age in place.*

Conference decision: _____

EB3 Health Authority Asset Plans

New Denver

Whereas Regional Hospital District taxation is intended to support the long-term sustainability of health care facilities and major medical equipment;

And whereas the absence of standardized asset management planning by health authorities creates uncertainty about the condition, replacement timelines, and funding priorities for major health care infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia require health authorities to prepare and maintain asset management plans for major facilities and equipment as a condition of receiving funding from Regional Hospital Districts.



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 2019-B201 which called on the Ministry of Health undertake asset management plans for all of the health authorities in the province. However, given that the 2019 resolution is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block.

Conference decision: _____

EB4 Restoration of Critical Capital Projects in Healthcare and Housing

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the Government of British Columbia has revised its capital budget, resulting in the pausing, deferral, or cancellation of previously approved capital projects;

And whereas the cancellation or delay of these projects will worsen pressures on the healthcare system and housing availability across communities in British Columbia;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to reconsider its 2026 budget and restore funding and timelines for healthcare and BC Housing projects that have been paused, deferred, or cancelled;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide a clear and transparent plan, including timelines, for the reinstatement and completion of these projects.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to ~~reconsider its 2026 budget~~ and restore funding and timelines for healthcare and BC Housing projects that have been paused, deferred, or cancelled;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide a clear and transparent plan, including timelines, for the reinstatement and completion of these projects.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to reconsider its 2026 budget and restore funding and timelines for healthcare and BC Housing projects that have been paused, deferred, or cancelled. Nor that the Province provide a clear and transparent plan, including timelines, for the reinstatement and completion of these projects.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported a variety of resolutions seeking more funding for healthcare, including:

- *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);*
- *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);*
- *Increasing funding and innovative service and support models for rural and remote health care delivery (2025-NR4, 2025-NR6, 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);*
- *Seeking capital infrastructure cost sharing formula of 60% from the Province and 40% from the Regional Hospital Districts (2024-SR1, 2023-NR11, 2021-EB64, 2018-B50, 2018-B144, 2017-B39, 2016-B114, 2014-B35, 2011-B58, 2009-B150, 2008-B129, 2007-B184); and*
- *Addressing transportation challenges faced by medical patients in rural and remote areas to access healthcare (2024-EB10, 2020-EB75, 2018-B16, 2014-B9, 2012-B38).*

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, to in part, address homelessness (2025-NR20, 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).

The 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).

The Committee is proposing an amendment to remove the request to reconsider the 2026 budget, as the budget will likely be passed before the start of the UBCM Convention.

Conference decision: _____



EB5 BC Housing Data Transparency Fort St. John

Whereas BC Housing’s planning, operation, and management of affordable and supportive housing directly influence local governments’ ability to plan for housing supply, infrastructure, and community services;

And whereas limited access to timely, community level data, including vacancy rates, operational pressures, and annual priorities, impedes effective local planning and coordinated responses to housing needs and future developments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government and BC Housing to improve transparency by regularly providing local governments with community level housing data, including vacancy rates and annual plans outlining goals, targets, and challenges.

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 and BC Housing to improve transparency by regularly providing local governments with community level housing data, including vacancy rates and annual plans outlining goals, targets, and challenges.

However UBCM, through the 2018 Housing Strategy, has encouraged an evidence-based approach to decision making, in part through improved data collection, development and sharing.

In addition, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141), as well as resolutions focused on coordination and enhanced communication pertaining to homelessness specifically (2025-SR1, 2021-EB72).

See resolutions NR6, NR8

Conference decision: _____

EB6 Supportive Housing Residential Tenancy Act Amendments Duncan

Whereas supportive housing plays a critical role in providing safe and stable housing and supports for vulnerable people;

And whereas supportive housing currently falls under the *Residential Tenancy Act*, amendments are required for clarity on the role and enforceability of Good Neighbour Agreements to ensure supportive housing providers have the appropriate tools to address urgent safety concerns while continuing to uphold tenant rights, procedural fairness, and human-rights obligations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to ensure supportive housing operators have clear, proportionate, and transparent authority to enforce Good Neighbour Agreements in a manner focused on safety of residents and staff, early intervention, housing stability, and positive relationships with neighbouring communities.



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 asking the Province to amend the Residential Tenancy Act to ensure supportive housing operators have clear, proportionate, and transparent authority to enforce Good Neighbour Agreements in a manner focused on safety of residents and staff, early intervention, housing stability, and positive relationships with neighbouring communities.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2025-NR19 asking 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.

The Committee also 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 (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Conference decision: _____

EB7 BC Code Application for Temporary Emergency Shelters

Trail

Whereas extreme weather events are increasing across British Columbia, creating an urgent need for temporary emergency warming centres and shelters to protect vulnerable individuals; and emergency warming centres are temporary, short-term but urgent responses typically operated in existing community buildings and rely heavily on non-profit organizations, staff, and volunteers to operate safely during emergency conditions;

And whereas the British Columbia Building Code and British Columbia Fire Code are intended to operate as coordinated companion documents, and provincial guidance confirms flexibility exists to allow temporary emergency sheltering through exemptions and site-specific fire safety planning, while maintaining public safety; and in the absence of clear and consistent provincial direction, inconsistent interpretation of the codes has placed frontline operators and volunteers in untenable positions, increased personal and organizational liability, and in some cases prevented rural communities from opening emergency warming centres during life-threatening weather:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia, through the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs and the Office of the Fire Commissioner, provide clear, practical, and consistent guidance

on the application of the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code for temporary emergency warming centres and shelters that can be safely implemented through site specific fire safety plans and risk mitigation measures.



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 seeking clear, practical, and consistent guidance on the application of the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code for temporary emergency warming centres and shelters that can be safely implemented through site specific fire safety plans and risk mitigation measures.

However the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions that asked the Province to provide funding for, and work with local governments, to open extreme weather response shelters and warming and cooling centers (2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR28, 2022-EB11, 2021-EB73, 2012-B94).

See resolutions NR4, NR5

Conference decision: _____



Community Safety

EB8 Property and Public Disorder Intervention Initiative

Duncan

Whereas existing bail, sentencing, and justice system responses have not deterred repeat property crime and public disorder offences, leading to ongoing negative impacts to residents, businesses, and perceptions of safety and business stability;

And whereas cross-sector intervention programs that combine accountability with timely access to health, housing, and social supports that address the underlying drivers including mental health, substance use, trauma, and housing insecurity, may be more effective in reducing recidivism and improving community safety:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to implement the Chronic Property and Public Disorder Intervention Initiative province-wide.



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 implement the Chronic Property and Public Disorder Intervention Initiative province-wide.

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:

- stronger sentencing guidelines and bail reforms for repeat offenders (2025-EB32);
- using GPS monitoring of repeat offenders, guidance for local governments, and exempting local governments from full public safety costs associated with repeat offenders released on bail (2025-NR56);
- consideration for public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes “the public interest” with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36);
- weightier consequences and greater accountability for repeat offenders (2022-NR37);
- 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
- ensuring that prolific offenders are “sentenced effectively,” and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54).

The Chronic Property and Public Disorder Offending Intervention Initiative (C-POII) was announced by the provincial government in December 2025, initially operating in Kelowna, Nanaimo and Nelson. It is similar to the Province’s Repeat Violent Offending Intervention Initiative, which provides a coordinate intervention in cases involving repeat violent offenders. The C-POII concentrates on repeat offenders of property crime and public disorder.

On June 22, 2026, the Province announced an expansion of the C-POII, launching 12 regional hubs throughout BC.

Conference decision: _____

EB9 Policing Costs

Mission

Whereas local governments’ policing costs are rapidly increasing and their ability to generate revenue remains limited and creates challenges funding other mandated local government responsibilities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial and federal governments arrange a meeting with local government representatives to examine a more sustainable shared policing model.



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 seeking various changes related to funding of police services, including:

- 2025-SR2 which seeks for the Province and federal government to directly involve UBCM and BC local governments and consider local priorities as part of the process to negotiate new RCMP police service agreements;
- 2025-EB28 which calls on the Province to develop a new RCMP funding framework that includes a more gradual cost-share rate increase than currently exists;
- 2025-EB30 and 2024-NR40 which calls on the Province to develop an equitable police funding model for all BC local governments that considers financial capacity, population size and police service demands in each jurisdiction;
- 2024-NR41 which seeks for the Province to increase the 5,000 person RCMP cost-share population threshold to 10,000 as part of work to develop a new shared police funding model;
- 2024-NR42 which calls on the Province to develop a new RCMP funding framework that gradually increases the cost-share rate at various population intervals;

- 2023-NR34 which calls on FCM and the provincial and federal governments to work together to add new cost-share population thresholds to the RCMP police service agreements;
- 2022-NR33 which seeks for the Province to unilaterally develop a new RCMP funding model for small communities that includes one additional cost-share population threshold, at 10,000 in population;
- 2020-EB5 which sought for the Province to establish a gradual cost increase for local governments that surpass the 5,000 person population threshold and choose to contract for the provision of RCMP police services; and
- 2020-NR7 which requests that the Province review the current RCMP police funding model with the intent to make police services more affordable for local governments.

Through discussion with the sponsor, it is understood that the intent of the proposed resolution is for the provincial and federal governments to consider a more sustainable shared police funding model for all BC local governments, including those policed by the RCMP and those with independent police agencies. This resolution is unique because it does not pertain only to RCMP-policed communities, and it does not include any parameters for a new cost-sharing model (e.g. financial capacity, population size, policing demands).

Conference decision: _____

EB10 Additional Resource Allocation for BC Crown Counsel

Prince George

Whereas BC Crown Counsel plays a critical role in ensuring the fair, timely, and effective administration of justice across the province;

And whereas insufficient staffing levels, workload pressures, and resource limitations within BC Crown Counsel services have resulted in delays, increased adjournments, burnout risk among prosecutors, and challenges ensuring timely access to justice for victims, accused persons, and communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province to allocate additional and sustained funding, staffing, and operational resources to the BC Crown Counsel Service to ensure it can adequately meet current and future demands within the justice system.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B60, which asked the Province to increase the number of Crown Counsel to adequate levels to meet demand. However, given that the 2018 resolution is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block. Furthermore, the availability of Crown Counsel has a direct impact on the administration of justice and the protective services that are paid for by local governments.

The Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking increased judicial resources and improved court capacity (2021-EB11, 2018-B89, 2012-B2, 2011-B9, 2009-B2).

Conference decision: _____

EB11 Provincial Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund

Parksville

Whereas volunteer and composite fire departments across British Columbia provide essential emergency services to local, often rural and remote communities and often rely on local government budgets to meet provincially required training standards;

And whereas members of volunteer departments frequently pursue paid full time firefighting positions elsewhere in the province, creating a mobility dynamic that benefits the provincial emergency system but places training costs on local taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM respectfully request that the Government of British Columbia:

- (i) Establish a Provincial Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund to cover the cost of provincially mandated training for volunteer and composite fire departments across the Province; and
- (ii) Encourage sustainable cost sharing options whereby the Province covers a baseline percentage of training costs and local governments contribute a predictable matching share.



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 Provincial Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund to cover the cost of provincially mandated training for volunteer and composite fire departments across the Province; and, to provide sustainable cost sharing options whereby the Province covers a baseline percentage of training costs and local governments contribute a predictable matching share.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed several resolutions seeking additional funding for firefighting, most recently including:

- *2019-B26 which asked the Province to develop an efficient and effective program to provide capital funding for rural and municipal fire departments;*
- *2019-B27 which asked for provincial funding support to help fund staffing, compliance with standards, and capital costs of British Columbia fire departments;*
- *2019-B95 which asked that independent fire, fire brigade or fire cache societies be allowed to apply directly for provincially administered emergency preparedness funding programs for training and capital requirements;*
- *2019-B126 and 2018-B64 which asked to utilize gas tax funding for volunteer or paid on-call fire departments to assist with annual operating costs associated with purchase and maintenance of capital infrastructure and equipment, training, and the administration of the emergency firefighting response services;*
- *2018-B22 which asked the Province to fund rural and First Nations fire brigades and fire departments for emergency training, equipment and response capacity to address urban interface wildfires; and*
- *2018-B20 which asked the Province to set up a program to provide ongoing funding to all volunteer fire departments to assist in the annual operating costs associated with purchase and maintenance of capital infrastructure and equipment, training, and administration of the fire service.*

The Committee also advises that, since 2019, the Province of BC has provided funding for training and equipment for volunteer and composite fire departments through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. However, the last intake for this program was in 2025 and there are currently no additional funds available to continue the program.

Conference decision: _____



EB12 Local Government Climate Action Funding

New Westminster

Whereas the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions 2026/27–2028/29 Service Plan does not include renewed funding for the Local Government Climate Action Program, despite increasing climate-related impacts such as wildfire, flooding and extreme weather affecting communities across British Columbia;

And whereas stable, ongoing, and non-competitive funding since 2009 through the Local Government Climate Action Program and its predecessor, the Climate Action Rebate Incentive Program, has enabled communities such as the City of New Westminster to directly advance emissions-reduction infrastructure and climate resilience projects that enhance life safety and maintain essential services, contributing to measurable progress toward provincial greenhouse gas reduction targets and improved resilience:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to immediately renew and continue direct to local government climate action funding as a long-term, predictable and non-competitive program at funding levels no less than current levels.

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 for the Province to renew and continue direct to local government climate action funding as a long-term, predictable and non-competitive program at funding levels no less than current levels.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a Special Resolution 2021-SR1 which asked the Province to develop a Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) replacement program. The Local Government Climate Action Program was established in 2022 as the Province's replacement for CARIP. Program funding was renewed for 2024-27, but additional funding was not identified after this period in the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions 2026/27-2028/29 Service Plan.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed numerous resolutions proposing policies and actions to mitigate the effects of climate change, as well as requesting funding for local governments to continue undertaking climate action plans and projects. These resolutions include: 2025-EB46, 2024-NR23, 2024-NR56, 2023-EB31, 2023-NR46, 2022-NR38, 2021-EB35, 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 and 2010-B140.

See resolutions RR10, RR11, RR12, RR13

Conference decision: _____

EB13 Building Energy Regulations and Rural Infrastructure Readiness

Burns Lake

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has introduced phased improvements to building energy efficiency requirements through the BC Energy Step Code and related amendments to the BC Building Code in support of CleanBC objectives and the transition toward net-zero energy-ready new construction by 2032;

And whereas rural and northern communities experience significantly different climate conditions, infrastructure capacity, and energy system realities than larger urban centres, including longer heating seasons, limited

electrical grid capacity and redundancy, and a continued reliance on reliable and diverse energy systems to support residential, commercial, and industrial buildings:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure that future building energy regulations, implementation timelines, and related policies recognize regional infrastructure capacity, climate conditions, and energy system reliability considerations in rural and northern communities, and that these policies be developed in consultation with rural and northern local governments.



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 that asks the Province to ensure that future building energy regulations, implementation timelines, and related policies recognize regional infrastructure capacity, climate conditions, and energy system reliability considerations in rural and northern communities, and that these policies be developed in consultation with rural and northern local governments.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits and equipment upgrades to buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2024-NR24, 2023-EB20, 2020-NR73, 2020-EB87, 2019-B152), particularly in northern areas (2025-EB50).

Conference decision: _____

EB14 Brownfield Redevelopment Strategy

Fort St. John

Whereas many communities across British Columbia face ongoing challenges with contaminated, abandoned, vacant, or underutilized brownfield sites that limit housing supply, economic development, and efficient land use, and impose significant financial and administrative burdens on local governments;

And whereas while British Columbia has established contaminated sites legislation and regulatory processes, local governments lack access to a coordinated provincial strategy and practical financial, fiscal, and risk management tools to support the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a comprehensive provincial brownfield redevelopment strategy that builds upon existing regulatory frameworks and provides local governments with practical and accessible tools to support the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites across the province.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to develop and implement a comprehensive provincial brownfield redevelopment strategy that builds upon existing regulatory frameworks and provides local governments with practical and accessible tools to support the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB57 which called on the Province to reassess its contaminated sites legislation to alleviate the negative economic impacts for small scale commercial redevelopment and provide more options for economic development opportunities on these properties.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the provincial government to create, or empower local governments to create, a separate tax class or sub-class for brownfield sites to incentivize remediation (2020-EB46, 2019-B41, 2018-B25, 2017-B21, 2016-B104).

The Committee further notes that the membership has supported several older resolutions related to brownfield sites which focused on expediting the remediation of contaminated properties (2013-B33, 2012-B26, 2011-B99, 2008-B33, 2007-B29, 2007-B70).

Conference decision: _____

EB15 Continuation of the Bear Smart Program

Port Moody

Whereas the Provincial Government of British Columbia halted the processing of Bear Smart Community Program applications in late 2025;

And whereas the responsibility to manage human-bear conflicts rests with all stakeholders and requires participation from the BC government, municipal governments, and local citizens to be successful:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Provincial Government of British Columbia to reactivate the Bear Smart Program, including the reinstitution of staff and funding to expand and administer the program.

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 reactivate the Bear Smart Program, including the reinstitution of staff and funding to expand and administer the program.

However, the Committee notes that the 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 (2025-EB35, 2025-NR78, 2024-EB52, 2021-NR38, 2018-B36, 2017-B29, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2013-B27, 2013-B73, 2012-B21, 2012-B72, 2010-B25).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions specifically addressing bears and seeking to improve Bear Smart programs and to reduce bear-human conflict (2013-B73, 2012-B21, 2004-B81). The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

See resolution RR14

Conference decision: _____

EB16 Invasive Plant Concerns

Cariboo RD

Whereas many Cattlemen's Associations in Central BC have expressed their strong concern of the widespread, rapid takeover of invasive weeds in our communities, roadsides, Ranches, Range and Crown lands;

And whereas these Cattlemen's Association's and many others in BC, confirm that the weeds are interfering and choking out agricultural production of much needed feed for animals and humans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the province in addressing aggressive support for eliminating and mitigating more of these invasive plant species that are destroying agricultural lands.



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 not previously considered a resolution urging the Province to address aggressive support for eliminating and mitigating more of these invasive plant species that are destroying agricultural lands.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has previously supported resolutions urging increased funding and resources to mitigate the spread of invasive scotch broom, specifically (2025-EB39, 2023-NR51).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions urging the Province to restrict the sale of invasive weeds (2023-EB34, 2023-EB35).

Conference decision: _____

EB17 Spongy Moth Eradication Programs and Community Consultation Delta

Whereas the Province of British Columbia conducts aerial spraying programs to eradicate spongy moth populations and prevent the establishment of this invasive species;

And whereas residents of affected communities have expressed concerns regarding aerial spraying over residential neighbourhoods and have requested greater consultation, improved public communication, and consideration of alternative treatment methods:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to reform its spongy moth eradication program by requiring early consultation with affected local governments, enhancing public communication with residents, and prioritizing viable alternatives to aerial spraying over residential neighbourhoods where practicable.

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 asking the Province to reform its spongy moth eradication program by requiring early consultation with affected local governments, enhancing public communication with residents, and prioritizing viable alternatives to aerial spraying over residential neighbourhoods where practicable.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2004-B74 which asked the provincial and federal governments to fund rigorous and comprehensive pre- and post-spraying inventory and monitoring programs to assess the affects of BTK spraying (to address gypsy moths) on non-target species in Garry Oak ecosystems. The Committee acknowledges that this is a dated reference.

Conference decision: _____



Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

EB18 Treaty Negotiations

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas the recent BC Supreme Court decision in *Cowichan Tribes v. Canada*, 2025 BCSC 1490 has created significant uncertainty for residents, businesses, and local governments across BC, setting precedents with broad implications while highlighting the absence of modern agreements that clarify and confirm BC's Indigenous Peoples Aboriginal and treaty rights;

And whereas local governments were not involved in the negotiations preceding the court decision, leaving their interests unaddressed;

And whereas modern treaties that clarify and confirm these rights would benefit all communities in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to pursue the completion of modern treaties with BC's Indigenous Peoples that clarify and confirm their treaty and Aboriginal rights;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to commit to consulting affected local governments on draft agreements that might impact the delivery of municipal services, the jurisdictions, authorities and/or interests of local governments, prior to the Province of BC considering the ratification of these modern agreements or treaties so that local government interests can be considered and addressed appropriately.



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 pursue the completion of modern treaties with BC's Indigenous Peoples that clarify and confirm their treaty and Aboriginal rights. Nor has the membership considered the second request that local governments be consulted prior to the ratification of modern treaties or agreements.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing local government consultation in relation to treaty negotiations, including:

- *2016-B91 which asked treaty negotiators and the governments of British Columbia and Canada to commit to: a) Increased openness and transparency in all treaty negotiations; and b) Timely, meaningful consultation with all affected third parties;*
- *2007-B60 which asked the Province, in part, to ensure that there is meaningful consultation with affected local governments from the outset of any initiative to transfer provincial lands to First Nations; and*
- *2002-B66 which asked the Province to establish a meaningful and effective process for the sharing of information between local governments, negotiators, and aboriginal communities.*

The Committee acknowledges that some of these references are dated.

Conference decision: _____

EB19 Transparency in Indigenous Negotiations

Pouce Coupe

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada are engaged in important ongoing discussions and negotiations with First Nations regarding Indigenous title and land governance arrangements that may affect lands within the jurisdiction of municipalities and regional districts;

And whereas recent developments, including the recognition of Indigenous title in the Cowichan region have occurred with limited prior notice or consultation with affected local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to establish a transparency framework for Indigenous title and related negotiations that includes timely information sharing and consultation with affected local governments.



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 2016-B91 which asked the treaty negotiators and the governments of British Columbia and Canada to commit to: a) Increased openness and transparency in all treaty negotiations; and b) Timely, meaningful consultation with all affected third parties. However, given that the 2016 resolution is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block.

The membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to establish a meaningful and effective process for the sharing of information between local governments, negotiators, and Indigenous communities (2002-B66), and ensure that there is meaningful consultation with affected local governments from the outset of any initiative to transfer provincial lands to First Nations (2007-B60). The Committee acknowledges that these references are dated.

See resolution NR42

Conference decision: _____

EB20 Creating an Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sector Housing Alliance

Chilliwack

Whereas the lack of safe, adequate, and affordable housing remains a foundational barrier to progress on persistent health, public safety, and social challenges across British Columbia, and siloed approaches across the health, justice, social, and housing sectors have limited the effectiveness of interventions addressing complex, interrelated social issues, with Indigenous peoples being 13 times more likely than non-Indigenous people to experience homelessness, with 40 to 80% of those experiencing homelessness in municipalities across British Columbia being Indigenous;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia and UBCM renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (2021) committing the Province to communicate with UBCM and local governments on key Indigenous issues as an extension of its unanimous adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2019), which lists 89 actions, 24 of which either impact housing or should be considered in the context of housing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province to establish an 'Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance' composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation;

And be it further resolved that the mandate of this alliance includes the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and

public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

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 establish an ‘Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance’ composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation, and that the mandate of this alliance include the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in all communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2025-EB16, 2025-EB123, 2025-NR17, 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).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed other resolutions that address housing, including Indigenous housing, such as:

- *2025-NR17 which calls 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;*
- *2025-NR123 which calls on the Province to establish a provincial housing policy roundtable with representation from local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, non-profit and private housing sectors, academic experts, and both provincial and federal housing ministries; and*
- *2018-B149 which calls on the Province to recognize and treat Indigenous people equitably in provincial policies, programs and funding initiatives that are tied to root causes of inequities and improved social determinants of health including housing, access and connection to culture, education and training, child and family services, and income generation.*

See resolutions RR16, RR17

Conference decision: _____



EB21 Revenue Sharing of PST and GST with Local Governments Barriere

Whereas local governments across British Columbia face significant infrastructure deficits, with many municipalities and electoral areas unable to meet these needs through property taxation alone;

And whereas many infrastructure funding programs require local governments to compete through application-based grant processes that are unpredictable, resource-intensive, and often resemble a lottery system that creates winners and losers while diverting valuable staff capacity at both local and provincial levels;

And whereas reliance on competitive, application-driven funding programs creates uncertainty in long-term financial planning and delays critical infrastructure, fire smarting, and community resilience projects, while predictable and sustained funding would enable local governments to plan responsibly, deliver infrastructure upgrades more efficiently, and reduce overall costs to taxpayers;

And whereas in other jurisdictions, such as the United States, local governments retain a share of sales tax revenue, providing a stable funding source for community infrastructure and services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to establish a revenue-sharing model that allocates a portion of Provincial Sales Tax (PST) and Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues collected within municipal boundaries and electoral areas directly back to local governments;

And be it further resolved that this revenue stream be designed to gradually reduce reliance on competitive, application-based infrastructure grant programs, replacing a portion of those programs with predictable, sustained funding, while not affecting statutory or annually allocated grants currently provided to local governments.

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 and federal governments to establish a revenue-sharing model that allocates a portion of Provincial Sales Tax (PST) and Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues collected within municipal boundaries and electoral areas directly back to local governments. Nor has the membership considered the second ask that this revenue stream be designed to gradually reduce reliance on competitive, application-based infrastructure grant programs, replacing a portion of those programs with predictable, sustained funding, while not affecting statutory or annually allocated grants currently provided to local governments.

Infrastructure Funding

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 (2025-SR5, 2024-SR2, 2024-NR22, 2024-RR26, 2024-RR27, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB34, 2022-EB49, 2021 Policy Paper on Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

Revenue Sharing

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions asking the Province to share one percent of the PST with local governments to provide steady and predictable revenue for local governments (2020-EB34 and 2012-B11).

The Committee also notes that that membership has supported resolutions asking for local government to receive a share of other taxation revenues, including:

- Cannabis Taxation Revenue (2022-NR30, 2022-EB32, 2020-SR2, 2019-A2, 2018-SR1, 2017-SR1,

2016-A3);

- Fuel Tax (2021-EB20, 2013-B99, 2012-B19, 2010-B24, 2007-B21, 2007-A5);
- Liquor Tax (2019-B31, 2014-B60, 2011-B26); and
- Property Transfer Tax (2021-EB20, 2019-B30, 2017-B17, 2012-B18, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23).

The Resolutions Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to create revenue sharing programs as a way of establishing new revenue sources for local governments (2021 Policy Paper on Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency, 2015-B82, 2011-B28, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2010-B24, 2010-B76, 2009-B30, 2009-LR9, 2008-B119, 2006-B24).

Conference decision: _____



Land Use

EB22 Modernize Industrial Water Rates

Lake Country

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has limited funding available for watershed protection, while water is the most critical resource that requires protection and long-term stewardship;

And whereas British Columbia currently has the lowest industrial water rates in Canada, which have not been updated in over a decade;

And whereas aligning industrial water rates with those of other provinces could generate significant new revenue, \$38 million if aligned with Saskatchewan, \$84 million if aligned with Quebec, or up to \$357 million if aligned with Nova Scotia;

And whereas this additional revenue could be directed to watershed protection, helping to address critical funding gaps during a challenging fiscal period:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to modernize industrial water rates by bringing them in line with those of other provinces and dedicate the resulting revenue to watershed protection.



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 modernize industrial water rates by bringing them in line with those of other provinces and dedicate the resulting revenue to watershed protection.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR92 which asked the Province to share a portion of natural resource royalty income to provide financial support to local watershed governance organizations.

More generally, 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, 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).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B154 which asked the Province to immediately cease the licensing and extraction of groundwater for commercial water bottling and/or bulk water exports from aquifers.

Conference decision: _____

EB23 Establishing Local Watershed Boards Across BC

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas communities in British Columbia are experiencing increasing drought, flooding, wildfire impacts, and water supply uncertainty that are contributing to infrastructure damage, rising emergency response costs, and economic disruption;

And whereas local governments are responsible for protecting drinking water and supporting housing, economic development, and climate preparedness, but lack the authority, coordinated watershed governance structures and stable resources to manage growing water security risks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to establish a provincial framework and provide stable, long-term funding for locally based watershed boards, co-developed with First Nations and local governments, to support watershed-scale planning, source water protection, and coordinated drought and flood preparedness across British Columbia.

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 establish a framework and provide stable, long-term funding for locally based watershed boards, co-developed with First Nations and local governments, to support watershed-scale planning, source water protection, and coordinated drought and flood preparedness across British Columbia.

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 (2025-NR93, 2024-NR71, 2024-EB65, 2023-EB37, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2018-B67, 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). Of note, members endorsed resolution 2018-B67 by the same sponsor, which asked the Province to recognize and support local watershed collaborative governance entities and adequately resource these entities.

Conference decision: _____

EB24 Strengthening the Administration of BC's Private Managed Forest Land Program to Protect Water, Fish Habitat and Community Confidence

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas British Columbia's Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program is intended to balance long-term forest production with the protection of water quality, fish habitat, streamside vegetation, and critical habitat; however, experience in the Cowichan Valley indicates that these environmental protections are not being realized in practice, accountability and transparency are limited, and jurisdictional gaps impede timely enforcement and remediation, undermining public confidence in the program;

And whereas local governments have documented activities on PMFL parcels—including stream and wetland alterations, culvert and pipe installations, deposit of gravel/fill, extensive land clearing of sensitive ecosystems, and delays in reforestation—while provincial enforcement has been limited, investigation records have not been shared, and the Managed Forest Council (MFC) has interpreted a wide range of activities as "Schedule A" forest

management activities that are exempt from local regulation, effectively restricting local governments from addressing impacts to water and habitat:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to implement legislative, regulatory, and administrative reforms to the Private Managed Forest Lands Program that:

1. Strengthen protection of water, fish habitat, and streamside vegetation, including clearer standards and timely reforestation requirements;
2. Clarify jurisdiction and improve coordination among provincial agencies and the MFC for compliance, enforcement, and restoration under the *Water Sustainability Act* and related statutes; and
3. Enhance accountability and transparency, including requirements for the MFC and relevant ministries to share inspection reports and compliance outcomes with affected local governments and the public, subject to FOIPPA;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province to close regulatory loopholes that allow non-forestry land uses to proceed under the guise of “Schedule A” forest management activities, to require the MFC to promptly report suspected *Water Sustainability Act* contraventions to the appropriate ministry, and to enable appropriate local government input where PMFL activities materially affect community water security, habitat, and 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 asking the Province to implement this specific combination of legislative, regulatory, and administrative reforms to the Private Managed Forest Lands Program.

However, the Committee notes that 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).

Conference decision: _____

EB25 Foreshore Lease Applications

Sicamous

Whereas the Province requires and oversees applications for foreshore specific permissions and leases for the placement and use of private moorage facilities on Crown land;

And whereas application processing timelines for these approvals have become unreasonably prolonged, creating uncertainty, hardship and economic challenges for property owners, communities and local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to immediately provide a timeline for when existing applications will be processed and commit additional resources to the administration and oversight of foreshore special permissions and leases in order to address approval backlogs, reduce processing timelines and improve responsiveness to community needs.



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 asking the Province to immediately provide a timeline for when existing applications will be processed and commit additional resources to the administration and oversight of foreshore special permissions and leases in order to address approval backlogs, reduce processing timelines and improve responsiveness to community needs.

Permitting

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

- *2025-EB55 which asked 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;*
- *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.*

Waterway Access

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2008-B115, which called on the provincial government to retain administration of water leases and licenses for all docks, to ensure control and management of its waterways and public life safety. The resolution also requested that the Province increase its staffing resources for enforcement and compliance regarding water leases and licenses for docks.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2006-B113 which asked the Province to establish policies and procedures for the purpose of transferring to local governments such public foreshore access lands as may be identified by such local governments as being desirable for public recreational foreshore access, and that such transfers be by means of free Crown grant, conversion to park dedication or alternative secure tenure option.

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing public access to lakes and rivers, including:

- *2023-NR68 which asked the Province to recognize highway access points established under provincial legislation as official public access points and that the Province maintain these sites to provide the public with access to British Columbia's lakes;*
- *2019-B200 which asked the Province to increase investments in repair and maintenance of boat launches in BC parks;*
- *2012-B99 which asked MOTI to survey and provide signs identifying public access points to the Province's lakes and rivers to confirm public access to the foreshore for recreation and emergency purposes; and*
- *2007-B137 which asked MOTI to amend its regulations to provide that rural subdivision development must include protected access to Crown lands, rivers and lakes frequented by the public.*

Conference decision: _____



Transportation

EB26 Use of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices

Langley City

Whereas the *Motor Vehicle Act* in British Columbia and associated regulations presently inhibit seniors and people with disabilities the ability to be active, independent, and engaged by prohibiting the use of electric wheelchairs and three or four wheeled personal mobility scooters on municipal bike and roll lanes and routes resulting in increased conflicts between these devices and pedestrians on sidewalks, multi-use pathways, and trails as well as motor vehicles;

And whereas the rapid growth of micro-mobility devices such as electric kick scooters and electric bikes dictates that the Province needs to regulate the use of such devices in the *Motor Vehicle Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to amend the legislation and regulations within the *Motor Vehicle Act* to permanently enshrine a new class of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices and establish consistent, province-wide standards and regulations for the use of these devices on traffic-calmed public roads and cycling infrastructure across BC.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to amend the legislation and regulations within the *Motor Vehicle Act* to ~~permanently enshrine a new class of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices and~~ establish consistent, province-wide standards and regulations for the use of ~~these devices~~ **three or four wheeled personal mobility scooters, electric kick scooters and electric bikes** on traffic-calmed public roads and cycling infrastructure across BC.

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 legislation and regulations within the *Motor Vehicle Act* to permanently enshrine a new class of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices and establish consistent, province-wide standards and regulations for the use of these devices on traffic-calmed public roads and cycling infrastructure across BC.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2022-NR59 which asked the Province to review the *Motor Vehicle Act* regulations to enable local governments to pilot the operation of a broader suite of e-mobility devices to increase the choice of active modes of transportation and improve safety for vulnerable road users.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users, including relevant amendments to the *Motor Vehicle Act* (2024-EB74, 2021-EB16, 2018-B12, 2018-B102).

The Committee is recommending an amendment to clarify the language in the enactment clause for “these devices”.

See resolution RR22

Conference decision: _____

EB27 Updates to the BC Motor Vehicle Act

Nanaimo City

Whereas communities across the Province are tasked with designing and implementing transportation options which support more affordable, accessible and sustainable forms of transportation;

And whereas the BC Active Transportation Design Guidelines issued by the Province, as well as other emerging industry best practices, establish new expectations and recommendations, some of which are not supported by the *BC Motor Vehicle Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the provincial government to update the *BC Motor Vehicle Act* and associated regulations and design guidelines to include design standards and regulation which align with the BC Active Transportation Design Guide and best practices;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government consult with municipalities as part of the update process, providing the opportunity to bring forward suggestions for additional improvements based on current challenges, community needs and public input.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to update the BC Motor Vehicle Act and associated regulations and design guidelines to include design standards and regulation which align with the BC Active Transportation Design Guide and best practices. Nor has the membership considered the second request that the Province consult with municipalities as part of the update process, providing the opportunity to bring forward suggestions for additional improvements based on current challenges, community needs and public input.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- *build active transportation options alongside provincial roads (2025-EB73, 2024-EB75, 2024-NR82, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16);*
- *more funding for active transportation (2024-NR81, 2024-NR82);*
- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57).*

See resolution NR52

Conference decision: _____

EB28 Restoring Funding for Road Safety

New Westminster

Whereas the number of road crashes in British Columbia have steadily increased over the last five years, with an average of 380 children seriously injured and 22 killed in crashes every year in BC, and vulnerable road users (people walking, cycling, rolling, and using personal mobility devices) face increased risk of serious injury or death on BC streets;

And whereas the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program, which has provided critical funding to local governments and First Nation communities and delivered tangible road safety results through investments in walking and active transportation infrastructure, has been paused for the foreseeable future:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia immediately reinstate the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program and improve it to provide stable, long-term funding to support local governments in delivering safer streets and reduced climate impacts across the province.

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 asking the Province to immediately reinstate the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program and improve it to provide stable, long-term funding to support local governments in delivering safer streets and reduced climate impacts across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- *develop and fund active transportation alongside provincial roads (2025-EB73, 2024-EB75, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16);*
- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2024-NR82, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57).*

See resolution RR23

Conference decision: _____

EB29 Provincial Responsibility for Rural Active Transportation Central Kootenay RD
Corridors

Whereas in rural British Columbia, provincially owned and maintained secondary and tertiary highways often function as the sole transportation corridors, serving motor vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, school travel, mobility-device users, and emergency access;

And whereas unlike urban municipalities, rural and electoral area governments typically do not have alternate road networks, sidewalks, or parallel routes through which to provide separate active transportation infrastructure and where no alternate corridors exist, the condition and maintenance standard of the provincial travel lane directly determines the safety and accessibility of all users;

And whereas certain maintenance practices, including the use of chip-seal surface treatments on highways without usable shoulders, can create increased risk for vulnerable road users and reduce safe multi-modal access in rural communities and provincial transportation policy commits to safety, accessibility, equity, and increased active transportation participation across British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia formally recognize that, in rural and compact communities without alternate transportation corridors, provincially owned highways function as active transportation infrastructure;

And be it further resolved that the Province review and, where necessary, adjust rural highway maintenance standards to reflect multi-modal use and ensure safe conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, mobility-device users, and other vulnerable road users and the Province collaborate with rural and regional district governments to develop practical, jurisdictionally appropriate solutions that ensure equitable transportation safety outcomes between urban and rural communities.

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 asking the Province to acknowledge that in rural and remote communities, provincial highways function as active transportation infrastructure. Nor has the membership called on the Province to adjust rural highway maintenance standards to reflect multi-modal use and ensure safe conditions for other road users and seek solutions to ensure equitable transportation safety outcomes between urban and rural communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking funding and solutions for active transportation in rural areas, including:

- *2025-EB73 which asked the Province 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; and*
- *2024-EB74 which asked the Province to prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users (including pedestrians, transit users and cyclists) in their road design standards; and to recognize the practical challenges of active transportation in rural areas and approve, fund and maintain minor road improvements that increase safety for vulnerable road users, such as paved shoulders and crosswalks.*

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2024-EB75, 2024-NR81, 2024-NR82, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57, 2012-B63, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B110, 2006-B140).*

Conference decision: _____

EB30 Improving Highway Rights of Way

Fort St. John

Whereas provincial highway rights-of-way across British Columbia are experiencing increasing growth of noxious weeds and inadequate vegetation management, which negatively affects agricultural operations, local ecosystems, road safety, and the visual appearance of communities;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia is responsible for highway maintenance through contracted service providers, and inconsistent levels of service in mowing, brush control, and noxious-weed management have resulted in preventable impacts on farmland, infrastructure, and community well-being:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to improve the maintenance of highway rights-of-way by ensuring regular vegetation management, effective noxious-weed control, and clear, enforceable service standards for provincial maintenance contractors, supported by adequate funding and oversight to protect agricultural lands, community safety, and the environment.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions addressing weed control along highways, including:

- 2013-B66 Province to assume full responsibility for the control of invasive plants on MOTI road rights of way and for maintaining adequate sweeping standards on bike lanes;
- 2004-B8 Province to immediately restore funding for brushing and mowing of all British Columbia's highway corridors;
- 2003-A9 Province to reconsider its decision to eliminate highway rights-of-way landscaping and to consult with communities to find ways of maintaining this landscaping and eliminating the fire risk; and
- 2003-B85 Trans-Canada Highway operators to implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to control noxious weed growth along the highway corridor.

The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

Given that the most recent relevant resolution from 2013 is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block.

Conference decision: _____

EB31 Ministry of Forests Binding Materials

Zeballos

Whereas many rural and remote communities rely on Forest Service Roads (FSRs) as their primary or only access routes for residents, emergency services, commercial deliveries, and essential travel;

And whereas current Ministry of Forests major maintenance programs typically exclude funding for topping materials, binding fines, and full surface stabilization necessary to maintain safe, all-weather passenger-vehicle conditions, while industrial users are not uniformly required to reinstate surfaces to that standard following haul activity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Forests include funding for topping materials, binding fines, and full surface stabilization as required components of all Forest Service Road major maintenance projects and industrial user maintenance requirements.



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 asking the Ministry of Forests to include funding for topping materials, binding fines, and full surface stabilization as required components of all Forest Service Road major maintenance projects and industrial user maintenance requirements.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed several resolutions asking the Province to identify and commit to maintaining resource roads that are essential for community access or egress, particularly during emergencies (2025-EB68, 2024-EB79, 2024-EB80, 2020-EB19, 2020-EB20, 2020-EB22).

Conference decision: _____

EB32 Off-Road Vehicle Management Framework

Sicamous

Whereas the *Off-Road Vehicle Act* (ORV) was intended to create safe and convenient incidental access to public roads and highways, better connect British Columbia's rural communities, support a first-rate ORV trail network and allow local governments to expand their trail networks to build economic development opportunities by way of tourism;

And whereas the administrative process to obtain Operation Permits as required under the ORV Act is onerous and not conducive to convenient incidental access to trail networks connecting communities because a separate operation permit must be obtained from each jurisdiction:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the *Off-Road Vehicle Act* (ORV) to require only one (1) Operation Permit for approved access to multiple jurisdictions and/or communities along a connected, designated ORV route and trail network issued in any of the jurisdictions along the route; to allow Operation Permits to be issued by any local RCMP or local government along a connected, designated ORV route; and to extend the Operation Permit term from two (2) years to five (5) years to align with the driver's licence term.



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 2019-B121 which is worded the same as the current resolution. However, given that the 2019 resolution is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block.

Conference decision: _____



Legislative

EB33 Regional Consultation for *Heritage Conservation Act* and *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Kamloops, Lytton

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are responsible for land-use planning, infrastructure, permitting, and development approvals, all of which are directly affected by provincial reconciliation policy, archaeology requirements, and the *Heritage Conservation Act* and Regulations;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and also undertaking reviews of reconciliation, archaeology, and heritage policy frameworks;

And whereas local governments are not consistently included as formal partners in policy development related to DRIPA implementation, archaeology processes, and heritage legislation, despite being responsible for implementation at the community level and for public infrastructure projects that are significantly impacted by these policies;

And whereas the current *Heritage Conservation Act* is outdated, and existing archaeology processes create uncertainty, delays, and cost impacts for local governments, Indigenous communities, and the public, which further contribute to challenges in delivering affordable development and housing in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure that elected representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*;

And be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, North Central Local Government Association, Lower Mainland Local Government Association, and Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: Endorse with Proposed Amendment

~~Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure that elected representatives of all local governments associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the Heritage Conservation Act.~~

~~And be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, North Central Local Government Association, Lower Mainland Local Government Association, and Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments.~~

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of DRIPA, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the Heritage Conservation Act.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2023-EB72 calling on BC to provide clarification, support and involvement for local governments regarding the expectations of local governments in advancing reconciliation and UNDRIP when fulfilling their statutory obligations.

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-A4 calling on BC to provide clarity to local governments regarding implementation of UNDRIP and delineating local government responsibilities in relation to the implementation of these processes after full consultation with local governments.

The Committee is proposing an amendment to include all local governments in BC, rather than just local government associations. The amendment will also remove the second enactment clause.

See resolutions RR25, RR26, RR27

Conference decision: _____



Assessment

EB34 Fair Property Taxation through Accurate BC Assessment Classifications Ucluelet

Whereas BC Assessment property classifications do not always reflect actual property use, creating unequal tax burdens on other property owners; and this misalignment undermines municipalities' ability to ensure fair and sustainable funding for local services;

And whereas current tools available to municipalities to address these inconsistencies are limited and reactive, leaving taxpayers and councils without meaningful recourse:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to provide municipalities with stronger authority and practical tools to review, challenge, and correct property classifications, ensuring equitable taxation and a fair distribution of local fiscal responsibility.



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 resolutions seeking increased municipal authorities for the determination and application of property classifications and valuations. Relevant resolutions endorsed by the membership include:

- *2025-NR109 improve the accuracy of assessed properties, particularly in areas of BC with few to no BC Assessment offices;*
- *2025-EB82 mechanism to address factual discrepancies and the application of revisions to valuations in the assessment roll;*
- *2024-EB90 new assessment classification for vacant residential lands;*
- *2024-EB91 classification of short terms rentals as a new property class or as Class 6 Business and Other; and*
- *2021-NR24 review the BC Assessment property assessment appeals framework and process to minimize the impacts to local governments finances.*

The sponsor provided the following context for this resolution:

“The rationale for modernization would provide municipalities with stronger authority to: 1. Ensure property taxation reflects actual property use. 2. Promote equitable distribution of the tax burden. 3. Improve predictability and fairness of municipal revenue. 4. Support municipalities in budgeting and funding essential local services sustainably. 5. Reduce administrative delays and increase transparency for taxpayers.

Stronger tools could include:

- *Authority to request accelerated reviews of potentially misclassified properties.*
- *Ability to challenge classifications with municipal-submitted evidence.*
- *Greater municipal input into BC Assessment appeals processes.”*

Conference decision: _____

EB35 Engagement on Pipeline Valuation Changes

Abbotsford

Whereas in December 2025, the Province directed BC Assessment to postpone implementation of significant changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines, which would have resulted in substantial shifts in the tax burden from pipeline operators to residential and business property classes, creating financial impacts for local governments;

And whereas local governments rely on stable, predictable assessment practices for long-term financial planning, and any future changes to regulated rate property valuation methodologies (particularly within the Utilities Tax Class), will have province-wide implications for local government taxation, budgeting, and equity among property classes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to direct BC Assessment to undertake a robust and fulsome engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM, prior to advancing any future changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines or other major regulated utility properties, including sufficient notice, clear disclosure of financial impacts, and opportunities for local government input before decisions are finalized.



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 BC Assessment to undertake a robust and fulsome engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM, prior to advancing any future changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines or other major regulated utility properties, including sufficient notice, clear disclosure of financial impacts, and opportunities for local government input before decisions are finalized.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

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).

In April 2026, the UBCM Executive wrote to the Minister of Finance as minister responsible for BC Assessment and to the Chair of BC Assessment expressing concern with the process followed on the Utilities and Major Industry Valuation Methodology Review as it failed to recognize the role of local government. UBCM requested that BC Assessment and the Ministry of Finance partner with UBCM and engage with local governments on the development of updates to valuation methodologies and provincial tax policy for real property.

Conference decision: _____



Community Economic Development

EB36 Raw Log Exports

Nanaimo City

Whereas the lack of adequate and affordable fiber supply has been identified as a key factor in the continued curtailment or permanent closure of BC's sawmills and pulp mills, causing loss of employment and tax income for resource-based and resource-dependent communities;

And whereas from 2.8 to 3.5 million cubic meters of raw logs have been exported from BC annually over the last five years, in addition to lumber cant exports not included in those statistics:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government and federal governments to ban the export of raw logs and lumber cants from BC to ensure that forests harvested in BC from crown land and private managed forest lands are processed in BC, encouraging value-added manufacturing in BC and supporting employment in BC's forest industry, and that BC mills are supported in a transition to utilize a full spectrum of marketable tree species.

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-B46, which called on the Province to prohibit raw log export from British Columbia without provincial wood processing needs and capacity being evaluated and met.

The Committee further notes that 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 (2024-EB95, 2024-EB96, 2024-NR94, 2023-NR88, 2021-SR2, 2020-EB66, 2019-B156, 2018-B43, 2017-B36, 2018-B46, 2016-B32, 2016-B42).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to combat the decline in the supply of fibre available to mills (2025-EB83, 2025-EB84, 2025-NR110, 2024-EB97, 2024-NR94, 2021-EB51, 2020-EB66, 2015-LR2).

Conference decision: _____

EB37 Electrical Reliability and Capacity in Rural Communities

McBride

Whereas rural communities require reliable and adequate electrical infrastructure to support economic development, industrial growth, and population stability;

And whereas the Village of McBride continues to experience concerns related to power reliability, limited capacity, and lack of three-phase power infrastructure, which constrains industrial development and long-term economic growth:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government and BC Hydro to prioritize investments in rural electrical infrastructure, including improvements to reliability, expansion of transmission capacity, development of electrical substations, and completion of transmission loops to enable three-phase power and increased power availability.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions seeking the extension of electrical power infrastructure to specific areas of the province that are currently underserved or not presently serviced (2020-EB71, 2012-B36, 2012-B86, 2008-B45, 2004-B25, 2002-Energy Policy paper). However, given that the most recent relevant resolution from 2020 is more than five years old, the Committee is recommending inclusion in the Endorse Block. The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

Conference decision: _____



Selected Issues

EB38 Consistent Correspondence Response

Zeballos

Whereas local governments regularly correspond with provincial ministries on matters that directly impact service delivery to residents;

And whereas inconsistent and delayed responses from provincial ministries can hinder effective decision-making, delay projects, and create uncertainty for local governments, stakeholders, and the public, even in cases where acknowledgment or interim updates could help manage expectations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia establish standardized service expectations for ministries regarding response timelines to local government correspondence, including timely acknowledgements, clear points of contact, and regular status updates when full responses require additional time.

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 establish standardized service expectations for ministries regarding response timelines to local government correspondence, including timely acknowledgments, clear points of contact, and regular status updates when full responses require additional time.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions addressing provincial staffing and associated wait times, 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;*
- *2024-NR99 (Executive endorsed) which asked the Province to modernize call for service systems by implementing a variety of contact channels, including digital interfaces, and establish service level expectations amongst the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agricultural Land Commission, and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support customer service; and*
- *2021-EB30 and 2017-B64 both 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: _____

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 – NR71

Section NR



Health and Social Development

NR1 Brain Injury Supports

Revelstoke

Whereas acquired brain injury is highly prevalent among people experiencing homelessness, substance use, repeated overdose, and involvement with emergency and justice systems, yet remains significantly under-diagnosed and under-supported in British Columbia;

And whereas untreated and unsupported brain injury contributes to housing instability, repeated emergency service use, and increased pressures on policing, fire, health, and shelter services, creating ongoing costs and impacts for local governments across the province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish consistent, long-term provincial funding for community-based acquired brain injury supports as part of the Province's response to homelessness, mental health and substance use, and public safety, recognizing these supports as a cost-effective means of reducing downstream pressures on health, housing, justice, and municipal emergency services.



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 establish consistent, long-term provincial funding for community-based acquired brain injury supports as part of the Province's response to homelessness, mental health and substance use, and public safety, recognizing these supports as a cost-effective means of reducing downstream pressures on health, housing, justice, and municipal emergency services.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR5 in support of a private member's Bill C-277- National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act.

By contrast, the membership considered but did not endorse resolutions 2021-NR52 and 2019-B204 which asked the provincial government to change the name of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to the Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Addictions; and to create a national strategy for acquired brain injury with adequate funding.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking action and funding from the Province to address:

Health Care

- *resource and strengthen Primary Care Networks, Clinics and Health Centres (2023-EB7, 2022-EB15, 2022-NR6, 2021-EB63, 2016-B44);*
- *recruitment and retention of medical practitioners (2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162); and*
- *additional resources for health care in rural and remote communities in BC (2023-SR1).*

Mental Health Care

- *improve resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (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).*

Housing

- *provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2023-EB11, 2023-NR21, 2022-EB24, 2022-EB25, 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, 2004-B128);*
- *improve shelter aid for elderly renters (SAFER) (2023-EB16, 2022-EB28, 2013-E53);*
- *review provincial 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);*
- *request that the Province invest in a new supportive housing model, along with an integrated approach to housing supports and regional health services (2020-EB80); request for increased funding levels from the Province to BC Housing in order to mandate and assure that community outreach services and the stability of an adequately skilled staff are components of supportive housing developments that are vital in local communities (2020-EB82); and*
- *ensure all forms of social services (mental health services, addiction services, social assistance services, employment services, etc.) also referred to as “wrap-around services” are available to individuals housed in homeless housing at the housing site or within a short walking distance (2019-B68).*

Criminal Rehabilitation / Public Safety

- *crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67, 2005-B3);*
- *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);*
- *improve capacity in the provincial court system by funding, province-wide, coordinated and collaborative alternatives to the court system (2021-EB11);*
- *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);*
- *ensure prolific offenders are “sentenced effectively,” and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54);*
- *amend or create laws or policies that will prohibit offenders labeled high risk, following their release from prison, from residing in the community or the vicinity of the community where they committed their crime(s) (2007-A2);*
- *escalate sentences for chronic offenders as part of a national integrated crime reduction strategy that also seeks to re-emphasize the protection of society and the responsibility of individuals for their criminal behaviour (2007-B89); and*
- *change the law with respect to “repeat offenders,” including conditions around release into the community, treatment programs and rehabilitation benchmarks (2006-B137).*

Conference decision: _____

NR2 Provincial Support for Rural Emergency and Safety Needs

Trail

Whereas British Columbia continues to face a prolonged toxic drug and overdose crisis that drives escalating emergency response demands and complex social impacts, with rural communities experiencing

disproportionate strain due to limited local healthcare capacity and reduced access to treatment, mental health, and supportive services;

And whereas rural host communities carrying regional hospitals and centralized health and social services bear significantly higher volumes of drug-related incidents and associated municipal costs, including overtime, staffing pressures, emergency response, sanitation, hazardous waste management, and environmental remediation, despite smaller tax bases and limited capacity, creating inequitable burdens across rural British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia establish a sustainable, province-wide funding model that offsets the disproportionate emergency-response, public-safety, and sanitation costs borne by rural host communities responding to overdose and toxic-drug-related impacts, ensuring these expenses are not borne solely by local taxpayers.



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 while the UBCM membership has endorsed several related resolutions, the membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting a funding program specifically for rural host communities experiencing a disproportionate share of emergency and public safety costs.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several related resolutions, including:

- *calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-NR3, 2024-NR4, 2023-SR3, 2023-EB1, 2022-SR3, 2021-NR44, 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). In particular, 2022-SR3 called for funding and staff for security, clean-up, and social services at harm reduction locations and surrounding neighbourhoods in BC communities, as well as a share of the \$150 million settlement from Purdue Pharma Canada to local governments to help cover the costs associated with the opioid and overdose crisis, such as police, fire and bylaw departments; and*
- *seeking crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67).*

Conference decision: _____



Housing

**NR3 Policy Exemption to Permit HEARTH Program Funding for
Recovery-Based Housing**

Duncan

Whereas the Homelessness Encampment Action Response Temporary Housing (HEARTH) program funds low barrier emergency housing, shelter options, and immediate coordinated supports to help people in encampments or sheltering in public spaces to move indoors and access temporary or permanent housing options that fit their needs;

And whereas recovery-oriented housing plays a critical role supporting people post-recovery, can be easier to locate in neighbourhoods, is less costly to operate, and can free up low barrier supportive housing spaces for people that require this specific type of housing:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to make policy amendments to enable HEARTH program funding to be used to establish recovery-oriented housing sites in communities where there is data to support this need and low barrier housing options already exist.

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 make policy amendments to enable HEARTH program funding to be used to establish recovery-oriented housing sites in communities where there is data to support this need and low barrier housing options already exist.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported numerous 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 (2025-SR1, 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).

The membership has also endorsed a balanced approach to support services that includes support for shelters for those individuals needing to be sheltered in a safe, clean and sober environment (2020-SR10) and in low-barrier programs (2018-B142).

Conference decision: _____

NR4 Emergency Weather Shelter Flexibility During Extreme Events

Fernie

Whereas during extreme weather events, communities across British Columbia (BC) face a humanitarian crisis related to homelessness, and while temporary emergency overnight shelters are a critical life-saving response, current BC Building Code and Fire Code requirements and the lack of clear provincial authority and liability protection can prevent or result in the closure of short-term emergency shelters despite alternative life-safety measures being in place:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province to establish a provincial emergency exemption framework for emergency overnight shelters during declared extreme weather events, where unanimous municipal council approval is provided by resolution; and the shelter operates on a temporary, emergency basis only.

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 provincial emergency exemption framework for emergency overnight shelters during declared extreme weather events, where unanimous municipal council approval is provided by resolution; and the shelter operates on a temporary, emergency basis only.

However the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions that asked the Province to provide funding for, and work with local governments, to open extreme weather response shelters and warming and cooling centers (2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR28, 2022-EB11, 2021-EB73, 2012-B94).

The Committee cautions that without appropriate safeguards, the proposed approach may open local governments to increased liability. The Committee would also note that a requirement for unanimous council approval is not an approach that has been employed for other council decisions and would require additional clarity in order to effectively operationalize.

See resolution EB7

Conference decision: _____

NR5 Conversion of Extreme Weather Response Shelters

Kitimat

Whereas the Government of British Columbia through BC Housing funds temporary, community-based emergency shelter spaces for individuals experiencing homelessness during severe winter weather, typically from October 15 to April 15;

And whereas residents of the temporary shelters are displaced once the temporary shelters are shut down annually:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province and BC Housing for an end to Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelters and to convert existing EWR shelters to year-round shelters.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that while the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province and BC Housing to end to Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelters and to convert existing EWR shelters to year-round shelters, the membership has supported policy calling for increased shelter space and resourcing generally (2025-SR1, 2024-EB24, 2024-NR28, 2020-SR10).

Nonetheless, the Committee notes that there are likely to be circumstances in which EWR shelters will continue to be needed, and that existing policy emphasizes this need (2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR28, 2022-EB11, 2021-EB73, 2012-B94). It is also likely that some EWR shelters may not be suitable for use as long-term shelters.

See resolution EB7

Conference decision: _____

NR6 Provision of Short-Term Rental Legislation Data

Vernon

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has enacted strengthened short-term rental (STR) legislation with the stated objectives of reducing housing speculation, increasing long-term rental supply, and improving housing affordability;

And whereas local governments are responsible for long-range land use planning, housing needs assessments, infrastructure investment, and many municipalities provide their communities with economic development, and tourism management, all of which rely on accurate, localized housing and accommodation data;

And whereas the absence of transparent outcome-based reporting makes it difficult for local governments to evaluate any unintended consequences that affect community sustainability and economic resilience requiring imminent action:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to provide local governments with clear, consistent, and verifiable data to evaluate the local impacts of provincial short-term rental legislation, along with the tools needed to confirm outcomes and mitigate unintended consequences.



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 provide municipalities with clear, consistent, and verifiable data to evaluate the local impacts of provincial short-term rental legislation, along with the tools needed to confirm outcomes and mitigate unintended consequences.

UBCM, through the 2018 Housing Strategy, has however encouraged an evidence-based approach to decision making, in part through improved data collection, development and sharing. In addition, the Joint UBCM-Province Advisory Group on Short-Term Rentals acknowledged in 2021 that “Local governments need data on short-term rentals that allows them to understand STR [short-term rental] activity in their community, develop bylaws or policies to support community objectives, and enforce those bylaws or policies”.

See resolution EB5

Conference decision: _____

NR7 Simplifying Federal Tax Reporting for Small-Scale Residential Rentals Nelson

Whereas it is possible for homeowners to rent out a room or secondary suite within their primary residence on a long-term basis, which can help make existing housing supply available to meet local housing needs, and under current Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requirements homeowners must track detailed receipts, apportion household expenses, and comply with small-business accounting practices;

And whereas the administrative burden associated with these CRA reporting requirements can discourage homeowners from offering or maintaining long-term rental accommodation within their primary residence:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency to simplify tax reporting requirements for long-term rental of a room or secondary suite within a primary residence, including consideration of a simplified reporting method or standard deduction option, while maintaining existing CRA classification rules and preserving the authority of local governments to regulate use, licensing, and zoning separately from federal tax reporting requirements.



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 UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking that the Government of Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency to simplify tax reporting requirements for long-term rental of a room or secondary suite within a primary residence.

The Committee also advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2025-NR35 which asked 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.

However, the Committee notes that the 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.

The membership has also 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.

Finally, the membership 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: _____

NR8 Provision of Data Concerning the Speculation and Vacancy Tax Vernon

Whereas the Province of British Columbia implemented the Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT) with the stated objective of increasing long-term rental supply and improving housing availability for British Columbians;

And whereas the Province has publicly stated that approximately 20,000 homes province-wide have been returned to the long-term rental market as a result of the SVT;

And whereas despite the implementation of the SVT, many communities continue to experience persistently low rental vacancy rates and/or rising rental costs;

And whereas municipal governments require clear, verifiable, and community-level data in order to assess the effectiveness of provincial housing policies and to inform local land-use, housing, and affordability strategies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to provide municipalities with clear, transparent, and verifiable data regarding long-term rental outcomes attributed to the Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT), including the methodology used to collect and interpret the data, the total SVT revenue collected within each community, and a detailed accounting of how much of that revenue has been reinvested locally in both affordable and supportive housing.



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 provide municipalities with clear, transparent, and verifiable data regarding long-term rental outcomes attributed to the Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT), including the methodology used to collect and interpret the data, the total SVT revenue collected within each community, and a detailed accounting of how much of that revenue has been reinvested locally in both affordable and supportive housing.

UBCM, through the 2018 Housing Strategy, has however encouraged an evidence-based approach to decision making, in part through improved data collection, development and sharing.

See resolution EB5

Conference decision: _____

NR9 Provincial Standards for Unconventional Housing

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas local governments across British Columbia are responding to increased use of unconventional housing forms, including recreational vehicles, park model trailers, moveable tiny homes, and similar units used for long-term occupancy;

And whereas these housing forms do not fit neatly within existing regulatory and servicing frameworks designed for conventional permanent dwellings, creating uncertainty for residents, property owners, local governments, and other regulators;

And whereas provincial housing objectives cannot be achieved through land use permissions alone, as water, wastewater, electrical servicing, fire access, roads, environmental protection, and infrastructure capacity must also be addressed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop clear and flexible servicing standards, implementation guidance, and funding programs to support the safe and appropriate use of unconventional housing forms, including recreational vehicles, park model trailers, moveable tiny homes, and similar units used for long-term occupancy;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide local governments with the tools and guidance necessary to consider these housing forms across diverse community contexts, including rural, remote, unincorporated, individual, shared, and clustered housing settings.

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 develop clear and flexible servicing standards, implementation guidance, and funding programs to support the safe and appropriate use of unconventional housing forms, including recreational vehicles, park model trailers, moveable tiny homes, and similar units used for long-term occupancy. Nor has the membership considered that the Province provide local governments with the tools and guidance necessary to consider these housing forms across diverse community contexts, including rural, remote, unincorporated, individual, shared, and clustered housing settings.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2025-NR40 which asked 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.

The Committee also notes that the membership supported resolution 2022-NR21 which sought 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.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2022-NR22 which asked the Province to recognize that Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are used for year-round living, including the development of guidelines for best practices for ensuring health and safety for the use of RVs for year-round living, and for their inclusion within the BC Housing Action Plan.

Conference decision: _____

NR10 Protection of Manufactured Home Communities

Sooke

Whereas manufactured home communities contribute to housing diversity in communities across British Columbia and provide an important source of affordable home ownership to people on fixed incomes, aging in place, or starting in the housing market, but that homeowners are uniquely vulnerable to displacement and insecurity due to renting the land their homes sit on;

And whereas existing provincial legislation, including the *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act*, does not consistently provide homeowners sufficient protections to ensure fair compensation, adequate relocation assistance, or transparent communication for homeowners affected by eviction, closure or redevelopment, leading to their relying on a varying patchwork of local government policies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia work with local governments, homeowners, and industry stakeholders, to review and strengthen the legislative framework governing manufactured home communities with a new and updated Act to better protect homeowners facing eviction, closure or redevelopment;

And be it further resolved that such a review establish consistent provincial standards for fair compensation, relocation assistance, and communication requirements to reduce displacement impacts and support housing stability for current and future manufactured homeowners.

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 review and strengthen the legislative framework governing manufactured home parks/communities with a new and updated Act to reflect current realities and future possibilities that better protect homeowners facing eviction, closure or redevelopment.

However, the Committee notes that the membership supported two resolutions seeking increased compensation and assistance in the relocation process for displaced manufactured home park tenants (2008-B52, 2006-A2).

Conference decision: _____

NR11 Recreational Vehicle Tenant Protection

Langley Township

Whereas as a result of British Columbia's worsening cost-of-living crisis, more people are finding the most affordable home in which to reside is a recreational vehicle (RV) which are only permitted to remain on-location at RV parks for a short period of time, in most cases a maximum of 6-months, and have no permanent structures or fixtures;

And whereas RV owners are not able to sign tenancy agreements with their landlords, only License to Occupy agreements, which do not afford them the same protections or rights as they would be entitled to under the *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act* and only the Province of British Columbia has the authority to create any legal protection for these RV owners during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to examine policy changes to provide rental protection to long-term RV-based tenants in RV and Mobile Home Parks across 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 examine policy changes to provide rental protection to long-term RV-based tenants in RV and Mobile Home Parks across British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions addressing smaller residential homes such as RVs and tiny homes, including:

- *2025-NR40 which sought, in part, 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;*
- *2022-NR21 which sought to recognize, allow and provide building requirements for tiny homes, and that the Province should incorporate these changes into Part 9 of the BC Building Code that would define tiny houses as allowable permanent dwellings, and thus permit them to be constructed where local government official community plans and zoning bylaws deem them appropriate;*
- *2022-NR22 which sought that the Province recognize that Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are used for year-round living, including the development of guidelines for best practices for ensuring health and safety for the use of RVs for year-round living; and*
- *2022-NR64 which sought, in part, the creation of emergency or ad-hoc housing or shelter with on site supports as a short-term use, and including tiny homes, navigation centres, portables, and/or modular housing.*

Conference decision: _____

NR12 Scaling Building Code Requirements

Nanaimo RD

Whereas small residential homes (under 1000 ft²/93 m²) are an important part of British Columbia's affordable housing supply and provide entry-level, workforce, and downsizing options for residents in communities of all sizes, and are relied on in rural and remote areas of BC as a primary form of affordable housing;

And whereas energy performance and seismic requirements in the BC Building Code are similar across residential building sizes and do not reflect relative risk or provide the same benefits to small homes compared to larger and multi-storey homes, and result in disproportionately increased construction costs for small homes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada engage a qualified, independent third party to undertake a cost-benefit review of the Building Code's impacts on affordability, safety, and energy efficiency for single-storey residential homes and accessory buildings under 1000 ft²/93 m² and investigate the potential for a simplified rural building standard/alternative compliance pathway for small homes under 1000 ft²/93 m² that meets safety, climate, and seismic resilience requirements in a less complex and therefore more affordable way, while still ensuring safety.

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 provincial and federal governments to engage a qualified, independent third party to undertake a cost-benefit review of the Building Code's impacts on affordability, safety, and energy efficiency for single-storey residential homes and accessory buildings under 1000 ft²/93 m² and investigate the potential for a simplified rural building standard/alternative compliance pathway for small homes under 1000 ft²/93 m² that meets safety,

climate, and seismic resilience requirements in a less complex and therefore more affordable way, while still ensuring safety.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions addressing smaller residential homes, including:

- 2025-NR40 which sought, in part, 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;
- 2022-NR21 which sought to recognize, allow and provide building requirements for tiny homes, and that the Province should incorporate these changes into Part 9 of the BC Building Code that would define tiny houses as allowable permanent dwellings, and thus permit them to be constructed where local government official community plans and zoning bylaws deem them appropriate;
- 2022-NR22 which sought that the Province recognize that Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are used for year-round living, including the development of guidelines for best practices for ensuring health and safety for the use of RVs for year-round living; and
- 2022-NR64 which sought, in part, the creation of emergency or ad-hoc housing or shelter with on site supports as a short-term use, and including tiny homes, navigation centres, portables, and/or modular housing.

Conference decision: _____

NR13 Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Grant Benefit

**Bulkley-Nechako RD,
Prince Rupert**

Whereas the Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit was repealed effective January 1, 2027;

And whereas the repeal of this benefit further diminishes the purchasing power of homeowners in accessing services and supporting daily life thereby impacting housing, health, social and economic well-being of all northern and rural communities;

And whereas northern and rural communities face recruitment and retention challenges to support healthy, socially and economically resilient communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province to reinstate the Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit effective January 1, 2027.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to reinstate the Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit effective January 1, 2027.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported other resolutions seeking amendments to the Home Owner Grant (HOG) program, including:

- 2022-NR20 which asked to increase the additional HOG to reflect the actual school tax charged on the property where the school tax is higher than the home owner grant;
- 2008-B98 which asked to amend the Home Owner Grant Act to allow all senior property owners to claim the full additional HOG;
- 2008-B99 which asked to amend the HOG program to include criteria for the next two years (up from one year) following a fire or natural disaster; and

- 2007-B111 and 2004-A9 which asked to adjust or remove the upper limit assessed value ceiling for HOG.

The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

See resolution RR6

Conference decision: _____



Community Safety

NR14 Expand Emergency Management Climate Readiness Funding Programs for Emergency Response

Rossland

Whereas extended power outages increasingly affect rural and remote communities due to severe weather events, including windstorms and winter storms, which are increasing in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change;

And whereas reliable access to warm, safe, and accessible community spaces during extended power outages is critical for public safety, particularly for vulnerable populations including seniors, families with young children, people with disabilities, and residents without secondary heat sources;

And whereas current provincial Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) funding programs do not provide support for the activation and operation of warming or emergency community centres during power outages unless a secondary disaster trigger is present:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to expand Emergency Management Climate Readiness (EMCR) policies and funding programs to support the activation, operation, and resourcing of warming and emergency community centres in rural and remote communities during extended power outages, including events that occur outside of existing temperature thresholds or without a secondary disaster trigger.



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 amend its policies and funding programs to support the activation, operation, and resourcing of warming and emergency community centres in rural and remote communities during extended power outages, including events that occur outside of existing temperature thresholds or without a secondary disaster trigger.

The Committee notes that BC Housing operates three types of shelters in BC: Year-Round Shelters, Temporary Shelters (including Temporary Winter Shelters), and Extreme Weather Response (EWR) Shelters.

In addition, the Committee notes that most local governments provide emergency support services, including reception centres, group lodging and other supports for evacuees or those displaced from their homes due to emergency events. Depending on the circumstances, Emergency Support Services (ESS) can be provided due to extended power outages.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that while the membership has considered resolutions pertaining to opening extreme weather response shelters, as well as warming and cooling centres, the sponsor's request is unique from recently endorsed resolutions.

Conference decision: _____

NR15 Public Safety Power Shutoff

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas FortisBC's Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) will enable the utility to pre-emptively shut down electricity to an area during extreme weather conditions;

And whereas residents in rural areas may face risks associated with prolonged power outages, including extreme temperatures, a lack of well water, the loss of perishable food, and no access to communication systems:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask FortisBC and BC Hydro to communicate their plans to local governments around the mitigation of potential risks to residents should the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) be implemented.



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 FortisBC and BC Hydro to communicate their plans to local governments around the mitigation of potential risks to residents should the Public Safety Power Shutoff be implemented.

The Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) policy applies in areas of BC with the highest wildfire risk. A PSPS event is a safety measure whereby power is temporarily shut off as a means to reduce potential ignition sources when there is extreme wildfire risk to an area.

Upon contacting FortisBC, they indicated that "...local governments are notified at the time a PSPS event is initiated. FortisBC takes enhanced measures to directly notify registered vulnerable customers and other critical infrastructure within the affected area, including local government and emergency services."

Conference decision: _____

NR16 FireSmart Long-Term Funding for Community Wildfire Response Groups

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is experiencing increased wildfire risk due to rising temperatures and drought associated with climate change;

And whereas an increasing number of community-based wildfire protection and response groups have formed, particularly in rural, remote, and unprotected areas outside established fire protection boundaries, to support FireSmart objectives, safeguard communities, and assist the BC Wildfire Service when requested or directed, and these groups require appropriate training (including, but not limited to, S-100 and S-185) and reliable funding to operate safely and effectively:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia, Community Wildfire Roundtables, and other relevant partners to establish a reliable, long-term funding program to support training for community wildfire response groups as part of FireSmart implementation and broader community wildfire 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 calling on the Province to establish a reliable, long-term funding program to support training for community wildfire response groups as part of FireSmart implementation and broader community wildfire resilience.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed 2025-NR46 that called on the Province to assume full responsibility of wildfire response efforts in areas outside of fire protection zones, with recognition of operational capacities of regional districts and 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.

In 2024-2025, UBCM administered a pilot program to support Cooperative Community Wildfire Response (CCWR) Organizations through funding to regional districts. This program did not continue beyond the pilot phase, however, eligible training for CCWR organizations was added to the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

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 (2025-EB23, 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: _____

NR17 Indigenous-Led Fibre Recovery for Wildfire Reduction

Williams Lake

Whereas British Columbia is experiencing increasingly severe wildfires that pose significant risks to public safety, public health, critical infrastructure, and local government finances;

And whereas extensive areas of fire-killed and weakened forest represent a known and ongoing wildfire hazard that, when left untreated, increases wildfire intensity, smoke impacts, suppression costs, and risks to nearby communities and infrastructure;

And whereas proactive removal of hazardous standing fuel prior to ignition is a cost-effective wildfire risk-reduction measure that improves firefighter safety and reduces long-term public liabilities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish stable, multi-year funding programs for Indigenous-led fire-killed fibre recovery and land rehabilitation as a core wildfire risk-reduction and public safety measure.

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 establish stable, multi-year funding programs for Indigenous-led fire-killed fibre recovery and land rehabilitation as a core wildfire risk-reduction and public safety measure.

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, 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).

The Committee further notes that recent amendments to the Forest Act and Forest and Fibre Range Practices Act, including the addition of new salvage licences, may serve to increase BC's fibre supply.

Upon speaking with the sponsor, the Committee can report that this resolution was created in consultation with Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd. This joint venture company was formed by several First Nations in the Chilcotin region, and focuses on large-scale forest rehabilitation initiatives.

Conference decision: _____

NR18 Provincial Diking Reform

Merritt

Whereas provincial legislation requires local governments to conduct and report on annual dike inspections, and most local governments must contract this work at high cost to taxpayers due to a lack of certified staff;

And whereas there is a significant need for dike maintenance and construction, yet a clear gap exists in both technical expertise and sustainable funding models which contribute to delays and construction setbacks that leave local governments vulnerable:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to commit to stable flood and drought funding with predictable intake programs like the Disaster Resilience Innovation Fund; create a funded path forward to bring orphan dikes up to standard and assign authority to them or decommission them; provide cost-sharing and standardization for dike maintenance and inspection; update flood protection guidelines with clear, scalable targets so small systems aren't held to the same standard as high-consequence areas; define how climate change is applied in design; and develop a single strategy that links flood mapping, land use rules, dike standards, funding, and responsibility.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution that calls on the Province to address all of the following with respect to flood management: implement stable flood and drought funding with predictable programs; allocate funding to bring orphan dikes up to standard; decommission or assign authority to orphan dikes; develop a cost-sharing framework for dike maintenance and inspection; amend flood protection guidelines with clear targets that ensure small systems are not held to the same standards as larger areas; define how climate change is applied in the design of dikes; and, develop a new flood strategy that links flood mapping, land use rules, dike standards, funding and responsibility.

However, 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).

Furthermore, the membership has endorsed multiple resolutions addressing diking standards and upgrades, including:

- 2025-NR52 which asked 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;
- 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 Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed 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).

Conference decision: _____

NR19 Advancing a Vision Zero Approach to Road Safety

New Westminster

Whereas injuries and deaths on BC roads have untold impacts on thousands of BC lives every year, strain local government first responder resources, and result in more than \$500 million in direct health care costs in British Columbia every year;

And whereas the Province's BC Road Safety Strategy has referenced a Vision Zero approach to road safety starting with the belief that no loss of life on our roads is acceptable and implementing a collaborative Safe System Approach to road safety relying proactive data collection and sharing as the globally recognized path to achieving Vision Zero:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to advance its commitment to Vision Zero and further support local government partners through:

1. expansion of the Vision Zero Road Safety Grant program by providing additional funding to introduce a third funding stream with a cap higher than the current \$20,000 limit to fund more ambitious local government and First Nation community road safety initiatives; and
2. undertaking a comprehensive review of data collected by provincial ministries and agencies in relation to motor vehicle injury and death incidents and develop strategies for proactive data sharing between those agencies and local governments to inform local road safety improvements.



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 advance its commitment to Vision Zero and further support local government partners through expansion of the Vision Zero Road Safety Grant program; and, by undertaking a comprehensive review of data collected by provincial ministries and agencies in relation to motor vehicle injury and death incidents and developing strategies for proactive data sharing between those agencies and local governments to inform local road safety improvements.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions calling for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to enable municipalities to implement blanket speed limits in an effort to improve road safety within their municipal boundaries (2025-EB71, 2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14).

Members also endorsed resolution 2018-B102, which called on the Province to support modernizing the Motor Vehicle Act by addressing recommendations made by the Road Safety Law Reform Group of BC to enhance road safety.

Conference decision: _____

NR20 Provincial Standards, Funding, and Regional Solutions for Police Detention Services

Central Saanich

Whereas local police and RCMP services are increasingly being required to detain individuals for extended periods due to limited court transport availability, expanded use of virtual bail, and restricted intake at correctional facilities, resulting in the downloading of court- and correction-related custodial responsibilities onto local police and RCMP services, causing operational strain, staffing pressures, costs, and legal risk;

And whereas local police and RCMP detention facilities are not designed, resourced, or governed to meet correctional standards, and there is currently no provincially legislated framework for police detention facilities or jail guard functions, despite growing Charter, safety, and liability risks and the Province's increasing reliance on police detention as part of the justice system continuum:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to:

1. Support timely transfer of detained individuals to the BC Sheriff Service or BC Corrections, consistent with their statutory mandates;
2. Establish clear provincial standards for police detention facilities and jail guard functions, including infrastructure, staffing, training, health, safety, and oversight requirements;
3. Provide sustainable provincial funding to municipalities and police boards for any downloaded and/or formally expanded detention and court-related responsibilities; and
4. In collaboration with local governments, police boards, RCMP, and police services, explore and evaluate the feasibility of a regional or centralized police detention facility model for communities in BC to improve detainee safety, operational efficiency, staffing stability, legal compliance, and system resilience.

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 support a timely transfer of detained individuals to the BC Sheriff Service or BC Corrections; establish clear provincial standards for police detention facilities and jail guard functions; provide sustainable funding to municipalities and police boards for downloaded and/or expanded detention and court-

related responsibilities; and to work with partners to explore the feasibility of a regionalized or centralized police detention facility model for BC.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR45, which sought for the Province to identify and address current gaps in service in the Provincial Courts; and to release an updated Courthouse Capital Asset Management Plan reflecting new growth projections and future service level needs. Members also endorsed resolution 2011-B9 which sought for the Province to increase the judicial complement, court registry staffing, and sheriff services.

The UBCM membership has also endorsed several resolutions requesting an increase to the Keep of Prisoners program reimbursement rate for local governments (2020-EB4, 2013-B23, 2011-B8, 2008-B24). Through this program, local governments are provided minimal funding for holding provincial prisoners in local government jails.

Conference decision: _____

NR21 Authorization for Municipal Use of CCTV Cameras for Public Safety Surveillance

White Rock

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are increasingly seeking to implement closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems to enhance public safety, deter crime, and support law enforcement investigations and the current interpretation and enforcement of privacy legislation by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) restrict the deployment of municipal CCTV systems, even when intended for clearly defined public safety purposes;

And whereas these privacy-related barriers prevent local governments from proactively using modern surveillance tools that can assist in crime deterrence, improve community safety, and provide evidence in criminal investigations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to enact clear enabling legislation that authorizes local governments to implement and operate CCTV camera systems for public safety purposes, including crime prevention and investigation, subject to strict guidelines;

And be it further resolved that such legislation include province-wide standards and oversight mechanisms addressing transparency, data retention limits, access controls, signage and notification, and regular privacy impact assessments to ensure a balanced approach between public safety and individual privacy rights.



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 enact clear enabling legislation that authorizes local governments to implement and operate CCTV camera systems for public safety purposes; and, that such legislation include province-wide standards and oversight mechanisms addressing transparency, data retention limits, access controls, signage and notification, and regular privacy impact assessments.

However, the Committee notes that that membership has supported a resolution asking the Province to expand the intersection safety camera program (2024-EB41), and others requesting that local governments be permitted to independently implement intersection safety cameras on local roads at the local government's expense (2023-EB25, 2019-B8, 2017-B90).

Conference decision: _____

NR22 Regulating Artificial Intelligence to Safeguard Democracy

Victoria

Whereas artificial intelligence (AI) should be considered a national security threat that presents risks to all levels of government and the principles that uphold democratic society;

And whereas AI has developed rapidly in recent years, in some cases sowing social discord, generating often false and misleading information, and becoming a tool of bad actors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM request that provincial and federal governments work collaboratively with local governments in creating reasonable and enforceable regulations of AI technologies that safeguard democracy and national sovereignty, mitigate social and political divisions, and proactively combat mis- and disinformation.

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 federal, provincial and local governments to work together in creating reasonable and enforceable regulations of AI technologies that safeguard democracy and national sovereignty, mitigate social and political divisions, and proactively combat mis- and disinformation.

Based on the background information submitted by the sponsor, it is understood that part of the impetus for this resolution is to safeguard local elections, including information provided to voters.

Conference decision: _____



Environment

NR23 Data Centre Concerns

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the rapid proliferation of artificial intelligence (AI) and data centres has caused increased demand for energy and water resources, raising concerns about environmental sustainability;

And whereas local governments require clear provincial guidance and regulations to effectively manage the environmental impacts of data centre operations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia and the BC Utilities Commission to introduce regulations governing the design and operation of new and existing data centres, aimed at minimizing and controlling their energy and water consumption to ensure the long-term sustainability of these critical resources and further, that these entities engage communities around the issue of data centres.

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 and the BC Utilities Commission to introduce regulations governing the design and operation

of new and existing data centres, aimed at minimizing and controlling their energy and water consumption to ensure the long-term sustainability of these critical resources and further, that these entities engage communities around the issue of data centres.

Conference decision: _____

NR24 Point-of-Entry Disinfection Approval Framework Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas many of British Columbia's more than 4,000 small water systems face infrastructure upgrades whose costs are unaffordable, and while a Point-of-Entry (POE) disinfection exemption under the Drinking Water Protection Regulation exists, it requires Drinking Water Officer (DWO) approval which is discretionary and applied inconsistently leaving eligible communities without a clear, predictable pathway to access this technology;

And whereas the Ministry of Health's Small Water System Guidebook currently lacks standardized POE approval criteria, affordability thresholds, inspection protocols, or permit templates to guide DWOs in exercising this discretionary authority:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to update the Small Water System Guidebook to include a standardized Point-of-Entry (POE) approval framework for eligible small water systems, making the POE pathway, already permitted under the Drinking Water Protection Regulation, consistently and equitably accessible to communities across British Columbia and to review the Drinking Water Protection Regulation to determine amendments to ensure its permanence and consistent application by health authorities province-wide.

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 update the Small Water System Guidebook to include a standardized Point-of-Entry (POE) approval framework for eligible small water systems to make the POE pathway, consistently and equitably accessible to communities across British Columbia and to review the Drinking Water Protection Regulation to determine amendments to ensure its permanence and consistent application by health authorities province-wide.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse a resolution, 2007-B124, which asked the Province for a legislative amendment to allow the user of a Point-of-Entry system to become the water purveyor. A water purveyor's responsibility is to ensure that the drinking water provided is safe and to assume liability if problems should arise.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking sustainable funding for small water systems (2025-EB48, 2024-NR72, 2023-EB47, 2022-EB81), in an effort to support their ongoing operations to provide safe drinking water.

Conference decision: _____

NR25 Biosolids Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas some farmers are applying biosolids on agricultural land which may contain contaminants of emerging concern, such as pharmaceuticals and "forever chemicals";

And whereas the application of biosolids may leach into watercourses and aquifers and negatively affect ecosystems, as well as crops, livestock and humans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to mandate water quality testing of water sources that may be affected by biosolids.

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 that asks that Province to mandate water quality testing of water sources that may be affected by biosolids.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a resolution asking provincial and federal governments to establish sampling protocols and measures to monitoring and reduce levels of contaminants of emerging concern from wastewater treatment plants (2021-NR31). The membership has also endorsed a resolution asking the Province to set a standard for acceptable levels of microplastics being released into marine or freshwater environments or onto land, and a standardized methodology for testing and reporting (2019-B150). It is also noted that the UBCM membership has previously called for the Province to establish a committee, including local government representatives, to review and make recommendations for revisions to the Provincial biosolid review process, the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation, and relevant sections of the Agricultural Land Commission Act to enhance public consultation on the import and deposit of biosolids, which may adversely affect the environment, on Agricultural Reserve Land (2015-B59).

The Committee also notes that a request for new provincial requirements to test water sources potentially affected by biosolids may create additional water quality testing obligations for local governments.

Conference decision: _____

NR26 Soil Relocation Regulations

Oak Bay

Whereas the regulatory framework governing soil relocation under the *Environmental Management Act* and Contaminated Sites Regulation is designed and implemented to ensure protection of both human and environmental health, the required soil testing, storing, and relocation results in significant increased costs of soil management for local governments;

And whereas the Ministry of Environment requires soil relocation to meet provincial remediation standards at a receiving site location that includes a threshold for chloride ion of 100 ppm to qualify as “Residential Low Density” which does not account for the natural presence of chlorides in soils, from the deposition of salt spray:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to review the thresholds for chloride ions in soil to qualify as “Residential Low Density” with consideration of the naturally occurring chloride elements that are higher in local governments close to the Pacific Ocean.



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 to review the thresholds for chloride ions in soil to qualify as “Residential Low Density” with consideration of the naturally occurring chloride elements that are higher in local governments close to the Pacific Ocean.

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).

Conference decision: _____

NR27 Equipment Seizure on Agricultural Land Reserves

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas ongoing illegal fill dumping on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands in British Columbia violates the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and local government bylaws, exacerbated by insufficient Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) enforcement resources, frequent disregard of stop work orders, and the lengthy, costly court process for fine collection;

And whereas violators often lack resources for court-ordered remediation post-fines, causing lasting environmental damage, while other agencies including WorkSafeBC and the BC Conservation Officer Service effectively utilize equipment seizure to immediately prevent further violations and lessen remediation costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend legislation to grant the Agricultural Land Commission and relevant provincial agencies the authority to immediately seize equipment involved in illegal fill dumping activities on Agricultural Land Reserve lands, drawing on regulatory authorities used by WorkSafeBC Occupational Safety Officers and BC Conservation Officers.



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 ALC and relevant provincial agencies to have the authority to immediately seize equipment involved in illegal fill dumping activities on Agricultural Land Reserve lands.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has many endorsed resolutions that address illegal dumping and which call for adequate funding, enforcement and prosecution (2023-EB45, 2021-EB30, 2021-EB31, 2021-EB32, 2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B64, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89). In particular, the most recent resolution 2023-EB45 addresses illegal dumping on agricultural lands.

The Committee further notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions that address soil and its disposal, including:

- *Tracking and monitoring of soil and other materials where its source and deposit sites fall within the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Land Commission (2025-NR89);*
- *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).*

Conference decision: _____

NR28 Provincial Certification for Mosquito Control Drone Technology

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas current mosquito control methods by local governments in British Columbia rely on costly helicopter and ground applications of federally approved larvicides to improve quality of life for its residents;

And whereas Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) offer a cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and efficient alternative for aerial larvicide application;

And whereas British Columbia currently lacks a provincial certification process for RPAS in pest management, thereby preventing local governments from adopting this technology:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a provincial certification process for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) larvicide application.



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 develop and implement a provincial certification process for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) larvicide application.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolutions addressing mosquito control measures, as they related to the West Nile Virus (2010-LR1, 2006-B49).

See resolution RR15

Conference decision: _____

NR29 Strengthening Air Quality Regulation, Monitoring and Transparency in BC

Squamish

Whereas current air quality monitoring and enforcement in BC is based on guidelines for the general adult populations and do not adequately protect the health of significant demographics including children, seniors, and pregnant people;

And whereas monitoring and enforcement are inadequate for meeting air quality guidelines, are not always publicly transparent, are not always available to the authorities with shared responsibility for community wellbeing, and are based on guidelines that are inherently subjective:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to:

- ensure monitoring and enforcement of provincial air quality expectations that are independent from polluters, in a manner that is publicly transparent, and ensures consistency with the best science on air quality impacts to all individuals in the province;
- ensure that where certain air quality monitoring and compliance data cannot be shared with the public, that it will be shared with those responsible for community wellbeing, including health authorities, First Nations, and regional and local governments;
- move to a system of objective and reasonable regulatory requirements for air quality, to ensure clear and transparent expectations for the public and industry alike.

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 addressing air quality issues as noted in the three bullet points.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions that address air quality, burns and particulate emission standards, including:

- *supporting and incentivizing alternatives to burning of agricultural vegetative debris (Executive endorsed resolution 2021-NR41);*
- *venting indexes and efficiency of burns (Executive endorsed resolution 2020-NR42) and (2018-B70);*
- *addressing and mitigating risks associated with wildfire smoke (2019-B94);*
- *limiting or banning burning of wood debris piles on private and crown forest lands within community air sheds (2016-B24);*
- *establishing standards for regulating wood burning appliances and outdoor boilers (2008-B72, 2007-B35, 2006-B109, 2005-B28); and*
- *establishing emission level standards for agricultural boilers (2007-LR4).*

Conference decision: _____

NR30 Advocacy to Create Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings

Victoria

Whereas climate change is a leading driver of increased costs and disruptions at the local government level that requires action from all levels of government, and that GHG emissions from the built environment often constitute a high percentage of the total emissions in local government jurisdictions;

And whereas local governments (except Vancouver, under its Charter) currently lack authority to regulate the emissions from existing buildings, and in many cases have struggled to reduce emissions from the built environment and meet their own emissions reduction targets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province create enabling authorities that would allow local governments to regulate GHG emissions from existing buildings.

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 to create enabling authorities that would allow local governments to regulate GHG emissions from existing buildings.

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, 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).

Conference decision: _____

NR31 Adopt CleanBC Review Recommendations

Kamloops

Whereas the Government of British Columbia commissioned an independent review of CleanBC to assess its effectiveness and identify actions needed to meet provincial greenhouse gas emission reduction targets;

And whereas the final report of the independent CleanBC review concludes that British Columbia is not on track to meet its 2030 climate targets;

And whereas the review recommends establishing a Citizens' Assembly on Building a Sustainable Economy in British Columbia to help build public understanding and consensus on the actions required to achieve these targets;

And whereas the review identifies the need to strengthen CleanBC in order to ensure that British Columbia's clean energy system remains affordable and reliable, with energy efficiency and electrification as key components of the transition:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Government of British Columbia to establish a citizens' assembly, as recommended in the independent CleanBC review, to support implementation of the review's recommendations;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Government of British Columbia to adopt the CleanBC review recommendation to promote and increase the production of clean, provincially generated renewable electricity, biofuels, and renewable natural gas, in accordance with social, economic, and environmental best practices.



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 establish a citizens' assembly, as recommended in the independent CleanBC review, to support implementation of the review's recommendations. Nor has the membership previously asked the Province to adopt the CleanBC review recommendations to promote and increase the production of clean, provincially generated renewable electricity, biofuels, and renewable natural gas, in accordance with social, economic, and environmental best practices.

The Committee would note that a citizens' assembly is a representative body of residents, selected through a civic lottery process, convened to learn about, deliberate on, and provide recommendations regarding public policy issues.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions pertaining to CleanBC review recommendations, including:

- establishing a sustainable, permanent transit funding framework to support increasing transit use and electrification (2024-EB84; 2022-NR57);*
- enhancing support for northern, rural and remote communities to achieve CleanBC targets for emissions reductions in the transportation and buildings sectors (2023-EB43, 2021-EB40); and*
- increasing and expanding incentives for high-efficiency retrofits and 100%-efficient heating and cooling equipment such as heat pumps (2025-NR32, 2024-NR24).*

Conference decision: _____

NR32 Pursuing a Class-Action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies

Victoria

Whereas climate change is a leading driver of increased infrastructure costs at the local government level, affecting the management of roads, buildings, retaining walls, above-ground and underground utilities, and other assets; and whereas the products produced and sold by fossil fuel companies have been proven repeatedly to be the principal cause of anthropocentric climate change;

And whereas fossil fuel companies have knowingly mislead the public and undermined support for climate action, in order to continue the production, sale, and marketing of harmful products, despite possessing an informed understanding of the potential long term impacts that those products would have on the climate, including in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to take a leadership role in pursuing a class-action lawsuit against fossil fuel companies, in collaboration with local governments and First Nations, in pursuing a shared recovery of damages to civic infrastructure in BC caused by the harmful impacts of fossil fuel companies' products.

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 take a leadership role in pursuing a class-action lawsuit against fossil fuel companies, in collaboration with local governments and First Nations, in pursuing a shared recovery of damages to civic infrastructure in BC caused by the harmful impacts of fossil fuel companies' products.

The Committee further advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse two resolutions addressing recouping the costs associated with climate change:

- *2019-B137 that called on the Province to enact legislation that holds fossil fuel companies financially liable for climate-related harms caused by their contributions to climate change; and*
- *2018-B128 that called on UBCM to write a climate accountability letter to the twenty fossil fuel companies outlining the types of costs that communities are incurring and expected to incur due to climate change, and requesting that the companies pay their fair share of those impacts.*

Conference decision: _____

NR33 Compensation for Food Recovery Programs

Revelstoke

Whereas community food recovery programs have organized to collect food that would otherwise go to the landfill from grocery chains, fast food establishments, and locally owned food businesses along the procurement, processing, and distribution chain;

And whereas the costs of diverting organic and recyclable items from for-profit businesses from mainstream landfill sites is being shouldered by non-profits, thereby adversely burdening food recovery programs who addressing food security and improving food access to vulnerable community members:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the province offer rebates to food recovery programs to offset escalating costs of organics, recycling, and waste disposal fees.

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 offer rebates to food recovery programs to offset escalating costs of organics, recycling, and waste disposal fees.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR48 which asked the Province to measure, monitor and make publicly available data on food waste in BC; and support the non-profit sector involved in rescuing and distributing food as an essential interim measure to address food insecurity; and to incorporate measures to reduce food wastage and over-packaging of produce, increase organic waste diversion, and promote the consumption of planet-friendly foods into its climate plan (CleanBC).

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2022-EB56 which asked the Province to amend its CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 to include food waste reduction and recovery as, or into, one of the pathways.

Conference decision: _____

NR34 Upholding North Coast Tanker Ban

Victoria

Whereas in 2019, the federal *Oil Tanker Moratorium Act* was implemented, banning large oil tankers from carrying crude oil and persistent oils along BC's ecologically sensitive North Coast;

And whereas the federal government has revisited discussions around reopening the Northern Gateway pipeline and tanker project, which would imperil salmon, orcas, herring, halibut, clean water, healthy beaches and a coastal economy built on tourism and sustainable seafood:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal government to maintain their support for the North Coast tanker ban and the protection of BC's coast from the threat of oil spills, economic disruption, and environmental harm associated with new oil pipelines and tanker traffic.

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 provincial and federal government to maintain their support for the North Coast tanker ban and the protection of BC's coast from the threat of oil spills, economic disruption, and environmental harm associated with new oil pipelines and tanker traffic.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported several past resolutions that address tanker safety standards, spill response, planning and regulations, and moratorium requests, including:

- *Stop the expansion of tanker traffic through coastal waters (2015-B29, 2012-A8, 2010-B140);*
- *Ban on bulk crude oil tanker traffic through Dixon Entrance, Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound (2010-B139);*
- *Ban on the passage of LNG tankers in the waters of the Malaspina, Georgia, Juan de Fuca and Haro Straits and Boundary Pass (2008-B143);*
- *An industry-funded contingency fund to address spills response in a timely manner (2015-A4, 2012-B122, 2010-B87, 2008-B32, 2007-B173);*
- *Spill response plans for high-risk areas and regulations to safeguard coastal communities and waterways from the harm caused by spills (2018-B66, 2016-B20, 2011-B149, 2008-B32, 2007-B6);*

- *A regional planning authority to oversee spill response (2008-B32, 2007-B173, 1992-B28);*
- *An independent audit and assessment of the current state of oil spill preparedness (2015-B30, 2014-LR3);*
- *Wildlife and ecosystem restoration funded by industry (2015-B31, 2008-B32, 2007-B173);*
- *The development of comprehensive emergency response plans and procedures for crude oil and hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) (2015-A4, 2012-B122, 2011-B149, 2010-B87, 2008-B32, 2007-B6, 2003-B48);*
- *Improved oil tanker safety standards (2003-B23, 1993-B48, 1990-A19);*
- *Raising concerns about potential negative impacts of increased marine traffic in the Salish Sea and other BC coastal waters - especially due to increased tanker traffic (2016-B21, 2012-A8, 2011-LR6, 2010-B139, 2008-B143, 2003-B23);*
- *Better resourcing and compensation for local governments to ensure they can plan for and protect communities and the environment in the event of a spill (2015-A4, 2006-LR2);*
- *Restoration of the Coast Guard complement and safety measures on the coast (2012-A3, 2012-B122); and*
- *Development and implementation of approaches to remove derelict vessels that pose risks of environment contamination (2017-B62, 2016-B22, 2014-B23, 2013-B30, 2012-B23, 2010-B30, 2005-B112).*

The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

As well, the Committee notes that in 2016, UBCM released a position paper on improving marine safety and formalizing a tanker moratorium in Northern BC (https://www.ubcm.ca/sites/default/files/2021-08/UBCM_policy_positions-marine_safety.pdf)

Conference decision: _____



NR35 Exempting Local Governments from Expanded Provincial Sales Tax

Abbotsford

Whereas the Government of British Columbia's 2026 Budget expands the application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a broader range of services, including professional services such as engineering, architectural, and related advisory services that are routinely required by local governments to deliver core infrastructure and services;

And whereas local governments have limited revenue tools and are already facing significant financial pressures related to infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, housing delivery, and regulatory compliance, and unmitigated application of the expanded PST further constrains local government fiscal capacity;

And whereas local governments are public-sector entities that deliver provincially mandated and community-essential services, and the application of PST to local government purchases represents a cost shift within the public sector that does not increase service value but places additional pressure on local government operating and capital budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax (PST) requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.



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 exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax (PST) requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed a resolution requesting that local government infrastructure projects be exempt from PST (2016-B14), as well as a resolution seeking PST exemption following the cancellation of the HST and reintroduction of PST/GST (2013-B17).

The Committee further notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking a PST exemption for the purchase of fire trucks, fire protection equipment and supplies for fire departments and other life-saving equipment (2022-EB64, 2019-B20, 2007-B22, 2005-B14, 2003-B14). The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

See resolutions RR18, RR19, RR20, RR21

Conference decision: _____

NR36 Eligibility Expenses for Grant-Funded Projects Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia currently does not consider in-house expenses such as staff time, administrative support, and other internal resources used in the delivery of grant-funded projects as eligible recoverable expenses;

And whereas recognizing in-house expenses as eligible costs would increase administrative efficiency, reduce reliance on external contractors, and support local governments in delivering grant-funded projects more effectively and cost efficiently:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to amend its grant program criteria to include in-house expenses as eligible recoverable costs.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend its grant program criteria to include in-house expenses as eligible recoverable costs.

The Committee notes that the resolution does not identify which specific provincial grant programs this resolution is referencing, so UBCM is not able to verify whether the programs include an allowance for in-house expenses such as staff time and administrative support.

UBCM administers the provincial Local Government Program Services (LGPS) grants, and LGPS grants do allow expenses for incremental applicant staff (e.g. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position). Eligible expenses include wages/salary, mandatory employment related costs as required by federal or provincial law, and other employment related costs as required by the approved applicant. Other provincial programs also have 'incrementality' criteria established that limit the use of funding for in-house administration purposes, with the principle of not subsidizing costs that are not incremental to the project being funded.

The Committee further notes that the membership endorsed two identical resolutions 2024-EB60 and 2021-EB21 which asked the governments of British Columbia and Canada to coordinate their efforts across all grant program streams to establish more consistent and flexible application criteria and deadlines, simplified reporting requirements and provide funding for the general administration of grant programs (in order to address administrative burden for local governments).

Conference decision: _____

NR37 Community Works Funding and Third Parties

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas Community Works Funding provides local governments with significant funding for local priorities, many of which are in rural communities and are run by volunteer-led third-party organizations;

And whereas the requirements around third-party organizations may now limit them from accessing this funding, thereby negatively affecting their ability to deliver much-needed services and programs in their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the federal government to consider relaxing the requirements for third-party organizations to access Community Works Funding so that local governments can continue to support their rural communities.



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 federal government to consider relaxing the requirements for third-party organizations to access Community Works Funding so that local governments can continue to support their rural communities.

The Committee notes that the Community Works Fund is a federal program primarily intended for local government owned infrastructure investments. Local governments may allocate their CWF towards eligible third-party projects provided they meet the criteria outlined in the program guidelines, including the condition that the local government has indicated support for the project through a formal resolution of their council or board. Other criteria require that the board or council has identified that the third party project is a regional or municipal priority within a long-term plan; the third party project has not been prioritized over a local government owned priority project; and the third-party project is supported by asset management planning. These requirements are consistent with what is expected for any project being considered under the program and supports the fair and transparent use of public funds. Since the above criteria was established in 2024, third party projects have continued to be supported through the Community Works Fund program at similar levels than prior to 2024.

The Committee further notes that UBCM administers the program on behalf of the federal government through a tripartite agreement with Canada, BC, and UBCM. The federal government recently renewed the 10-year agreement that sets out the terms and conditions for funding eligibility through to 2034.

Conference decision: _____

**NR38 Regional Construction Cost Adjustment in Provincial
Funding Programs**

Smithers

Whereas construction costs in northern and rural communities are significantly higher than in urban centres due to factors such as transportation, labour availability, climate, and supply chain constraints;

And whereas provincially funded capital programs often prioritize the number of units or spaces created without adequately accounting for regional cost differences;

And whereas this approach can disadvantage northern and rural communities by limiting their ability to access sufficient funding to deliver comparable projects:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a funding matrix or regional cost adjustment model within provincial capital programs that reflects the higher construction costs faced by northern and rural 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 develop and implement a funding matrix or regional cost adjustment model within provincial capital programs that reflects the higher construction costs faced by northern and rural communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB19 asking the Province to engage with small and northern communities to identify housing solutions outside of high growth areas. Members also endorsed resolution 2022-EB25 asking BC Housing to develop building incentives for rural, remote and northern communities as well as resolution 2021-EB75 asking the Province to create funding programs to encourage small scale developers to provide much needed housing in rural BC.

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 (2025-SR5, 2024-SR2, 2024-NR22, 2023-EB11, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

More generally, 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).

Conference decision: _____

**NR39 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Funding Stream**

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas public bodies are responsible for responding to requests for access to records pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;

And whereas requests are increasing in scope, complexity and frequency, requiring more pages of records to be searched or processed;

And whereas small local governments have limited capacity and resources to respond to such access requests:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to establish a funding stream for small local governments with populations under 5,000, to draw from to help local governments meet their obligations under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy 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 funding stream for small local governments with populations under 5,000, to draw from to help local governments meet their obligations under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

The Committee notes that the membership supported resolution 2022-EB78 requesting the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia to review its thresholds for disregarding requests made under FOIPPA. The membership also endorsed resolution 2008-B25 that requested amendments to FOIPPA to provide for the option for recovery of actual request processing costs.

Conference decision: _____

NR40 Small Rural Municipal Road Infrastructure Funding

Telkwa

Whereas municipal road networks in small rural communities continue to deteriorate to critical levels, requiring urgent rehabilitation to ensure public safety, emergency access, and essential municipal operations, with costs far exceeding the financial capacity of municipalities with limited tax bases;

And whereas rural municipalities rely heavily on provincial and federal funding to maintain core infrastructure, and the diversion of limited capital reserves from other critical projects such as water system upgrades, poses risks to public health, long-term sustainability, and service delivery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to establish dedicated, accessible infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities facing urgent road rehabilitation needs;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide emergency and/or accelerated infrastructure funding for small municipalities experiencing significant road deterioration that threatens public safety and essential services.



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 provide emergency and/or accelerated infrastructure funding for small municipalities experiencing significant road deterioration that threatens public safety and essential services.

Conference decision: _____

NR41 Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement 2006

qathet RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia's Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement (2006) establishes a framework that encourages the eventual conversion of improvement districts to municipal or regional district jurisdiction with the main tool being prohibiting improvement districts' access to provincial sewer and water infrastructure grants and long-term borrowing through the Municipal Finance Authority;

And whereas these policy constraints limit improvement districts' ability to finance required infrastructure renewal and regulatory compliance, creating significant financial barriers to both continued independent operation and orderly conversion, and increasing the likelihood that deteriorating systems and unfunded liabilities will ultimately be transferred to regional districts without adequate transition support, provincial guidance, or in any shape worthy of conversion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to modernize the Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement (2006) to remove structural financial barriers to the sustainability and orderly transition of improvement districts, including by enhancing provincial oversight capacity, enabling improvement districts to access long-term borrowing through the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia, and removing barriers to enable improvement districts to access provincial sewer and water infrastructure grant programs.



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 modernize the Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement (2006) to remove structural financial barriers to the sustainability and orderly transition of improvement districts, including by enhancing provincial oversight capacity, enabling improvement districts to access long-term borrowing through the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia, and removing barrier to enable improvement districts to access provincial sewer and water infrastructure grant programs.

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.*

Conference decision: _____

NR42 Protection of Fee Simple Property Rights**Pouce Coupe**

Whereas fee simple title has long been the primary form of land ownership in British Columbia and provides landowners with certainty, stability, and the ability to securely own, use, and transfer property;

And whereas recent public policy considerations have raised questions and concerns about the future of fee simple title and the security of private property rights in the province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM demand that the Government of British Columbia affirm and uphold the security of fee simple title and the private property rights of landowners 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 affirm and uphold the security of fee simple title and the private property rights of landowners in British Columbia.

See resolution EB19

Conference decision: _____

NR43 Protection and Optimization of Industrial Lands**Fraser Valley RD**

Whereas industrial lands are essential to British Columbia's economy, trade networks, and local employment;

And whereas increasing land use pressures, including those arising from provincial housing policies, threaten the availability of industrial lands needed to support jobs, supply chains, food security, and long-term economic resilience:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to protect and optimize industrial lands by establishing a BC Industrial Land Strategy, identify and inventory critical industrial lands and trade corridors, prioritize brownfield redevelopment, and collaborate with local governments to develop industrial land strategies, address barriers to land utilization, prevent incompatible adjacent uses, and support industrial development and local employment, including food and beverage processing.



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 establish a BC Industrial Land Reserve.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR94, calling for new provincial funding for local and regional governments to prepare or update industrial land inventories, assessments, strategies, plans, and guidelines for their protection and optimal development.

The Resolutions Committee is aware that the provincial Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth (JEG) has established an Industrial Lands Office (ILO), which is developing an Industrial Land Action Plan and compiling a comprehensive inventory of industrial land in BC. The inventory will inform a province-wide land-use needs assessment for industrial land.

Conference decision: _____

NR44 Use of Crown Land Prior to Local Government Land for Provincial Projects Smithers

Whereas the Province of British Columbia requires land for the delivery of provincial services such as healthcare and social housing and relies on the availability of suitable land from local governments to accommodate these projects;

And whereas local governments have limited or significantly diminished land holdings available, while the Province owns significant Crown Land resources that are suitable for development:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to prioritize the use of Crown Land for provincial services before pursuing land owned by 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 previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to prioritize the use of Crown Land for provincial services before pursuing land owned by local governments.

Conference decision: _____

NR45 Community Supported Agriculture Incentive Program Metchosin

Whereas the Province of Nova Scotia has introduced the Nova Scotia Loyal Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Incentive Pilot Program, which provides a consumer incentive for purchasing CSA shares directly from local farmers while reimbursing participating producers, strengthening local food systems and farm viability;

And whereas many communities depend on small and mid-scale agriculture for food security, rural employment, environmental stewardship, and economic resilience, particularly in the face of climate change, natural disasters, supply chain disruptions, and global trade uncertainty:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia, in collaboration with local governments, First Nations, and agricultural stakeholders, develop and implement a provincial Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) incentive program modeled on the Nova Scotia Loyal CSA initiative.



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, in collaboration with local governments, First Nations, and agricultural stakeholders, to develop and implement a provincial Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) incentive program modeled on the Nova Scotia Loyal CSA initiative.

Conference decision: _____

NR46 Agricultural Land Reserve Residential Flexibility

qathet RD

Whereas the purpose of British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) is to preserve valuable agricultural land for present and future food production, and thus residential development needs to be limited in size on the ALR;

And whereas the current *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (ALCA) and ALR Use Regulations limit residential development to:

- “a principal residence up to 500 m² total floor area,
- a secondary suite within that principal residence, and
- an additional residence up to 90 m² total floor area for parcels 40 ha or less, or up to 186 m² for parcels larger than 40 ha”,

and this can result in development that is inconsistent with the purpose of ALR when considering alterations to existing structures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (ALCA) and Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Use Regulation, to limit residential development to:

- “the residential floor area of all dwellings shall not exceed 590 m² total floor area for parcels 40 ha or less, or 686 m² for parcels larger than 40 ha.”

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 to amend the Agricultural Land Commission Act and ALR Use Regulation to limit residential development of all dwellings to: the residential floor area of all dwellings shall not exceed 590 m² total floor area for parcels 40 ha or less, or 686 m² for parcels larger than 40 ha.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has considered and supported numerous resolutions addressing secondary, ancillary or accessory 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.

By contrast, two resolutions addressing additional dwellings on ALR land were not endorsed:

- 2025-NR86 which was referred to the UBCM Executive who did not endorse the request 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; and
- 2022-NR50 which asked the Province to increase the allowable maximum size for additional dwellings on ALR land.

Conference decision: _____



Taxation

NR47 Tax Regime on Clean Energy Projects

Peace River RD

Whereas clean energy projects, including wind farms, receive tax exemptions and incentives that allow such projects to contribute less toward local taxation despite considerable environmental and infrastructure impacts;

And whereas the lack of a clear, consistent fiscal framework limits local governments' ability to support regional services and manage cumulative effects:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to review and amend the tax regime for clean energy projects to ensure equitable, transparent, and predictable taxation that aligns such projects with other major industrial developments financial contributions to local governments and supports the provision of necessary regional infrastructure and services.



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 and amend the tax regime for clean energy projects to ensure equitable, transparent, and predictable taxation that aligns such projects with other major industrial developments financial contributions to local governments and supports the provision of necessary regional infrastructure and services.

The Committee advises that wind farms and solar farms receive some exemptions from provincial school taxes, but none from local government taxes. Federally, Clean Economy Investment Tax Credits were announced in 2024 for capital expenses of eligible companies who are investing in clean technologies.

The Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2021-NR26 which sought a new classification be created by BC Assessment Authority to recognize low carbon-emitting energy production in BC.

Conference decision: _____

**NR48 Repeal or Amend the *Ports Property Tax Act* to
Address Impacts on Host Municipalities**

North Vancouver District

Whereas the *Ports Property Tax Act* establishes a provincially prescribed property taxation framework for designated port facilities that constrains the ability of host municipalities to set property taxes in a manner aligned with local service responsibilities, and has resulted in ongoing inequities between port properties and other properties within the industrial tax class, as well as inequities for host municipalities;

And whereas ten municipalities in British Columbia host designated port facilities and are required to deliver a wide range of municipal services necessary to support port operations and address community impacts, including transportation infrastructure, emergency response, policing, fire protection, land use planning, bylaw enforcement, and environmental management:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia, in collaboration with the ten municipalities impacted by the *Ports Property Tax Act*, to repeal or amend the Act to establish a clear, transparent, and modernized provincial framework that ensures port and terminal properties contribute a fair and equitable share toward the municipal services and infrastructure required to support their operations and community impacts, while recognizing the importance of international trade to the Canadian economy and ensuring that competitiveness measures are supported by all orders of government.

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 repeal or amend the *Ports Property Tax Act* to establish a clear, transparent, and modernized provincial framework that ensures port and terminal properties contribute a fair and equitable share toward the municipal services and infrastructure required to support their operations and community impacts, while recognizing the importance of international trade to the Canadian economy and ensuring that competitiveness measures are supported by all orders of government.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking 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 (2025-EB62, 2014-B10). The current resolution calls for the ten municipalities impacted by the current Act to be involved in developing the new framework.

See resolution NR67

Conference decision: _____

**NR49 Revisiting Advocacy for “Split Assessment through a
New Commercial Sub-Class”**

Port Moody

Whereas in 2019, the Intergovernmental Working Group (made up of CFOs from seven representative Metro Vancouver cities and senior staff from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing) proposed a new taxation scheme titled “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” which was successfully adopted by UBCM at the 2019 Annual Convention as B78;

And whereas the proposed tax scheme detailed in the “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” resolution proposed enabling powers to local governments to provide financial relief on property taxes for eligible commercial properties owned or operated by small businesses by taxing at current use, not the “highest and best use” through which they may incur higher taxes due to potential for redevelopment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia work with municipalities to make the necessary legislative and regulatory changes contained in the “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” approach;

And be it further resolved that the legislative and regulatory changes be intended for implementation by 2027 to enable municipalities to lower commercial property tax rate on properties where redevelopment potential has increased costs and provide meaningful relief for small businesses and the arts, culture, and non-profit sectors.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2019-B78 which called for a Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class approach. However, the Committee advises that the membership has not considered the second request that the legislative and regulatory changes be intended for implementation by 2027.

The Committee also 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 response from the Province noted that “in 2022, the Community Charter was amended to add section 198.1 Development Potential Relief. Municipal councils may, by bylaw, apply a reduced tax rate to the assessed land value of certain occupied commercial and industrial properties in Class 5 Light Industry and/or 6 Business and Other. The intent is to provide business occupiers of properties with development potential a reduction in property taxes where warranted.”

By contrast, the Committee 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. On the other hand, the membership did endorse resolution 2023-NR69 that asked for authority to introduce a vacant property tax applicable to commercial and industrial properties.

Additionally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to assist commercial property owners and lessees, in particular those that are small or independently owned, with their assessments and property taxes or rents:

- *2018-B115 sought provincial assessment and tax reform to support the long-term viability of independent small businesses in BC; and*
- *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.*

Conference decision: _____

NR50 Increase Municipality Authority Regarding Tax Sales

Clinton

Whereas municipalities have been given the responsibility and obligation to conduct tax sales but must follow prescriptive and inflexible provincial statutes in the conduct of tax sales;

And whereas municipalities should have more authority over the regulations governing tax sales including the issuance of disqualifications and fines for attendees who do not follow auction rules or use unfair tactics to delay or invalidate a tax sale;

And whereas municipalities currently do not have this jurisdiction:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province grant all municipalities greater authority to set and enforce the terms of the conduct of tax sales.



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 grant all municipalities greater authority to set and enforce the terms of the conduct of tax sales.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that have sought solutions to specific challenges presented by the tax sale process, such as reducing the number of years a property owner can be in arrears on their property tax and allowing recovery of taxes owed by mobile homes (2025-NR97).

The Committee further notes that the resolution is not clear on what additional authorities are being requested for the conduct of tax sales so cannot comment on any changes proposed to provincial statutes.

The tax sales process is a technical legal exercise of last resort for tax recovery. As a result, the process requires clear prescriptive rules that may not be well suited for local customizations. To help provide certainty for those administering the process, in 2025 the Province published an updated guide of best practices for tax sales that details the process to be followed including providing letter templates to ensure adequate notification to affected properties.

Conference decision: _____

NR51 Changes to Provincial Property Tax Deferment Program

Esquimalt

Whereas the provincial property tax deferment program was established to help seniors and other eligible homeowners with limited incomes remain in their homes by allowing payment of annual property taxes to be deferred until the property is sold or transferred;

And whereas the 2026 provincial budget changes to the program, including increased interest rates and changes to the compounding formula, are making it significantly more expensive and risk reducing its effectiveness for lower-income seniors, while concerns about higher-income participants could be more appropriately addressed through targeted eligibility criteria:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to review the recent changes to the Property Tax Deferment Program with consideration for the needs of low-income seniors on fixed incomes, including the introduction of an income threshold, so that the program continues to support low-income seniors as originally intended.



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 to review the recent changes to the Property Tax Deferment Program with consideration for the needs of low-income seniors on fixed incomes, including the introduction of an income threshold, so that the program continues to support low-income seniors as originally intended.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR72 which asked the Province to expand the existing property tax deferment program to include local government parcel taxes and utility bills. As well, the membership supported two similar resolutions 2010-B73 and 2009-B85 which asked the Province to transfer to municipalities the interest earned under the Property Tax Deferment Program from the property tax due date to the date of actual payment.

Conference decision: _____



Transportation

NR52 Active Transportation as a Core Ministry Priority

Comox Valley RD

Whereas active transportation has not been included as a priority in the most recent Mandate Letter for the Minister of Transportation and Transit;

And whereas the Ministry is falling behind BC municipalities in creating safe pedestrian and cycling supportive policies and amenities on Ministry-owned roads in electoral areas across BC, often leaving critical gaps and connections to and between nearby municipalities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Premier and Minister of Transportation and Transit to:

- Explicitly include active transportation as a core Ministry priority in the Ministry of Transportation and Transit mandate letter, with direction that this priority applies to rural and semi-rural contexts outside of and between municipalities as well as urban areas;
- Review and amend provincial active transportation policies, guidelines, and standards to explicitly address rural and semi-rural road conditions outside of municipalities, including constrained rights-of-way and safety considerations, and to amend the BC Supplement to Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Geometric Design Guide where it does not adequately support active transportation infrastructure in rural and semi-rural areas outside of municipalities, in order to address the current disconnect between road operations and active transportation objectives;
- Develop and implement a formalized, cross-departmental/organizational framework for collaboration between the Ministry of Transportation and Transit and Regional Districts to align Ministry capital projects with Regional District active transportation priorities, leverage funding and delivery opportunities, and ensure accountability and consistency in advancing shared rural active transportation, safety, and community connectivity objectives.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **No Recommendation**

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to implement the requests noted in the three bullet points.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- build active transportation options alongside provincial roads (2025-EB73, 2024-EB75, 2024-NR82, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16);
- more funding for active transportation (2024-NR81, 2024-NR82);
- develop active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99); and
- improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57).

See resolution EB27

Conference decision: _____

NR53 Need for Province-Wide Regulation of Electric Kick Scooters New Westminster

Whereas the use of electric kick scooters is growing and will likely continue to be a preferred mode of transportation in municipalities across British Columbia, regardless of participation in the provincial pilot program, and uncertainty and inconsistent public information remain regarding the safety implications of their use on public highways in BC;

And whereas regulation and enforcement of electric kick scooter usage are inconsistent between municipalities, and there is a lack of province-wide safety data collection and education programs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to conclude the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program and establish province-wide regulations and data-informed education programs governing the safe use of electric kick scooters on public highways across 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 conclude the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program and establish province-wide regulations and education programs governing the safe use of electric kick scooters on public highways across British Columbia.

The Committee is aware that it is permitted to ride an electric kick scooter on certain highways outside of municipal boundaries, treaty First Nation lands, or Nisga'a Lands. The highway must have a cycle lane, and the electric kick scooter must be ridden in the cycle lane; it cannot be ridden anywhere else on the road or shoulder, including on sidewalks or in crosswalks.

The Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2022-NR59, which asked the Province to review Motor Vehicle Act regulations to enable local governments to pilot regulation of a broader suite of e-mobility devices.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users, including relevant amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (2024-EB74, 2021-EB16, 2018-B12, 2018-B102).

Conference decision: _____

NR54 Regulating Electric Dirt Bikes Port Moody

Whereas the *Motor Vehicle Act* defines a motor vehicle as “a vehicle, not run on rails, that is designed to be self-propelled or propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires,” and defines motor assisted cycle (e-bike) as a device with pedals;

And whereas electric dirt bikes exceed the restrictions of motor assisted cycles and default to unregulated status for on-road use, making them uninsurable and prohibited from operating on roadways, sidewalks, multi-use paths, or bike lanes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Motor Vehicle Act* and other applicable regulations to regulate the sale of electric dirt bikes and increase consumer awareness, including implementing minimum age requirements, mandatory point-of-sale disclosures regarding operational legalities, and clear disclaimers on permissible usage 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 amend the Motor Vehicle Act and other applicable regulations to regulate the sale of electric dirt bikes and increase consumer awareness, including implementing minimum age requirements, mandatory point-of-sale disclosures regarding operational legalities, and clear disclaimers on permissible usage areas.

Conference decision: _____

NR55 Two-Tiered Transit Financing Model

Highlands

Whereas the *British Columbia Transit Act* requires regional transit commissions to tax municipalities for the annual cost of a public passenger transportation system pursuant to section 15 of that Act;

And whereas public transportation systems are generally unable to provide frequent, regular, or any service to rural communities that are taxed by the regional transit commission for the system:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit amend the *British Columbia Transit Act* to provide a two-tiered financing model for taxation by regional transit commissions to municipalities thereby alleviating some of the financial pressure on rural municipalities that are taxed for, but receive little to no transit service.

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 MOTT to amend the British Columbia Transit Act to provide a two-tiered financing model for taxation by regional transit commissions to municipalities thereby alleviating some of the financial pressure on rural municipalities that are taxed for, but receive little to no transit service.

Under the British Columbia Transit Act, regional transit commissions are required to levy the same taxes across participating municipalities, regardless of the level of transit service provided to those municipalities within the regional transit system. The sponsor suggests that this creates a structural inequity for municipalities that may be geographically or operationally difficult to serve, yet remain responsible for an equal share of system costs, being taxed with the same formula as other municipalities that receive full transit services.

Conference decision: _____

NR56 Access to Affordable Gravel for Local Government Infrastructure**McBride**

Whereas BC local governments rely on affordable aggregate resources, such as gravel, to maintain and construct essential infrastructure, including municipal roads;

And whereas regulatory, land access, and development constraints have made it financially unfeasible for local governments to access crushed aggregate, which significantly increases infrastructure costs and financial pressure on communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government (Ministry of Transportation and Transit) to work with local governments to improve access to affordable aggregate resources.



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 work with local governments to improve access to affordable aggregate resources.

Conference decision: _____

NR57 Publicly Accessible Website for Tracking Gazetted Gravel Road Maintenance**Thompson-Nicola RD**

Whereas the BC Ministry of Transportation is often unable to manage local gravel roads to a reasonable standard:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC Ministry of Transportation to substantially increase the annual funding allocation towards repair and maintenance of gazetted gravel roads across BC;

And be it further resolved that the BC Ministry of Transportation produce a publicly accessible website on the service category for each gazetted gravel road the maintenance standards for each road category, and a public hotline to report and track road deficiencies which do not meet contracted service standards to help enforce contract standards during the contract period, track/grade contractor performance relative to confirmed hotline deficiencies, and incorporate that performance metric when renewing service contracts.



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 increase the annual funding allocation towards repair and maintenance of gazetted gravel roads across BC. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province produce a publicly accessible website on the service category for each gazetted gravel road the maintenance standards for each road category, and a public hotline to report and track road deficiencies which do not meet contracted service standards to help enforce contract standards during the contract period, track/grade contractor performance relative to confirmed hotline deficiencies, and incorporate that performance metric when renewing service contracts.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB78 titled *Funding for Rural Road Maintenance* which asked the Province to direct and fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to establish a capital asset management plan for secondary road networks across the province.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking improved road and highway maintenance, including:

- MOTI to consult with local governments and be more transparent and share Road Maintenance Plans and Infrastructure priorities with local governments (2023-EB62, 2021-EB14);
- improved maintenance and funding for roads and bridges (2022-EB69, 2020-EB23, 2020-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2017-B12, 2015-B75, 2014-B53, 2014-B54, 2013-B13, 2008-B110);
- improved service level standards and maintenance funding for secondary provincial roads (2020-EB18, 2015-B74, 2014-B54, 2010-B19, 2009-B16, 2008-B17);
- improved maintenance of rural and resource roads (2020-EB20, 2020-EB22, 2017-B58, 2017-B59, 2015-B74, 2013-B128, 2010-B19, 2008-B17);
- improved maintenance and funding for roads and bridges (2022-EB69, 2020-EB23, 2020-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2017-B12, 2015-B75, 2014-B53, 2014-B54, 2013-B13, 2008-B110); and
- regular provincial government audits and performance assessment of highway maintenance services, and communication of the audit findings to local governments (2017-B10, 2008-B113).

Conference decision: _____

NR58 Strengthening Northern British Columbia's Transportation Prince George **Corridors to Drive Major Projects**

Whereas the provincial and federal governments recognize Northern British Columbia transportation corridors as nationally significant trade routes that support Canada's access to Asia Pacific markets;

And whereas developing cost-shared funding for Northern British Columbia transportation infrastructure, prioritizing projects that shift heavy truck volumes to strengthened rail and intermodal alternatives and providing dedicated funding to Indigenous Nations and communities to support meaningful participation in consultation, planning, and monitoring of these projects supports major project delivery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of Canada to recognize the Prince George centered northern transportation corridors, including Highway 16, Highway 97, and key rail and bridge infrastructure, as nationally significant trade routes essential to Canada's Asia-Pacific access, and to adopt a regional corridor strategy that identifies and prioritizes the highway, bridge, and rail investments required to ensure safe, reliable, and competitive transportation networks in Northern British Columbia.

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 federal government to recognize the Prince George centered northern transportation corridors, including Highway 16, Highway 97, and key rail and bridge infrastructure, as nationally significant trade routes essential to Canada's Asia-Pacific access, and to adopt a regional corridor strategy that identifies and prioritizes the highway, bridge, and rail investments required to ensure safe, reliable, and competitive transportation networks in Northern British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing Highway 16, including:

- 2025-EB72 seeking the twinning of highway 16;
- 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; and
- 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.

More generally, the Committee 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.

In contrast, the membership considered, but did not endorse resolution 2011-B161, calling on the Province to four-lane the Alaska Highway/97 North.

Other resolutions addressing Highway 97 were considered too regional, including:

- 2025-RR46 seeking capital financing to complete the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project;
- 2023-RR30 seeking upgrades to the West gate of Jasper National Park, both as too regional and referred them back to the Area Association; and
- 2007-C51 seeking the four-laning of the Cariboo Connector (Hwy 97).

Conference decision: _____

NR59 Preservation and Revitalization of Strategic Provincial Rail Corridor Squamish

Whereas the loss of the former rail lines, including the Squamish-Cariboo, which may ensue from CN Rail’s plans announced in July 2025 to terminate its lease, would result in shippers being forced to use higher-cost truck transport, increased public highway maintenance costs, loss of passenger (tourist or commuter) rail opportunity, higher GHG emissions, loss of transportation corridor redundancy affecting Western Canada, and constrained regional economic development;

And whereas rail discontinuance policies applying to the former BC Rail line do not necessarily account for regional and long-term transportation needs and priorities, and may undermine the economic viability of potential new short-line operators, while infrastructure funding solutions for maintaining this valuable rail line remain lacking:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the provincial and federal governments to consider establishing a new regional authority or ownership structure including First Nations and to support a transition to a short-line operator model to strengthen regional enterprise while maintaining the strategic redundancy of all former rail lines, and further be encouraged to explore potential public-private funding solutions for ongoing rail line maintenance.



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 provincial and federal governments to consider establishing a new regional authority or ownership structure including First Nations and to support a transition to a short-line operator model to strengthen regional enterprise while maintaining the strategic redundancy of all former rail lines, and further be encouraged to explore potential public-private funding solutions for ongoing rail line maintenance.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2010-B107 which asked, in part, that the federal and provincial governments commit to a funding program that will support the economic viability of short-line railways, thereby maintaining valuable railway transportation infrastructure and corridors.

See resolution RR24

Conference decision: _____



Legislative

NR60 Legislative Safeguards for Ethical and Inclusive Local Governance

Kimberley

Whereas local government elected officials in British Columbia do not possess statutory immunity or "freedom of speech" protections comparable to those of Members of the Legislative Assembly or Parliament, leaving them personally vulnerable to civil liability and reprisal when raising ethical concerns or dissenting in good faith;

And whereas the lack of robust, province-wide legislative safeguards creates a chilling effect on ethical debate and disproportionately exposes women, underrepresented groups, and new entrants to governance to personal, legal, and reputational risks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia amend the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* to establish qualified immunity and public interest disclosure (whistleblower) protections for local government elected officials acting in good faith;

And be it further resolved that these safeguards be designed to protect officials from retaliation and ensure that ethical dissent is balanced with high standards of professional accountability.

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 amend the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* to establish qualified immunity and public interest disclosure (whistleblower) protections for local government elected officials acting in good faith. Nor has the membership considered the second request that these whistleblower safeguards be designed to protect officials from retaliation and ensure that ethical dissent is balanced with high standards of professional accountability.

Conference decision: _____

NR61 Remuneration while on Mandatory Leave

Penticton

Whereas section 109.3 of the *Community Charter* provides for mandatory leave of absence for elected officials in prescribed circumstances;

And whereas subsection 109.3(2)(b) requires that an elected official on mandatory leave continue to receive remuneration and benefits during that period;

And whereas local governments have limited authority under the *Community Charter* to adjust remuneration in circumstances where an elected official is unable to perform their duties due to mandatory leave:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia amend section 109.3 (2)(b) of the *Community Charter* to remove the requirement that remuneration and benefits be provided during periods of mandatory leave;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide local governments with discretion to determine remuneration and benefits for elected officials during such periods, in accordance with local circumstances.

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 amend section 109.3(2)(b) of the Community Charter to remove the requirement that remuneration and benefits be provided during periods of mandatory leave. Nor has the membership considered a resolution requesting that the Province provide local governments with discretion to determine remuneration and benefits for elected officials during such periods, in accordance with local circumstances.

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.

The UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR107 which sought 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. It also sought 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.

Conference decision: _____

NR62 Letters Patent for New Municipalities

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas electors vote to incorporate a new municipality based on information provided through a provincial incorporation study which considers matters, including but not limited to, the name, boundary, area and classification and from which the Province of BC establishes a letters patent;

And whereas the most recent incorporation process in British Columbia is varying from this usual process causing concern to the residents and businesses, delaying the election of a Council and causing local economic decline:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to ensure that establishment letters patent are based on the incorporation study outcomes, and where the Province of BC determines a need to vary from those outcomes, the Province be required to provide notice to electors in the proposed municipality as outlined in the *Local Government Act* prior to finalizing the letters patent.



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 ensure that establishment letters patent are based on the incorporation study outcomes, and where the Province of BC determines a need to vary from those outcomes, the Province be required to provide notice to electors in the proposed municipality as outlined in the Local Government Act prior to finalizing the letters patent.

Conference decision: _____

NR63 Increase Maximum Fine Amounts for Tree Bylaw Violations White Rock

Whereas municipal tree protection bylaws play a critical role in preserving urban forests, supporting climate adaptation, protecting environmental values, and maintaining community character;

And whereas unauthorized tree removal or damage—particularly in the context of development—can result in significant and irreversible environmental loss that is not adequately deterred by current maximum fine amounts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish higher or distinct maximum fines for tree bylaw violations, recognizing the environmental, ecological, and public interest impacts associated with tree loss.



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 higher or distinct maximum fines for tree bylaw violations, recognizing the environmental, ecological, and public interest impacts associated with tree loss.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking an increase in the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw violations of all kinds, not specifically for tree bylaw violations (2025-NR37, 2016-B85).

Conference decision: _____



Assessment

NR64 Expansion of Strata Accommodation Property Definition Tofino

Whereas communities across the Province of British Columbia face housing affordability challenges and require fair taxation policies to ensure municipalities can collect appropriate revenue from properties used for commercial accommodation purposes;

And whereas the current definition of Strata Accommodation Property limits business classification to strata plans with twenty or more units, resulting in smaller strata plans used for overnight commercial accommodation being assessed and taxed as residential properties:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to amend legislation to expand the definition of Strata Accommodation Property to include strata plans with fewer than twenty units.

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 to amend legislation to expand the definition of Strata Accommodation Property to include strata plans with fewer than twenty units.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking to have the tax class for short term rentals be classified as Class 6 (2024-EB91, 2020-EB45, 2019-B34).

Conference decision: _____

NR65 Split Tax Classification for Short-Term Rentals Based on Floor Area

Tofino

Whereas communities across the Province of British Columbia face severe housing shortages and challenges in providing affordable, attainable, and long-term housing, which is essential to community livability and well-being;

And whereas short-term rental residential properties have reduced housing supply for long-term residents, which is supported by the current tax classification rules restricting split classification of residential properties even when operating a commercial business, creating a need for fair and practical taxation based on actual use:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to amend legislation to allow split tax classification of residential properties operating a short-term rental based on the actual floor area contributing to the short-term rental operations.

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 allow split tax classification of residential properties operating a short-term rental based on the actual floor area contributing to the short-term rental operations.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2017-B20, also submitted by Tofino, which sought more flexibility on property taxation to address split classification for short-term rentals.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to assign a dwelling unit (or additional dwelling units located on the same property), offered and used as a whole for short term rentals, to the appropriate tax class and be redefined as “Class 6: Business and Other” (2024-EB91, 2020-EB45, 2019-B34, 2014-B110). However, the current resolution is addressing actual floor area which differs from existing policy.

Conference decision: _____

NR66 Creation of Farm-Use Subclasses for Property Taxation

Coldstream

Whereas the Minister of Finance establishes property tax classifications, and all forms of farm use are currently grouped under Class 9 without distinguishing between small-scale, light-impact farm operations and large-scale, intensive industrial farm operations;

And whereas large-scale industrial farming typically places significantly greater demands on municipal infrastructure and services, yet is assessed and taxed at the same rate as small-scale farms with minimal impacts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Minister of Finance to create farm-use property tax subclasses to differentiate between small-scale, light-impact farm operations and major, large-scale industrial farm operations, enabling municipalities to equitably allocate the property tax burden across farm property types.



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 create farm-use property tax subclasses to differentiate between small-scale, light-impact farm operations and major, large-scale industrial farm operations, enabling municipalities to equitably allocate the property tax burden across farm property types.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that seek reforms that will encourage and support farm use of ALR land, including:

- *2025-EB59 strengthen the ALC compliance and enforcement team to improve oversight and reduce non-compliant land uses that threaten the integrity of agricultural land in BC;*
- *2024-NR77 which asked the Province to establish a targeted unfarmed land tax, to discourage speculation and encourage farming in the ALR; and*
- *2018-B105 which asked for taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary 'farm uses'.*

Conference decision: _____

NR67 Tax Fairness for Port Communities

Delta

Whereas under the *Assessment Act* regulations for land values of designated port properties are assessed based on their 2007 valuation and increases in assessed land value are indexed to inflation, while other comparable industrial land assessments are market based;

And whereas over time, these different methods of assessing comparable industrial land have resulted in an unequal distribution of the property tax burden both within the industrial property class and between property classes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province for purposes of tax fairness, that the method by which the assessed value of designated port property land is determined under the *Assessment Act* regulations, be amended to gradually bring the assessed value of designated port property land closer to the market rate assessed values of other comparable industrial land.



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 Assessment Act regulations to gradually bring the assessed value of designated port property land closer to the market rate assessed values of other comparable industrial land.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2025-EB62 which asked the Province 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.

The membership also endorsed two resolutions in 2014 related to the taxation of ports:

- *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; and*
- *2014-B106 which asked the Province to repeal the Port Improvements (Berth Corridor) Tax Exemption Regulation in the fall of 2014.*

More generally, the Committee 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 NR48

Conference decision: _____

NR68 Class 5 Digital Infrastructure

Mackenzie

Whereas British Columbia's existing property tax classifications under the *Assessment Act* do not include a specific class for large-scale artificial intelligence (AI) compute centres, AI data centres, or Bitcoin and cryptocurrency mining operations;

And whereas these facilities impose unique demands on local governments that are not reflected in their current tax classification, including significant electrical infrastructure requirements, community planning impacts, emergency response considerations, lower employment levels relative to other industrial uses, and long-term land-use implications:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia and BC Assessment include high-energy digital infrastructure, including but not limited to AI compute centres, high-performance computing (HPC) data centres, and Bitcoin and cryptocurrency mining facilities, in Utilities or Class 5 Light Industry.



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 and BC Assessment to include high-energy digital infrastructure, including but not limited to AI compute centres, high-performance computing (HPC) data centres, and Bitcoin and cryptocurrency mining facilities, in Utilities or Class 5 Light Industry.

Conference decision: _____

**NR69 Amending the Depreciation of Industrial and
Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements
Regulation**

**Bulkley-Nechako RD,
Fraser Lake,
Prince George**

Whereas Section 9 of the Depreciation of Industrial and Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements Regulation (the Regulation) significantly reduces municipal property tax revenues at a time when communities are already experiencing substantial job losses, and further impedes the ability of municipalities to build reserves for the reclamation of abandoned industrial sites that lack regulatory requirements for dedicated reclamation funds;

And whereas the Regulation can create incentives for industrial proponents to shut down operations earlier resulting in premature job losses and reduced government revenues; the Regulation limits opportunities for new investors to acquire and redevelop industrial sites; the Regulation provides exclusive subsidies to the natural resource sector that hinder economic diversification; and the Regulation shifts financial risk from investors to municipalities while subsidizing failing or failed enterprises:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Finance, to repeal and replace Section 9 of the Depreciation of Industrial and Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements Regulation with provisions that support a clear and intentional strategy to provide more stable local economies, government revenues, revenues for reclamation of abandoned industrial sites, diversified economies, and sustainable economic growth.



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 repeal and replace Section 9 of the Depreciation of Industrial and Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements Regulation with provisions that support a clear and intentional strategy to provide more stable local economies, government revenues, revenues for reclamation of abandoned industrial sites, diversified economies, and sustainable economic growth.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR86 asking for greater transparency in major industrial and electrical property assessments and the lessening of closure allowances.

According to BC Assessment a closure allowance is an assessment relief for individual industrial and electrical power generating facilities (EPG) improvements or entire plants and facilities when they have been closed or shut down. Closure allowance reduces the improvement value to 10% of the cost. In other words, depreciation is increased to 90%.

Conference decision: _____



Community Economic Development

**NR70 Immediate Action Required to Prevent Irreversible
Economic Harm**

Campbell River

Whereas many BC communities rely on resource industries—including forestry, aquaculture, mining, energy, and related sectors—as foundational drivers of employment, municipal revenues, essential services, and

extensive downstream economic activity such as contractors, ports and transportation, suppliers, processing, Indigenous-owned businesses, and small and medium-sized enterprises;

And whereas prolonged regulatory delays, inconsistent provincial and federal policy direction, and poor intergovernmental coordination are undermining investment and accelerating closures—particularly in forestry and aquaculture—triggering cascading downstream impacts including widespread job losses, business failures, reduced port and transportation activity, housing instability, population out-migration, weakened supply chains, increased cost-of-living pressures, and declining municipal revenues, placing many communities at or near a point of no return:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urgently call upon the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to take immediate, coordinated action to restore certainty and predictability to the regulatory environment affecting resource industries by:

- establishing clear, transparent, time bound decision-making processes for consultation/ regulatory requirements and permitting approvals;
- reducing duplication and misalignment between provincial and federal regulatory requirements;
- assessing cumulative and downstream economic impacts on employment, supply chains, Indigenous economic participation, and municipal finances before decisions are finalized; and
- engaging local governments early when proposed changes may materially affect community stability, infrastructure, or long-term economic sustainability.



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 that asks the provincial and federal governments to take action to restore certainty and predictability to the regulatory environment affecting resource industries by:

- *establishing clear, transparent, time bound decision-making processes for consultation/ regulatory requirements and permitting approvals;*
- *reducing duplication and misalignment between provincial and federal regulatory requirements;*
- *assessing cumulative and downstream economic impacts on employment, supply chains, Indigenous economic participation, and municipal finances before decisions are finalized; and*
- *engaging local governments early when proposed changes may materially affect community stability, infrastructure, or long-term economic sustainability.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting resource sector economies, including:

- *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 (2025-EB87);*
- *seek 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: _____



Selected Issues

NR71 Funding Support for Public Engagement and Communications in Small Communities

Pemberton

Whereas transparency and public engagement are fundamental responsibilities of local governments in British Columbia;

And whereas small municipalities are expected to meet increasing expectations for communications, transparency, and public engagement with limited staff capacity and financial resources to adequately support these functions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia for dedicated funding to assist small local governments in meeting transparency, communications, and public engagement 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 dedicate funding to assist small local governments in meeting transparency, communications, and public engagement requirements.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR99 that sought improved customer service levels from the Province. It asked the Province to modernize call for service systems by implementing a variety of contact channels, including digital interfaces, and establish service level expectations amongst the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agricultural Land Commission, and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support customer service.

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 – RR27

Part Two of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred back to the sponsor for fine-tuning.

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Part Three of Section RR contains resolutions that are referred to Area Associations due to being of a regional nature.

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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.

RR28 – RR32

Section RR – Part One – Refer to Similar Resolution

RR1 Reconciling Provincial Housing Funding with Mandated Housing Targets

Vancouver

Whereas under the authority of the *Housing Supply Act*, the Province of British Columbia has imposed mandatory housing targets on local governments to accelerate housing delivery, including affordable below-market expectations;

And whereas in Budget 2026, the Province indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, its main capital program supporting non-market and affordable rental housing delivered by local governments and non-profit housing providers, thereby stalling or cancelling projects and stranding pre-development investments;

And whereas local governments rely on sustained capital investment from the Province to deliver non-market housing and cannot meet imposed housing targets if the supply finance chain is broken:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to immediately reinstate the Community Housing Fund and provide predictable, ongoing capital funding to support the delivery of non-market and affordable housing;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province to align housing target orders with the availability of provincial housing funding, and to refrain from penalizing municipalities for unmet targets resulting from the withdrawal or suspension of provincial housing programs beyond municipal control.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR2, RR3, RR4, RR5

RR2 Reinstating the Community Housing Fund

Saanich

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, the primary capital program supporting the delivery of non-market and below-market rental housing by municipalities, non-profit housing providers, housing cooperatives, First Nations, and Indigenous-led housing societies;

And whereas this pause has stranded affordable housing projects across British Columbia, including projects already in planning, pre-development, or application stages, leaving municipalities and non-profit housing partners with sunk costs, delayed projects, and reduced capacity to meet community housing needs and non-market provincial housing targets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to immediately reinstate the Community Housing Fund, honour applications submitted through the 2025 intake, and provide stable, predictable capital funding for non-market and below-market rental housing.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR1, RR3, RR4, RR5

RR3 Reinstating the Community Housing Fund

Radium Hot Springs

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, a primary capital program supporting the delivery of non-market and below-market rental housing by local government, non-profit housing providers, housing co-operatives, First Nations, and Indigenous-led housing societies;

And whereas the suspension of the Community Housing Fund has stranded affordable housing projects across British Columbia, including projects already in planning, pre-development, or application stages, leaving municipalities and non-profit housing partners with sunk costs, delayed projects, and reduced capacity to meet community housing needs and non-market provincial housing targets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to immediately reinstate the Community Housing Fund, honour applications submitted through the 2025 intake, and provide stable, predictable capital funding for non-market and below-market rental housing.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR1, RR2, RR4, RR5

RR4 Reinstating the Community Housing Fund

Victoria

Whereas under the authority of the *Housing Supply Act*, the Province of British Columbia has imposed mandatory housing targets on local governments to accelerate housing delivery, including affordable below-market expectations;

And whereas In Budget 2026, the Province indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, its main capital program supporting non-market and affordable rental housing delivered by local governments and non-profit housing providers, thereby stalling or cancelling projects and stranding pre-development investments;

And whereas local governments rely on sustained capital investment from the province to deliver non-market housing, and cannot meet imposed housing targets if the supply finance chain is broken:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to immediately reinstate the Community Housing Fund and provide predictable, ongoing capital funding to support the delivery of non-market and affordable housing;

And be it further resolved that UBCM ask the Province to provide a lump sum of funding to try to salvage related cancelled or stalled projects, with an emphasis on purpose-built rental builds, transitional housing, affordable housing, accessible housing, culturally supportive housing, and non-market housing;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province to align housing target orders with the availability of provincial housing funding, and to refrain from penalizing municipalities for unmet targets resulting from the withdrawal or suspension of provincial housing programs beyond municipal control.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions RR1, RR2, RR3, RR5

RR5 Replacement for Community Housing Fund

AKBLG Executive

Whereas the housing crisis across the Province continues to cause measurable harm to renters, working families, seniors, and employers, with rental vacancy rates at or near zero across much of the region, creating serious challenges for workforce recruitment and retention in rural communities;

And whereas the suspension of the Community Housing Fund has stranded shovel-ready affordable housing projects in every region of the province where non-profit societies and municipal partners spent years on public consultations, land contributions, rezonings, and pre-development work in good-faith reliance on provincial programs, and where the loss of Community Housing Fund financing has collapsed projects that depended on BC Builds and other provincial and federal funding streams working in combination, a situation the BC Non-Profit Housing Association estimates has cost the sector \$15 million province-wide:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia establish a replacement for the Community Housing Fund that prioritizes previously submitted applications through a formal resubmission process and ensures small and rural communities are prioritized in any federal-provincial housing framework.



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 RR1, RR2, RR3, RR4

RR6 Elimination of the Rural and Northern Homeowner Benefit

Campbell River

Whereas the Rural and Northern Homeowner Benefit has historically provided important property tax relief to residents in rural and northern communities across British Columbia, including Campbell River;

And whereas rural and northern communities often face higher costs of living, limited access to services, and economic challenges compared to larger urban centres;

And whereas the elimination of the Rural and Northern Homeowner Benefit in the Province's 2026 Budget will result in increased property tax burdens for eligible homeowners in 2027 and beyond, impacting affordability and financial stability;

And whereas local governments do not have the fiscal capacity to offset provincially imposed changes to property taxpayer relief without affecting service delivery or increasing local taxation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia reinstate the Rural and Northern Homeowner Benefit beginning in the next provincial budget cycle;

And be it further resolved that the Province engage with local governments and affected communities to assess the financial and social impacts of its elimination and ensure equitable tax relief is provided to rural and northern residents.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution NR13

RR7 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports Program

Clearwater

Whereas the UBCM-administered FireSmart Community Funding and Supports (FCFS) program provides critical funding to First Nations and local governments to undertake FireSmart planning and activities that reduce community wildfire risk including staffing, mitigation operations, and consistent implementation of wildfire risk reduction measures year over year;

And whereas UBCM has advised applicants that the FCFS intake was closed on January 30, 2026 due to lack of funding, and that the program transitioned to a competitive, adjudicated intake beginning February 2, 2026, creating uncertainty and reducing local governments' ability to plan and sustain ongoing wildfire risk reduction capacity;

And whereas communities throughout British Columbia rely on FCFS funding to deliver local wildfire risk reduction initiatives, and funding instability, reduction and uncertainty creates downstream impacts on program continuity, staffing retention, multi-year planning and undermines the continuity and effectiveness of local wildfire risk reduction efforts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to reinstate stable, predictable, long-term funding for the UBCM FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program sufficient to support ongoing local FireSmart staffing and mitigation operations, and to ensure communities can plan and implement multi-year wildfire risk reduction initiatives.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions RR8, RR9

RR8 FireSmart Program Funding

Chase

Whereas climate change is real, and is accelerating faster than most climate scientists have predicted;

And whereas climate change, coupled with the continued drought experienced in British Columbia is heightening wildfire risk particularly in the Interior of British Columbia;

And whereas the BC Wildfire Service is comprised of highly skilled, trained and dedicated firefighters, additional equipment and resources are very costly to the taxpayers of British Columbia in a time when other costs are straining the livability of a large proportion of British Columbians;

And whereas home hardening and fire-resilient landscaping are one of the least expensive and most effective ways to protect communities against wildfire disasters:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to reconsider its decision to reduce funding for the FireSmart program particularly for vulnerable, small communities who are at high risk of wildfire and whose residents are at their limit of taxation and other living costs.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions RR7, RR9

RR9 FireSmart Funding Support**Pemberton**

Whereas the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports (FCFS) program provides essential funding to local governments to undertake wildfire mitigation, public education, and community preparedness activities that reduce wildfire risk in the wildland–urban interface;

And whereas recent reductions and early closures of FCFS intake due to limited provincial funding have created uncertainty and reduced local capacity to deliver consistent wildfire risk reduction programs, particularly in smaller and rural communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to restore and provide stable, predictable, and sustained long-term funding for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports (FCFS) program to ensure local governments can proactively deliver wildfire mitigation, maintain trained staff capacity, and support ongoing community resilience across British Columbia.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions RR7, RR8

RR10 Local Government Climate Change Action Program**Saanich**

Whereas local governments are on the front lines of planning for and responding to increasingly costly climate impacts and extreme weather events; have direct or indirect influence over more than half of British Columbia's greenhouse gas emissions; and have relied on consistent, continuous and non-competitive funding since 2010 through the Local Government Climate Action Program and its predecessor to advance climate action, leverage significant additional funding, and contribute measurable progress towards Provincial emissions reduction targets and adaptation goals;

And whereas the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions 2026/27-2028/29 Service Plan does not include renewed funding for the Local Government Climate Action Program, despite increasing climate-related costs and clear evidence that climate action realizes significant financial return on investments as well as health, ecosystem, energy and socio-cultural benefits:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to renew and maintain the Local Government Climate Action Program as a long-term, predictable, and non-competitive funding program at no *less than current funding levels*.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB12

See also resolutions RR11, RR12, RR13

RR11 Continued Local Government Climate Action Funding**Richmond**

Whereas the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions 2026-27-2028-29 Service Plan does not include renewed funding for the Local Government Climate Action Program, despite increasing climate-related impacts such as wildfire, flooding and extreme weather affecting communities across British Columbia;

And whereas predictable, continuous and non-competitive funding since 2009 through the Local Government Climate Action Program and its predecessor has enabled local governments to directly advance emissions reduction and climate resilience initiatives, and to leverage additional funding for these purposes, resulting in

measurable progress towards provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets and climate adaptation objectives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to renew and continue local government climate action funding as a long-term, predictable and non-competitive program at funding levels no less than current levels.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB12

See also resolutions RR10, RR12, RR13

RR12 LGCAP Funding Renewal in BC

Port Moody

Whereas the Province of British Columbia established the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) in 2022 to provide stable, formula-based funding to local governments and Modern Treaty First Nations for climate action and resilience initiatives;

And whereas no provincial funding commitment for LGCAP beyond 2026 has been confirmed, creating uncertainty that limits local governments' ability to plan and deliver multi-year climate initiatives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to commit to the continuation and long-term renewal of the Local Government Climate Action Program for a minimum of five years beginning in 2027 and to incorporate LGCAP as a core implementation mechanism within the CleanBC strategy.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB12

See also resolutions RR10, RR11, RR13

RR13 Renewed Climate Action Funding

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the provincial Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) has provided vital, reliable, low-barrier, and predictable funding enabling local governments and Modern Treaty Nations of all sizes to fund essential staff capacity, meet CleanBC climate mandates, and build resilient infrastructure;

And whereas the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions failed to renew LGCAP in its 2026/27 service plan, creating uncertainty amongst local governments and Modern Treaty Nations in funding for local climate adaptation projects and emergency hazard mitigation through which they are addressing unprecedented and escalating risks from wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to immediately renew permanent, non-competitive Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) funding.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB12

See also resolutions RR10, RR11, RR12

RR14 BearSmart Resourcing**New Denver**

Whereas people and communities in British Columbia live alongside black bears and grizzly bears and require resources for proactive conflict prevention measures to ensure human safety and species conservation;

And whereas BC's BearSmart Community Program lacks a provincial coordinator and funding to support community efforts to address the root-causes of human-bear conflicts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC reinstate a provincial coordinator for the BearSmart Community Program and provide financial resources for effective implementation to support community-based initiatives to prevent human-bear conflicts.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

Refer to resolution EB15

RR15 Provincial Certification for Mosquito Control Drone Technology**Golden**

Whereas current mosquito control methods by local governments in British Columbia rely on costly helicopter and ground applications of federally approved larvicides to improve quality of life for its residents;

And whereas Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) offer a cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and efficient alternative for aerial larvicide application;

And whereas British Columbia currently lacks a provincial certification process for RPAS in pest management, thereby preventing local governments from adopting this technology:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a provincial certification process for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) pesticide application.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution**

Refer to resolution NR28

RR16 Creation of Indigenous-Led Housing Alliance**Prince George**

Whereas the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) has requested provincial support to create an Indigenous-led, cross-sector housing alliance to improve collaboration, strengthen service integration, and shape long-term housing strategies rooted in Indigenous knowledge and self-determination;

And whereas Indigenous-serving housing providers across British Columbia are required to address increasingly complex social issues—such as life-skills development, tenancy stabilization, and responses to tenancy breaches—despite not receiving adequate, sustained funding to support these services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocates to the Province to support the creation and identify appropriate funding mechanisms for an Indigenous led, cross sector housing alliance, to be convened and guided by the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA).



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB20

See also resolution RR17

RR17 Creating an Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sector Housing Alliance New Westminster

Whereas the lack of safe, adequate, and affordable housing remains a foundational barrier to progress on persistent health, public safety, and social challenges across British Columbia;

And whereas siloed approaches across the health, justice, social, and housing sectors have limited the effectiveness of interventions addressing complex, interrelated social issues;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia and UBCM renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (2021) committing the Province to communicate with UBCM and local governments on key Indigenous issues as an extension of its unanimous adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2019), which lists 89 actions, 24 of which either impact housing or should be considered in the context of housing;

And whereas Indigenous peoples are 13 times more likely than non-Indigenous people to experience homelessness, and 40 to 80% of those experiencing homelessness in municipalities across British Columbia are Indigenous:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM call on the Province to establish an 'Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance' composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation;

And be it further resolved that the mandate of this alliance include the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB20

See also resolution RR16

RR18 Exempting Local Governments from Expanded Provincial Pouce Coupe
Sales Tax

Whereas the Government of British Columbia's 2026 Budget expands the application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a broader range of services, including professional services such as engineering, architectural, and related advisory services that are routinely required by local governments to deliver core infrastructure and services;

And whereas local governments have limited revenue tools and are already facing significant financial pressures related to infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, housing delivery, and regulatory compliance, and unmitigated application of the expanded PST further constrains local government fiscal capacity;

And whereas local governments are public-sector entities that deliver provincially mandated and community-essential services, and the application of PST to local government purchases represents a cost shift within the public sector that does not increase service value but places additional pressure on local government operating and capital budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR35

See also resolutions RR19, RR20, RR21

RR19 Local Government PST Exemption

Peachland

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has announced the expansion of Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to include professional services such as engineering, accounting, legal, and consulting services that local governments are required to obtain to meet legislative obligations and deliver infrastructure and services;

And whereas local governments cannot recover PST and will incur significant unbudgeted cost increases, particularly to smaller communities that rely more heavily on external professional services, resulting in increased property taxes and additional financial burden on local taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia exempt local governments from Provincial Sales Tax on professional services required for local government operations, legislated requirements, and capital projects, or provide equivalent financial offsets to ensure these additional costs are not borne by local government taxpayers.



Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR35

See also resolutions RR18, RR20, RR21

RR20 Expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax Across the Province

Campbell River

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has announced an expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) program scheduled for implementation on October 1, 2026, which will broaden the application of PST to goods and services commonly procured by local governments;

And whereas local governments are significant purchasers of construction, infrastructure, and operational services, and the expanded PST will result in increased project and operating costs;

And whereas local governments have limited revenue tools, with property taxation being the primary source of funding, and cannot absorb additional provincially imposed costs without increasing taxes or reducing service levels;

And whereas the increased costs associated with PST expansion will directly impact the delivery of critical infrastructure and community services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia establish a comprehensive rebate program to fully offset the additional PST costs incurred by local governments as a result of the expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax in BC.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR35

See also resolutions RR18, RR19, RR21

RR21 Opposition to Expansion of Provincial Sales Tax Port Moody

Whereas the Provincial Government of British Columbia announced in Budget 2026 its intention to expand the Provincial Sales Tax to a wide range of professional services impacting municipal prosperity;

And whereas local governments, businesses, and residents are already struggling with unaffordability and the cost of living in the current economic climate and the proposed expansion will have the effect of increasing costs to local governments and therefore the businesses and residents that they serve:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Provincial Government of British Columbia to exempt local governments and essential municipal services from any proposed expansion of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to professional services as announced in Budget 2026.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR35

See also resolutions RR18, RR19, RR20

RR22 Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Victoria
Lanes and Routes

Whereas BC's *Motor Vehicle Act* and associated regulations currently inhibit the ability of seniors and people with disabilities to be active, independent, and engaged by prohibiting the use of wheelchairs and 3 and 4 wheel mobility scooters on municipal bike and roll lanes and routes;

And whereas many groups including the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of BC and the BC Cycling Coalition are calling for an update to the provincial legislation to clearly allow the use of wheelchairs and 3 and 4 wheel mobility scooters on bike and roll routes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province that the provincial *Motor Vehicle Act* and regulations be updated to allow the use of wheelchairs and 3 and 4 wheel mobility scooters on bike lanes and traffic calmed bike routes across BC.



Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB26

RR23 Reinstate BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program Victoria

Whereas road crashes in British Columbia have increased steadily over the past five years, killing an average of 22 children and seriously injuring 380 more every year, with vulnerable road users - people walking, cycling, rolling, and using personal mobility devices - facing disproportionate risk;

And whereas the BC Active Transportation (BCAT) Infrastructure Grants Program provided approximately \$20 million annually in cost-shared funding for sidewalks, crosswalks, protected bike lanes, traffic calming, and safer

routes to schools, generating over seven dollars in total project investment for every dollar of provincial funding, and was suspended in late 2025 without a replacement program, leaving local governments without this critical funding source for the first time in over two decades;

And whereas UBCM members endorsed resolution NR81 at the 2024 Annual Convention calling for increased provincial active transportation funding, and the ongoing suspension of the BCAT program represents a new and even more urgent gap in provincial road safety investment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to immediately reinstate the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program and provide stable, multi-year funding at no less than \$20 million annually, enabling local governments across BC to plan and deliver road safety and active transportation infrastructure with confidence.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB28

RR24 Preservation and Revitalization of Strategic Provincial Rail Corridor Prince George

Whereas the loss of the Squamish–Cariboo rail line, which may ensue from CN Rail’s plans announced in July 2025 to terminate its lease, would result in shippers being forced to use higher-cost truck transport, increased public highway maintenance costs, loss of passenger (tourist or commuter) rail opportunity, higher GHG emissions, loss of transportation corridor redundancy affecting Western Canada, and constrained regional economic development;

And whereas rail discontinuance policies applying to the former BC Rail line do not necessarily account for regional and long-term transportation needs and priorities, and may undermine the economic viability of potential new short-line operators, while infrastructure funding solutions for maintaining this valuable rail line remain lacking:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments be encouraged to consider establishing a new regional authority or ownership structure including First Nations and to support a transition to a short-line operator model to strengthen regional enterprise while maintaining the strategic redundancy of the Squamish–Cariboo rail line, and further resolved be encouraged to explore potential public-private funding solutions for ongoing rail line maintenance.



Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation: ***Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR59

RR25 Heritage Conservation Act Reform Chilliwack

Whereas local governments have not been consistently included as formal partners in provincial policy development related to archaeology processes and heritage legislation, despite being responsible for land-use planning, permitting, development approvals, and infrastructure projects, all of which are directly affected by provincial archaeology requirements and the *Heritage Conservation Act* and Regulations;

And whereas the current *Heritage Conservation Act* is outdated, and the existing archaeology processes and legislation create uncertainty, delays, and cost impacts for local governments, infrastructure owners, developers,

and the public, and these challenges will not be resolved with the proposed policy directions, which will further contribute to challenges in delivering affordable development and housing in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of heritage and archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*, and that all local governments are provided with meaningful and extensive opportunities to review and provide feedback on proposed changes.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB33

See also resolutions RR26, RR27

**RR26 *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and
the Heritage Conservation Act***

Surrey

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, S.B.C. 2019, c. 44 (DRIPA) and undertaking reviews of reconciliation, archeology, and heritage policy frameworks, all of which are likely to impact local governments;

And whereas local governments are not consistently included as formal partners in provincial policy development related to DRIPA implementation, archaeology processes, and heritage legislation and should be consulted and engaged:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 187.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB33

See also resolutions RR25, RR27

**RR27 *Local Government Engagement in Declaration of the
Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Implementation***

Dawson Creek

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and undertaking ongoing and future related legislative and policy reforms;

And whereas local governments exercise statutory responsibilities for land use planning, infrastructure, and community services that may be affected by provincial legislative and policy changes arising from DRIPA implementation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia establish early, ongoing, and structured engagement with local government associations to ensure that local government responsibilities are

considered in the development and implementation of Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples-related legislative and policy reforms.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association



UBCM Resolutions Committee Recommendation:

Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB33

See also resolutions RR25, RR26

Section RR – Part Four – Refer to UBCM Executive

RR28 Downloading of Responsibilities onto Local Governments

Delta

Whereas local governments in British Columbia have experienced a growing number of responsibilities transferred or expanded by the Province and federal government without corresponding, sustainable funding, requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs within their existing revenue tools;

And whereas property tax remains the primary revenue source available to local governments, and the downloading of provincially driven responsibilities places disproportionate pressure on residential and business property taxpayers, creating inequities and affordability concerns:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake a comprehensive study of the scope, scale, and fiscal impacts of downloading of responsibilities onto local governments in British Columbia;

And be it further resolved that UBCM use the findings of this study to advocate to the Province, and to the federal government, when applicable, for a more equitable funding model that aligns responsibilities with appropriate and sustainable revenue sources and reduces the unfair reliance on property tax increases to fund provincially downloaded responsibilities.



Endorsed by the Lower Mainland 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 undertake a study on the impact of downloading onto local governments and then to advocate for a more equitable funding model that aligns responsibilities with appropriate and sustainable revenue sources and reduces the unfair reliance on property tax increases to fund provincially downloaded responsibilities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions addressing downloading to local governments and seeking additional funding for local governments to address downloading, on a variety of topics, including:

- *downloading of pre-hospital care costs through local government fire and rescue services (2025-EB7, 2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14);*
- *downloading of the costs incurred by local governments to address the lack of homelessness support, mental health and wellness issues, and addictions recovery services and supports (2024-NR2);*
- *downloading of responsibilities under the Fire Safety Act (and previously the Fire Services Act), to local governments (2025-NR47, 2025-EB26, 2019-A1, 2018-SR3, 2015-A3); and*
- *downloading flood protection and diking responsibilities and a request to significantly increase its level of funding and assume greater responsibility for flood preparedness and mitigation, and the Province being re-established as diking authority in all local governments (2022-SR3, 2021-EB6, 2020-SR1, 2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B123, 2018-B94, 2018-B37, 2016-B56, 2015-B97, 2015-B7, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B3, 2012-B4, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8, 2009-B3, 2008-B69, 2007-A1).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions seeking additional funding from the other orders of government to address the fiscal restraints of local governments whose main source of funding is property taxes:

- *Province to create revenue sharing programs as a way of establishing new revenue sources for local*

governments (2025-SR5, 2015-B82, 2011-B28, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2010-B24, 2010-B76, 2009-B30, 2009-LR9, 2008-B119, 2006-B24, 2005-B18, 2005-B20, 2005-B106); and

- *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 (2025-SR5, 2024-SR2, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).*

At the 2021 Convention UBCM membership endorsed Policy Paper #1 “Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency ~ Today’s Recovery and Tomorrow’s New Economy”. The Paper was a report from the Select Committee on Local Government Finance. It set out 20 recommendations for addressing local government cost drivers, financial impacts of the New Economy, and a partnership with the provincial government in order to work towards fiscal sustainability for local governments in BC.

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.

RR29 *Tourist Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act*

Golden

Whereas the *Tourist Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act* provides preferential assessment relief to certain Class 6 tourist accommodation properties, resulting in reduced assessed values for taxation purposes and corresponding shifts in the property tax burden to other property classes within municipalities and regional districts;

And whereas changes in the tourism, housing, and short-term rental landscape since the Act’s introduction, together with past UBCM advocacy and subsequent legislative amendments, warrant renewed examination of the Act’s ongoing relevance, impacts, and alignment with contemporary local and provincial government objectives, including tax equity, revenue stability, and housing affordability:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake further research into the regional impacts of the *Tourism Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act*, including its interaction with property classification regulations, and report its findings to the membership for consideration of future advocacy to the Province, including potential reform or repeal of the Act.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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 to undertake research into the regional impacts of the *Tourism Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act*, including its interaction with property classification regulations, and report its findings to the membership for consideration of future advocacy to the Province, including potential reform or repeal of the Act.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking to have the tax class for short term rentals be classified as Class 6 (2024-EB91, 2020-EB45, 2019-B34).

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.

RR30 *Private Equity Sector Acquisitions Driving Local Government Costs*

Nelson

Whereas local governments across British Columbia are experiencing procurement cost increases for essential municipal goods and services, including construction, mechanical systems, fire apparatus, infrastructure materials, and specialized software, at rates that in some sectors exceed general inflation;

And whereas market consolidation and acquisition activity, including private equity investment in sectors serving local governments, may be contributing to reduced competition and increased costs, with potential long-term fiscal implications for municipalities and taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake or commission a comprehensive study examining procurement cost escalation affecting local governments, including the impacts of market consolidation, acquisition activity, and other contributing factors, and to report findings and recommendations to member local governments.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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 to undertake or commission a comprehensive study examining procurement cost escalation affecting local governments, including the impacts of market consolidation, acquisition activity, and other contributing factors, and to report findings and recommendations to member local governments.

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. The Committee notes that it is unclear how the results of a study on the impacts of private equity investment on market consolidation could be utilized by UBCM.

RR31 Local Government Business Software Working Group

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas local governments across British Columbia rely on mission-critical business software to deliver core services, yet many existing systems are costly, fragmented, difficult to integrate, and create long-term vendor lock-in that limits flexibility, transparency, and local control;

And whereas local governments share substantially similar operational responsibilities and service delivery needs, creating an opportunity to collaboratively strengthen digital infrastructure that better supports resident with modern, efficient, and accountable public services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM, in partnership with the Ministry of Citizens' Services, establish a Local Government Business Software Working Group to assess shared operational software needs, develop common structured data models and application programming interfaces that support interoperable and transferable digital systems, and report back with recommendations and potential pilot projects to strengthen modern, locally controlled service delivery.



Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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 strike a Local Government Business Software Working Group to assess shared operational software needs, develop common structured data models and application programming interfaces that support interoperable and transferable digital systems, and report back with recommendations and potential pilot projects to strengthen modern, locally controlled service delivery.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B98 which asks the Province to take a leadership role and provide long-term funding and resources for asset data sharing systems for improving emergency management and resiliency planning in BC.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed two resolutions asking the Province to allocate additional resources to assist local governments with assessing and maintaining cyber security health (2024-EB39, 2018-B157). The membership also endorsed the 2021 Policy Paper on Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency that included a recommendation to establish a provincial program that provides local governments with expertise (e.g. systems and programs) and shared skills to protect and respond to cyber threats.

In contacting the sponsor to determine who they would like this effort reported back to, the Committee learned that the sponsor would like UBCM to report back to the UBCM Executive and membership.

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.

**RR32 Consideration of Rural and Remote Impacts in
Resolution Review**

NCLGA Executive

Whereas UBCM applies evaluation criteria to assist in reviewing and making recommendations to the membership on submitted resolutions;

And whereas policies and provincial actions may have differing impacts on rural, remote, and northern communities due to geography, population distribution, and service delivery realities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM, as part of its ongoing review of resolution evaluation practices, explicitly consider rural and remote community impacts when assessing resolutions for recommendation to the membership.



Endorsed by the North Central 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, as part of its ongoing review of resolution evaluation practices, explicitly consider rural and remote community impacts when assessing resolutions for recommendation to the membership.

The Committee is recommending that this resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, as this is the most appropriate body to make decisions regarding UBCM's efforts in evaluating the resolutions received.

Appendix A

Section APPENDIX Resolutions

Section Appendix Resolutions (APX) contains resolutions that are captured by one or more of the four criteria, per Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1:

1. Existing Policy (policy for or against, in the last five years: 2025-2021)
2. Local Government Scope
3. Clarity / Format
4. Regional

Resolutions placed in Section APX will not be admitted for debate.

Part One of Section APX contains resolutions that deemed to be Existing Policy.

APX1 – APX51

Part Two of Section APX contains resolutions that deemed to be outside of Local Government Scope.

APX52 – APX73

Part Three of Section APX contains resolutions that are deemed to not meet criteria for Clarity or Format.

APX74

Part Four of Section APX contains resolutions that are deemed to be Regional.

APX75 – APX84

Section APX Part One – Existing Policy

APX1 Retaining and Supporting Local Doctors

Hudson's Hope

Whereas stable access to primary care and community-based medical services is essential to the health and safety of residents, and recruitment and retention challenges in rural and remote communities can lead to service gaps, increased travel for care, and added strain on emergency services;

And whereas retaining local doctors requires coordinated action on physician supports, including sustainable workloads, locum coverage, housing availability, clinic operations, and community integration:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to implement and strengthen retention measures for local physicians, including competitive incentives for communities that are both rural and remote, reliable locum relief, and supports that reduce administrative burden and provide appropriate clinic and staffing resources.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-NR5, 2025-NR7, 2023-SR1.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities

UBCM Executive

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

APX2 Health Care Provider Crisis

Willams Lake

Whereas there is a provincial crisis with lack of health care providers that is even more pronounced in rural BC;

And whereas rural BC is at increased risk of closing universities due to low enrollment while additional local availability is urgently required:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to facilitate training/laddering of health care providers financially and through policy support;

And be it further resolved that the Province work with universities in all rural communities to focus on targeted education needs.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-NR5, 2025-NR7, 2023-SR1.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities

UBCM Executive

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

APX3 Expansion of Support for Medical Professional Services

**100 Mile House,
Hudson's Hope**

Whereas there is significant and on-going shortages of healthcare professionals in the South Cariboo and across communities in Northern Central Local Government Association (NCLGA);

And whereas efforts have been made in some healthcare professions, many other healthcare professions need attention for the overall wellbeing of residents in small, rural, and remote location:

Therefore be it resolved that the NCLGA, in collaboration with UBCM, advocate to the provincial government for increased educational training seats in any appropriate college/university;

And be it further resolved that NCLGA, in collaboration with UBCM, advocate to the provincial government look to reduce any barriers in accessing those training seats and create incentives to encourage healthcare professionals to practice in rural areas.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-NR5, 2025-NR7, 2023-SR1, 2022-EB20.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities **UBCM Executive**

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

2022-EB20 Access to Healthcare Services

Houston

Whereas the recent pandemic exposed the lack of health care resources in rural British Columbia and resulted in many individuals being forced to leave their community for further evaluation and treatment;

And whereas accessible, reliable, and effective local medical services should be available to all British Columbians especially during significant illness events that impact the majority of residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to further support the development of improved local medical services that meet the needs of all rural British Columbians.

APX4 Expansion of Rural Health Services

McBride

Whereas rural residents require timely access to essential healthcare services, which includes the need to increase the number of extended care units within their communities;

And whereas reductions in rural medical services have resulted in patients travelling long distances for procedures such as childbirth and minor surgeries, while physician shortages and limited appointment availability increase pressure on emergency departments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government and Regional Health Authorities to restore and expand rural healthcare services, including maternity care and minor surgical procedures, implement measures to improve physician recruitment and retention and support the expansion of extended care units in rural communities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-NR5, 2025-NR7, 2023-SR1, 2022-EB20.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities

UBCM Executive

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

2022-EB20 Access to Healthcare Services

Houston

Whereas the recent pandemic exposed the lack of health care resources in rural British Columbia and resulted in many individuals being forced to leave their community for further evaluation and treatment;

And whereas accessible, reliable, and effective local medical services should be available to all British Columbians especially during significant illness events that impact the majority of residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to further support the development of improved local medical services that meet the needs of all rural British Columbians.

APX5 Calculation of the Real Costs of Health Care Service Gaps**Daaqing Giids**

Whereas many rural and remote British Columbians living in regional catchment areas travel long distances and incur significant financial expenses to access both routine and specialized health care services that most Canadians take for granted;

And whereas neither the financial expenses or health and well-being outcomes endured by British Columbians who experience geographical gaps in health care services has been studied at a provincial level:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to undertake a review of the health care services not available locally to rural and remote British Columbians, and to calculate annually the real financial costs and health implications borne by those individuals living in areas without access to routine and specialized health care services.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2023-SR1.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities**UBCM Executive**

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

APX6 Expansion of Nurse Practitioner Services to Address Rural Health Care Gaps**100 Mile House,
Hudson's Hope**

Whereas there is a significant and ongoing shortage of health care professionals in the South Cariboo and across communities within the Northern Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) region;

And whereas access to reliable and timely health care services is essential to the effective treatment, recovery, and overall well-being of residents in small rural, and remote communities throughout British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government for increased and sustained support for the expansion of the Nurse Practitioner Services as a means to address health care service gaps and better meet the needs of rural British Columbians.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2023-SR1.

2023-SR1 Health Equity for Rural and Remote Communities

UBCM Executive

Whereas rural and remote communities in BC experience significant health care challenges, including a lack of access to emergency services, on-demand mental health and addictions facilities, physicians, paramedics, and other health professionals;

And whereas the long distances, limited public and private transportation options to travel to the nearest health care service, and high costs for accommodations to stay near those sites while receiving treatment, are substantial barriers for people living in rural communities across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government 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;

And be it further resolved 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.

APX7 Long Term Care - Review of Staffing Levels and Resident Care

Canal Flats

Whereas private long-term care providers are contracted by the health authority who is responsible for setting direct care hours to each resident;

And whereas the current requirement for direct care hours is 3.00 – 3.36 hours per day, per resident which can include care from regulated professionals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to review staffing levels and resident care by increasing the standard to 4.0 hours of direct care to create the funding and contractual framework needed to hire additional staff and better meet the growing complexity of residents in long-term care.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-RR40.1 (Note, 2024-RR40 was severed and the first resolution 2024-40.1 was endorsed by the Executive).

2024-RR40.1 Addressing the Needs of Rural Seniors in British Columbia

Port Alberni

Whereas rural BC has a proportionately larger and faster growing seniors' population than urban BC, yet has less infrastructure and resources to support its aging population;

And whereas a greater and more focused provincial response to ongoing concerns about inequities in services and supports for seniors in rural BC is required to address the inadequacies of current approaches to such issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM endorse the recommendations of the Office of the Seniors Advocate's report titled "Challenges Facing BC's Rural Seniors" and dated February 2024, as follows:

- Development and Implement a Rural Seniors Housing Strategy

- Development and Implement a Rural Health Human Resource Strategy
- Develop and Implement Rural Seniors Home and Community Care Strategy
- Develop and Implement a Provincial Long-Term Care and Assisted Living Plan Based on Equity Throughout the Province
- Develop and Implement a Provincial Rural Transportation Strategy
- Improve and Better Promote Both the Provincial Travel Assistance Program [TAP] and Hope Air
- Increase Rural Representation in Government Through the Creation of a Ministry or Minister of State for Rural BC.

APX8 Improved Access to Publicly Funded Mental Health Services

**Dawson Creek,
Hudson's Hope,
North Coast RD**

Whereas local governments experience increasing pressures on emergency services, policing, bylaw enforcement, homelessness response, and community safety systems associated with gaps in timely and accessible mental health services;

And whereas access to counselling and other mental health supports is often dependent on private insurance coverage, employer benefits, session limits, or out-of-pocket costs, creating barriers to equitable access, particularly in rural and northern communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia take steps to improve access to universal, publicly funded mental health services, including counselling and related supports, with a focus on early intervention and prevention.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB14, 2025-NR20, 2024-EB1.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2024-EB1 Mental Health Supports

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas social issues in the province such as the opioid crisis, mental health issues, the lack of affordable housing, and a shortage of family physicians has led to increasing pressures on fire departments to respond to first response calls;

And whereas communities need more support and resources to deal with the impacts of the opioid crisis and mental health issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to allocate resources to improve access to mental health supports, harm reduction sites, detox and treatment facilities, family doctors, walk-in clinics, community health centres and affordable housing.

APX9 Addressing Regional Mental Health Concerns

Hudson's Hope

Whereas mental health and substance use challenges affect individuals, families, workplaces, and community safety, and rural and remote communities often face barriers to care, including limited counselling and psychiatric services, wait times, travel requirements, and challenges in crisis response;

And whereas evidence-informed prevention, early intervention, and community-based supports—coordinated with schools, primary care, Indigenous partners, social services, and law enforcement—can improve outcomes and reduce pressure on emergency services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to expand local mental health and substance use services in the northeast region, including counselling, crisis response, addictions support, and after-hours and virtual options where appropriate.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB14, 2025-NR20, 2024-EB1.

The Resolutions Committee also advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2024-EB1 Mental Health Supports

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas social issues in the province such as the opioid crisis, mental health issues, the lack of affordable housing, and a shortage of family physicians has led to increasing pressures on fire departments to respond to first response calls;

And whereas communities need more support and resources to deal with the impacts of the opioid crisis and mental health issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to allocate resources to improve access to mental health supports, harm reduction sites, detox and treatment facilities, family doctors, walk-in clinics, community health centres and affordable housing.

APX10 Coordinated Federal, Provincial and Local Government Homelessness Strategy **Mission**

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;

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:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be asked to urge the provincial and federal governments to convene a meeting with representatives of local governments in BC to create a coordinated, resourced strategy for addressing the underlying issues related to homelessness and disruptive street behaviour.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB14, 2025-NR20, 2024-EB1.

2025-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.

2025-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.

2024-EB1 Mental Health Supports

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas social issues in the province such as the opioid crisis, mental health issues, the lack of affordable housing, and a shortage of family physicians has led to increasing pressures on fire departments to respond to first response calls;

And whereas communities need more support and resources to deal with the impacts of the opioid crisis and mental health issues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to allocate resources to improve access to mental health supports, harm reduction sites, detox and treatment facilities, family doctors, walk-in clinics, community health centres and affordable housing.

APX11 Enabling Team-Based Primary Care in BC

Radium Hot Springs

Whereas team-based primary care is widely recognized as an evidence-based approach that improves patient access, continuity and comprehensiveness of care, and health outcomes, while increasing clinic capacity and improving the efficiency of primary care delivery;

And whereas the Province has identified team-based primary care as central to British Columbia's primary care system, but widespread implementation continues to be hampered by systemic barriers, including physician-centred funding structures, limited funding for nurses and allied health professionals, lack of local flexibility to recruit and manage interdisciplinary teams, and inadequate operational and infrastructure funding:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to address systemic barriers to team-based primary care by developing sustainable funding, governance, and operational models that enable the widespread implementation and long-term sustainability of team-based primary care in British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2023-EB7, 2022-EB15.

2023-EB7 Primary Care Clinic Funding

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the investment in primary care is consistent with the strategic direction of the Ministry of Health and supports a team-based primary care model;

And whereas new physicians are choosing team based health and provincial incentives are targeting new graduates who want to work with teams of other clinicians;

And whereas the approval of new Rural Growth Plans and expansion of their Primary Care Networks includes capital funding to help streamline access to primary care for patients and families:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Health to provide additional funding, according to regionally defined needs, for expansion of existing Primary Care Networks to address regular health care needs closer to home.

2022-EB15 Increased Funding for Additional Resources for Healthcare

Elkford

Whereas many communities across the province, particularly in rural and remote areas, there exists a shortfall of qualified staff to provide healthcare services;

And whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has created additional demand on healthcare services;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for additional resources to provide necessary primary healthcare services across the province such as increased Primary Care Network funding to support team based care in clinics (physicians, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, etc); funding for new Community Health Centres (CHC); and a review of the payment model for physicians in clinics, providing an alternative to the fee-for service model which is ill-suited to the CHC model for providing healthcare.

APX12 Enabling Team-Based Primary Care in British Columbia

Saanich

Whereas team-based primary care is widely recognized as an evidence-based approach that improves patient access, continuity and comprehensiveness of care, and health outcomes, while increasing clinic capacity and improving the efficiency of primary care delivery;

And whereas the Province has identified team-based primary care as central to British Columbia's primary care system, but widespread implementation continues to be hampered by systemic barriers, including physician-centred funding structures, limited funding for nurses and allied health professionals, lack of local flexibility to recruit and manage interdisciplinary teams, and inadequate operational and infrastructure funding;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to address systemic barriers to team-based primary care by developing sustainable funding, governance, and operational models that enable the widespread implementation and long-term sustainability of team-based primary care in British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2023-EB7, 2022-EB15.

2023-EB7 Primary Care Clinic Funding

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the investment in primary care is consistent with the strategic direction of the Ministry of Health and supports a team-based primary care model;

And whereas new physicians are choosing team based health and provincial incentives are targeting new graduates who want to work with teams of other clinicians;

And whereas the approval of new Rural Growth Plans and expansion of their Primary Care Networks includes capital funding to help streamline access to primary care for patients and families;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Health to provide additional funding, according to regionally defined needs, for expansion of existing Primary Care Networks to address regular health care needs closer to home.

2022-EB15 Increased Funding for Additional Resources for Healthcare

Elkford

Whereas many communities across the province, particularly in rural and remote areas, there exists a shortfall of qualified staff to provide healthcare services;

And whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has created additional demand on healthcare services;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for additional resources to provide necessary primary healthcare services across the province such as increased Primary Care

Network funding to support team based care in clinics (physicians, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, etc); funding for new Community Health Centres (CHC); and a review of the payment model for physicians in clinics, providing an alternative to the fee-for service model which is ill-suited to the CHC model for providing healthcare.

APX13 Team Based Primary Care

Central Saanich

Whereas team-based primary care is widely recognized as an evidence-based approach that improves patient access, continuity and comprehensiveness of care, and health outcomes, while increasing clinic capacity and improving the efficiency of primary care delivery;

And whereas the Province has identified team-based primary care as central to British Columbia's primary care strategy, but widespread implementation continues to be hampered by systemic barriers, including physician-focused funding structures, limited funding for nurses and allied health professionals, lack of local flexibility to recruit and manage interdisciplinary teams, and inadequate operational and infrastructure funding:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to address systemic barriers impacting patient access to team-based primary care by developing sustainable funding, governance, and operational models that enable the widespread implementation and long-term sustainability of team-based primary care in British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2023-EB7, 2022-EB15.

2023-EB7 Primary Care Clinic Funding

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the investment in primary care is consistent with the strategic direction of the Ministry of Health and supports a team-based primary care model;

And whereas new physicians are choosing team based health and provincial incentives are targeting new graduates who want to work with teams of other clinicians;

And whereas the approval of new Rural Growth Plans and expansion of their Primary Care Networks includes capital funding to help streamline access to primary care for patients and families:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Health to provide additional funding, according to regionally defined needs, for expansion of existing Primary Care Networks to address regular health care needs closer to home.

2022-EB15 Increased Funding for Additional Resources for Healthcare

Elkford

Whereas many communities across the province, particularly in rural and remote areas, there exists a shortfall of qualified staff to provide healthcare services;

And whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has created additional demand on healthcare services;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for additional resources to provide necessary primary healthcare services across the province such as increased Primary Care Network funding to support team based care in clinics (physicians, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, etc); funding for new Community Health Centres (CHC); and a review of the payment model for physicians in clinics, providing an alternative to the fee-for service model which is ill-suited to the CHC model for providing healthcare.

APX14 BC Emergency Health Services – Ambulance Communications**McBride**

Whereas there is a need to improve emergency communication infrastructure, including radio repeaters, for ambulance communication and cell tower expansion to address substantial coverage gaps in the Robson Valley Region;

And whereas an increased number of repeaters and cell towers would improve communications for BC Emergency Health Services, improving timely access to emergency health care and increasing safety during emergency transportation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government and Regional Health Authorities to develop and expand emergency communication infrastructure to address the gaps in communication in BC.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-EB100.

**2024-EB100 Enhancing Communications for Fire Departments
Responding to Motor Vehicle Incidents****Port Alberni**

Whereas fire departments play a crucial role in responding to motor vehicle incidents outside of fire protection boundaries on behalf of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and that both EMCR and the local government have a shared responsibility for the health and safety of responders;

And whereas one of the significant challenges faced by local fire departments is the lack of adequate [or any] communications infrastructure in the areas they respond to, making it difficult for responders to coordinate their efforts, request additional resources, or seek assistance from other agencies and hampering the effectiveness and efficiency of response operations, potentially compromising the safety of both responders and the public:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urgently request the Province of British Columbia to provide modern and reliable communications, such as low-earth orbit satellite internet, to responding agencies that are handling motor vehicle incidents on the Province's behalf to ensure seamless communication and enhance the safety and effectiveness of responders;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with telecommunication providers to improve overall communications infrastructure in areas where motor vehicle incidents occur frequently including expanding coverage, improving network reliability, and exploring innovative solutions to address communication challenges in remote and underserved areas.

APX15 Food Security and Food Sovereignty**Fraser-Fort George RD**

Whereas families across British Columbia are experiencing increasing challenges with food security and food sovereignty due to rising costs, climate impacts, and supply chain vulnerabilities, which disproportionately affect rural, remote, and Indigenous communities;

And whereas budget cuts and the loss of provincial agriculture support limit communities' ability and resources needed to build resilient, locally controlled food systems:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Province of British Columbia and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to invest in policy research and fund programs that support increased local food security and food sovereignty.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB10, 2024-NR51.

**2025-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.

**2024-NR51 Addressing Climate Challenges in Agriculture and
Supporting Farmers**

NCLGA Executive

Whereas farmers across British Columbia face escalating challenges due to climate change, including increasingly frequent and severe droughts, highlighting the urgent need for regionally relevant agricultural research to address these issues effectively;

And whereas the government of British Columbia has demonstrated commendable leadership by allocating substantial funding, including an additional \$80 million, to expand the Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program, aimed at enhancing water management practices and resilience in the agricultural sector;

And whereas while investments in infrastructure are crucial, there is also a critical need for targeted funding for regionally relevant agricultural research to develop innovative solutions tailored to the specific challenges faced by farmers in different regions of British Columbia;

And whereas regionally relevant research is essential for identifying sustainable agricultural practices, crop varieties, and water management strategies that are best suited to the unique climatic conditions and agricultural landscapes of each region:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the federal and provincial governments to prioritize funding for regionally tailored agricultural research to develop sustainable solutions for diverse farming challenges across British Columbia.

**APX16 Need for Provincial Housing Legislation to Be Directly
Tied to Infrastructure Funding**

New Westminster

Whereas local governments are committed to implementing provincial legislation aimed at delivering new housing supply and clarifying development contribution to growth-related infrastructure and amenities, and also rely on the Government of British Columbia to directly deliver certain services, including schools, transit, affordable housing, and supportive housing and related services for those living with homelessness, mental health and substance misuse;

And whereas City of New Westminster analysis has found the amount of funding necessary to support infrastructure and amenities required to meet the needs of growth enabled through legislation, exceeds what can be collected while still ensuring that development remains financially viable, and at the same time, the Province of British Columbia and the federal government are actively collaborating to stimulate development by reducing Development Cost Charges (DCCs) to lessen financial barriers for developers and homebuilders, to help them build more housing in the current uncertain economic environment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to provide funding for the infrastructure and amenities needed to achieve the legislated housing targets and density for those local governments that are actively working toward enabling new supply;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to provide the services within their mandate, such as schools, transit, affordable housing, and supportive housing and related services for those living with homelessness, mental health and substance misuse, needed to serve the population growth anticipated based on the legislated housing targets and housing needs report, in those municipalities where the local government is actively working toward enabling new supply.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-SR5, 2025-NR29, 2024-SR2.

2025-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, protecting our communities against future climate related risks 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.

2025-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.

2024-SR2 Infrastructure Funding to Support Provincially-Mandated Housing Growth

UBCM Executive

Whereas Bills 44 and 47 mandated increased housing density across the province, requiring local governments to expand infrastructure to support the new housing and ensure complete communities;

And whereas an infrastructure deficit already exists with risks of failure that could impact health and safety, and threaten growth of the provincial economy;

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 that will be required;

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 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;

And further that the Province 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.).

APX17 Establish a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable

Revelstoke

Whereas British Columbia is facing ongoing challenges related to housing affordability, supply, and policy coordination across the province;

And whereas the complexity and scale of the housing situation have highlighted the need for meaningful, ongoing consultation with stakeholders who are directly involved in housing delivery and policy impacts;

And whereas local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, market and nonmarket housing providers, academic experts, and other housing sector stakeholders have emphasized the importance of collaborative, evidence-based housing policy development;

And whereas UBCM recently endorsed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable that would bring together representatives from multiple sectors to advise and inform provincial housing policy:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government establish a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable composed of representatives from local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, market and non-market housing sectors, academic experts, and provincial and federal housing ministries or officials, with a mandate to collaboratively develop, review, and provide advice on housing policies to ensure balanced, informed, and outcomes-focused housing solutions for communities across British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-NR123.

2025-NR123 Establishment of a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable

NCLGA Executive

Whereas effective and sustainable housing policies require advance consultation with local governments, Indigenous organizations, non-profit providers, private sector experts, and academic institutions to ensure

workable, coordinated solutions, and recent provincial housing legislation has often been developed without sufficient input from sector stakeholders, leading to unintended consequences, implementation challenges for local governments, and impacts on housing supply and affordability;

And whereas a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable, modeled on advisory bodies such as the Energy Step Code Council, would strengthen collaboration, improve the development and implementation of housing policy, and ensure ongoing engagement with key stakeholders:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the Government of British Columbia to establish a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable with representation from local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, non-profit and private housing sectors, academic experts, and both provincial and federal housing ministries, to strengthen housing policy development, monitor impacts, and support coordinated solutions to British Columbia's housing challenges.

APX18 Expansion of Speculation and Vacancy Tax

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT) has proven effective in turning vacant homes into housing for people in British Columbia and ensuring that foreign owners, and those with primarily foreign income, contribute fairly to BC's tax system, so much so that the province has continued to expand the original Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to encompass more municipalities;

And whereas the current Speculation and Vacancy Tax structure only applies to select municipalities, pushing the problems caused by speculation and properties left vacant into areas not covered by the SVT:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government to expand the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to the entire province of BC, allowing all municipalities and regional district electoral areas to opt in.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB20, 2025-EB21.

2025-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.

2025-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.

APX19 Victim Services Program Funding

Merritt

Whereas statistics show that family violence and intimate partner violence is on the rise in BC, often with tragic consequences;

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

And whereas the funding formula for victim services is built around population and does not take into consideration the absence of a community based program, resulting in the responsibility falling on local police-based programs and additional responsibilities falling to committees:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to assess what funding is needed to expand victim services capacity and update the formula utilized to determine provincial contributions accordingly.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB33.

2025-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.

APX20 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;

And whereas there have also been recent changes to implementation strategies in the CleanBC legislation by the Province of BC government, in coordination with the federal government, that should also be considered in context with the BC Energy Step Code and BC Building Code:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request 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, and that any such amendment consider applicable provincial building and energy regulations, and be implemented in a manner that expands rather than restricts local autonomy and opportunity, and is flexible and practical for all British Columbia local governments.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on not endorsed resolution 2025-NR68.

2025-NR68 BC Building Code Amendment to Include Natural Gas

Sapllumcheen

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.

APX21 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 with First Nations;

And be it further resolved that this framework should include:

1. Guidelines for Engagement: Clear protocols for consultation and collaboration between municipalities 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 municipal 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.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on Executive not endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR83.

2025-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.

APX22 Sustainable Public Library Funding

Salmo

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments and deliver provincially significant services, including literacy, digital access, workforce support, emergency response, and community well-being programs;

And whereas the Province's annual core funding for public libraries has remained at \$14 million since 2010, resulting in a significant decline in per-capita support due to population growth and inflation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to increase annual core operating funding for public libraries to reflect population growth and inflation.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

2025-SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90%) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21% of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6% 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% and overall inflation went up 36%;

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;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish an advisory body, per section 52[1] of the *Library Act*, to review the funding model for public libraries in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

APX23 Funding and Development of Mobile (Bookmobile) Library Services

Pemberton

Whereas mobile library (bookmobile) services increase libraries' ability to provide an effective and flexible way to deliver literacy programs, written materials, digital access, and community engagement opportunities to underserved populations;

And whereas certain individuals face barriers to accessing library resources due to distance from services, and limited local facilities, particularly residents of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities, as well as homebound or mobility-challenged individuals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to provide stable, dedicated funding to support the establishment, ongoing operation, and long-term sustainability of mobile library (bookmobile) services in rural, remote and Indigenous communities across the province.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

2025-SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90%) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21% of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6% 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% and overall inflation went up 36%;

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;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish an advisory body, per section 52[1] of the *Library Act*, to review the funding model for public libraries in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

APX24 Public Library Funding

Powell River

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments, the provincial government's financial contribution is also critical to ongoing library operations and the Province's \$14 Million in core funding for BC's 71 library systems has not increased since 2021, even as the population has grown by nearly 30 percent and inflation by more than 35 percent and libraries continue to shoulder growing expectations without the necessary provincial support;

And whereas libraries have taken on an ever-expanding role in advancing provincial objectives for community well-being: helping job seekers and small businesses, providing safe spaces during emergencies and extreme weather, supporting residents facing mental health, substance use, and housing challenges, and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to:

- a. immediately increase the annual core funding for public libraries to \$30 million, and
- b. index that amount to cost-of-living and inflationary pressures in future years, both recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and repeatedly requested by the BC Public Library Partners, and
- c. establish both:
 - i. a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading expanding, and constructing library facilities, and

- ii. an advisory body under Section 52(1) of the *Library Act* to review the provincial library funding model in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

2025-SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90%) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21% of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6% 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% and overall inflation went up 36%;

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;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish an advisory body, per section 52[1] of the *Library Act*, to review the funding model for public libraries in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

APX25 Capital Funding Program and Advisory Body for Libraries

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments, the provincial government's financial contribution is also critical to ongoing library operations;

And whereas the Province's \$14 million in core funding for BC's 71 library systems has not increased since 2010, even as the population has grown by nearly 30 percent and inflation by more than 35 percent;

And whereas libraries have taken on an ever-expanding role in advancing provincial objectives for community well-being: helping job seekers and small businesses, providing safe spaces during emergencies and extreme weather, supporting residents facing mental health, addiction, and housing challenges, and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;

And whereas despite the passage of a Special Resolution at the 2025 UBCM Convention calling for increased provincial investment in libraries, no additional funding has been provided, and libraries continue to shoulder growing expectations without the necessary provincial support:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to immediately increase the annual core funding for public libraries to \$30 million, and to index that amount to cost-of-living and inflationary pressures in future years, as recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and repeatedly requested by the BC Public Library Partners;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish both a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities, and an advisory body under Section 52(1) of the *Library Act* to review the provincial library funding model in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

2025-SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90%) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21% of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6% 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% and overall inflation went up 36%;

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;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish an advisory body, per section 52[1] of the *Library Act*, to review the funding model for public libraries in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

APX26 Increased Funding for Libraries

Port Moody

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments, and the Province's \$14 million in core funding for BC's 71 library systems has not increased since 2010, even as both the population and inflation have grown dramatically over the years;

And whereas libraries continue to shoulder growing expectations without the necessary provincial support and libraries have taken on an ever-expanding role in advancing provincial objectives for community well-being:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to immediately increase the annual core funding for public libraries to \$30 million, and to index that amount to cost-of-living and inflationary pressures in future years, as recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and repeatedly requested by the BC Public Library Partners;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish both a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities, and an advisory body under section 52(1) of the *Library Act* to review the provincial library funding model in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

2025-SR3 Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue

UBCM Executive

Whereas libraries in BC are primarily (more than 90%) funded by local governments, and the provincial government's share of library funding has been decreasing – from 21% of total revenue collected by libraries in 1986 to 6% 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% and overall inflation went up 36%;

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;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to establish an advisory body, per section 52[1] of the *Library Act*, to review the funding model for public libraries in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

APX27 Provincial Funding for the Agricultural Land Commission

Chilliwack

Whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) plays a critical role in preserving British Columbia's agricultural land base and supporting the long-term viability of farming and food security across the province;

And whereas the ALC has recently been required to lay off staff to remain within its budget, demonstrating a level of provincial underfunding that undermines its mandate and signals a lack of adequate provincial commitment to farmers and the agricultural sector:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to immediately provide adequate, stable, and ongoing funding to the Agricultural Land Commission to ensure it can fulfill its legislated mandate without reductions in staffing or service levels;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the Province to recognize and address the serious impacts of ALC underfunding on farmers, agricultural land protection, and local food systems, and to demonstrate a renewed commitment to supporting agriculture as a vital component of British Columbia's economy and communities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB59.

2025-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.

APX28 Agriculture Land Commission Staffing Reductions

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is a cornerstone of protecting British Columbia's finite and irreplaceable agricultural land base, yet has been compelled to reduce staffing levels solely as a result of inadequate and insufficient provincial funding;

And whereas these staffing reductions significantly impair the ALC's ability to fulfill its legislated mandate, weaken regulatory oversight, and reflect a serious failure by the Province to prioritize agricultural protection amid escalating pressures on food security, farmland loss, and the long-term viability of the agriculture sector:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM formally convey its strong concern to the Government of British Columbia that chronic provincial underfunding has directly resulted in staffing cuts at the ALC and has undermined confidence in the Province's commitment to safeguarding agricultural land;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urgently called upon to immediately restore, stabilize, and significantly increase funding to the Agricultural Land Commission, and to unequivocally recognize and act upon the protection of agricultural land and the agriculture sector as a critical and non-negotiable provincial priority.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB59.

2025-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.

APX29 Funding for the Agricultural Land Commission Operating Budget

Richmond

Whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) has recently been informed of budget cuts made by the Province to its operating budget;

And whereas the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) continues to see increases in violations of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, raising concerns that the ALC cannot adequately meet its ALC Act application processing, compliance and enforcement mandates:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province that all application fees and the proceeds of all monetary penalties and fines in relation to the ALC Act be returned by the Province to the ALC operating budget;

And be it further resolved that the ALC's compliance and enforcement unit be given authority under the ALC Act to issue tickets.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB59, 2025-NR90.

2025-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.

2025-NR90 Agriculture Land Commission Compliance and Enforcement Ticketing

Richmond

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 non-compliance 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 Agricultural 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.

APX30 Exemptions, Income Thresholds and Compliance Support – Agricultural Land Reserve

Qualicum Beach

Whereas only 5% (approximately 4.6 million hectares) of the Province's land base is dedicated to agriculture through the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), and the Farming Income Thresholds (the minimum gross income a farm must generate from qualifying agricultural products to be eligible for Farm Class status) are low and outdated, and further, property within the ALR is partially exempt from school tax, hospital, regional district, Transit Authority, BC Assessment and municipal financial authority fees, regardless of Farm Class status;

And whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) employs only six Compliance and Enforcement Officers for the entire province for the purpose of investigating complaints and enforcing land use regulations to protect agricultural land:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province that properties within the ALR that are not actively farmed should not benefit from exemptions from taxes and fees such as school tax, hospital, regional district, Transit Authority, BC Assessment and municipal financial authority fees;

And be it further resolved that the Farming Income Thresholds be reviewed and revised to require higher levels of productive farming to achieve Farm Class status;

And be it further resolved that the ALC receive adequate funding from the provincial government to support the resources required to support hiring of additional Compliance and Enforcement Officers to protect agricultural land.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB59, 2024-NR76, 2024-NR92.

2025-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.

2024-NR76 School Tax Exemption

Pitt Meadows

Whereas the *School Act* exempts 50% of the assessed value of a parcel of land in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) from school taxation if the land is vacant and unused, or used only for a residential purpose;

And whereas to encourage farming in the ALR to ensure local food security, school tax exemptions should only apply to ALR land that is being used for a farm purpose:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to amend the *School Act* to remove the 50% school tax exemption for vacant and unused land, and residential purpose land in the ALR.

2024-NR92 Minimum Income Requirements for Farm Classification

Pitt Meadows

Whereas the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation establishes minimum gross income requirements for farm operations to be classified as Farm under the *Assessment Act*, that were last increased in 1993;

And whereas farm property tax reform that confers tax benefits to farm operations would help to encourage farming and support local food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to amend the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation to increase the income thresholds to achieve Farm classification, to a single minimum gross farm income of \$7,000;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to review the income thresholds at least every five years.

APX31 Short Term Rentals on ALR Land

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas many farmers are diversifying their operations into agri-tourism accommodation in order to remain financially solvent and there are financial and temporal costs associated with registering with the province's Short Term Rental Accommodation Registry that further stress agricultural producers with agri-tourism accommodations;

And whereas short-term rentals on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land are already regulated by the Agricultural Land Commission through the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and Regulations, as well as local government bylaws and planning processes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request an exemption to the *Short Term Rental Accommodations Act* for ALR properties that are in compliance with the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and Regulations and local government bylaws for agri-tourism accommodation.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on Executive not endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR87.

2025-NR87 Permit Vacation Rentals within the Agricultural Land Reserve

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

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.

APX32 Keep BC Parks Open Longer

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas Provincial Parks serve a vital recreational, cultural, social and economic role in the lives of many British Columbians;

And whereas the Province of BC closes many of its parks to campers in September each year, limiting the ability of British Columbians access to those parks at a time of year when they continue to be functionally usable:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to keep our Provincial parks, including campgrounds, open until the end of October to enable the access to parks for all visitors to enjoy these recreational benefits for a longer period and to encourage healthy and active lifestyles.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-EB72.

The Resolutions Committee also advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

2024-EB72 Keep BC Parks Open Longer

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas provincial parks serve a vital recreational, cultural, social and economic role in the lives of many British Columbians;

And whereas the Province of BC closes many of its parks to campers in September each year, limiting the ability of British Columbians access to those parks at a time of year when they continue to be functionally usable:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to extend the season for all provincial parks, including campgrounds, by keeping them open until the end of October to enable the access to parks for all visitors to enjoy these recreational benefits for a longer period and to encourage healthy and active lifestyles.

APX33 Improve Old Growth Ecosystem Conservation

**Columbia Shuswap RD,
Revelstoke**

Whereas intact old-growth forests provide province-wide public benefits including climate regulation and mitigation, biodiversity conservation, watershed stability, fresh water, clean air and reduced hazard risk (e.g. floods, fires, landslides), while improving ecological resilience, community public safety, and economic outcomes associated with British Columbia's growing tourism industry;

And whereas local governments throughout British Columbia bear direct responsibility and expense for responding to the downstream impacts of deforestation, giving all municipalities and regional districts a legitimate and shared interest in the protection of remaining intact old-growth forests regardless of location;

And whereas the Inland Temperate Rainforest is a red-listed ecosystem underrepresented in existing protected area networks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to act on provincial conservation commitments, including the protection of 30% of lands by 2030 and Old Growth Strategic Review recommendations, and work with First Nations and local governments to establish long-term protection measures for intact ancient and old-growth ecosystems of provincial significance, including increased conservation efforts for the Rainbow-Jordan wilderness and the Inland Temperate Rainforest, including a land management plan.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2023-EB55.

2023-EB55 Protection of Old Growth Forests

Metchosin

Whereas climate change and the planetary biodiversity crisis are real and, old-growth forests have significant economic, social and environmental value as wildlife habitat, tourism resources, carbon sinks and are vital sites for biodiversity in British Columbia and becoming increasingly rare in the province;

And whereas the Province's independent panel on old growth forests called on government to "Declare conservation of ecosystem health and biodiversity of British Columbia's forests as an overarching priority and enact legislation that legally establishes this priority for all sectors." (A New Future for Old Forests: A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems):

Therefore be it resolved that 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.

APX34 Modernization of Section 644 of the *Local Government Act*

Ucluelet

Whereas Section 644 of the *Local Government Act* is outdated and fails to include modern communications services—such as cellular, broadband, fiber-optic, and satellite—that increasingly rely on municipal rights-of-way;

And whereas municipal infrastructure costs are soaring while revenues under Section 644 have stagnated, failing to keep pace with inflation or the technological growth of the utilities industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to modernize Section 644 of the *Local Government Act* by including all modern communications services and adjusting the 1% revenue cap to ensure fair, sustainable, and predictable funding that reflects true municipal infrastructure costs.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB61.

2025-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% 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% in-lieu-of utilities tax.

APX35 Small Craft Harbour Management and Divestiture

North Coast RD

Whereas the Department of Fisheries and Oceans is mandated to divest non-core small craft harbours to local governments or other interested parties, or alternatively to decommission them;

And whereas the Department of Fisheries and Oceans retains responsibility for ensuring public safety at all federal harbours, including non-core small craft harbours:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to oppose the divestiture of non-core small craft harbours without adequate funding and to call upon the Government of Canada to commit sufficient, long-term funding for the maintenance and public safety of non-core small craft harbours.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-NR87.

2024-NR87 Ports Prioritization

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas public wharves and docks are critical transportation links for people, supplies, and emergency services in coastal communities, and there is a lack of coordinated provincial and federal priority setting and funding to support and maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline;

And whereas the federal government divested government wharves, and the responsibility for maintenance and management of public ports has fallen entirely on local taxpayers and nonprofit groups, and the provincial government does not have a ministry responsible for dealing with for the complex issues involving public ports, especially in unincorporated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial and federal governments to review BC's marine network as a whole and identify ports that are vulnerable to long-term funding concerns as well as extreme weather events for more sustained public support to maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline to meet the long term economic, social, and emergency needs of coastal residents.

APX36 Cease Divestment Efforts of Remote Port Facilities

Islands Trust, qathet RD, Strathcona RD

Whereas "remote port facilities" are essential services, defined by Transport Canada as serving isolated communities where marine transportation is the primary mode of transportation;

And whereas Transport Canada has ongoing efforts to divest remote port facilities simultaneous with commitments to maintain remote ports despite the remaining remote port facilities in BC not being conducive to transfer according to Transport Canada's 2020 evaluation of its Port Asset Transfer Program:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM request Transport Canada and the federal government to cease further efforts to divest remote port facilities, to continue the National Marine Strategy commitment to ongoing maintenance of remote port facilities, and to provide transition funding for divested facilities that provide critical access to remote communities without the capacity to maintain the infrastructure.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-NR87.

2024-NR87 Ports Prioritization

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas public wharves and docks are critical transportation links for people, supplies, and emergency services in coastal communities, and there is a lack of coordinated provincial and federal priority setting and funding to support and maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline;

And whereas the federal government divested government wharves, and the responsibility for maintenance and management of public ports has fallen entirely on local taxpayers and nonprofit groups, and the provincial government does not have a ministry responsible for dealing with for the complex issues involving public ports, especially in unincorporated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial and federal governments to review BC's marine network as a whole and identify ports that are vulnerable to long-term funding concerns as well as extreme weather events for more sustained public support to maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline to meet the long term economic, social, and emergency needs of coastal residents.

APX37 Interregional Transit

Comox Valley RD

Whereas BC Transit operates regional bus services in partnership with municipal and regional districts across BC;

And whereas affordable private interregional bus services have been greatly reduced since the withdrawal of Greyhound and similar private bus lines:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask BC Transit and the Ministry of Transportation and Transit prioritize to their efforts to bring forward actionable policies and programs, based on the commitment by the provincial government to support interregional transit, and that includes equitable funding provisions for interregional connections that provide reasonable, affordable travel for the general public in both municipal and electoral areas of the province.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB76.

2025-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.

APX38 Cost of a Public Transit System in Communities Under a Population of 10,000

Merritt

Whereas local governments with populations under 10,000 people are predominantly rural in nature, characterized by low population density, dispersed development patterns, and limited ridership potential;

And whereas these smaller rural communities lack the tax base and ridership volumes necessary to offset operating and capital costs through fares or local revenues;

And whereas provincial transit funding models tend to favour large urban centres, leaving rural communities to shoulder a disproportionate share of transit costs through local taxation resulting in low-ridership rural transit systems which are financially unsustainable to maintain and which divert limited local government resources from essential services and infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government develop flexible, long-term, and predictable funding programs tailored specifically to rural transportation needs.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB75.

2025-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.

APX39 Expansion of Fare Free Youth Transit

Capital RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia's Get on Board! program provides fare-free transit for children aged 12 and under, and youth older than 12 face cost barriers that limit access to education, employment, and community services and to establish lifelong, sustainable travel habits;

And whereas the immediate expansion of fare-free transit to all youth aged 13 to 18 may present fiscal challenges for the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia implement a phased expansion of the fare-free youth transit program by increasing eligibility by one year at a time until fare-free transit is available to youth aged 13 through 18.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-NEB10.

2024-NEB10 Free Transit for Students

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the BC Government's fare-free transit program for youth aged 12 and under grade 6 saves families money while offering youth low-carbon transportation that helps the province and municipalities reach carbon neutrality targets;

And whereas expanding eligibility to those in grade 12 and under would promote equitable access to transit despite economic disparity amongst youth and families in BC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to expand the fare-free transit program for youth in grade 12 and under and provide permanent sustainable funding to do so.

APX40 Forest Service Road Closures and Crown Land Access

Revelstoke, Sicamous

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is responsible for the management of forest service roads (FSRs) and associated infrastructure on Crown land, and declining forest harvesting activity has resulted in the closure and decommissioning of many FSRs and bridges across the province, limiting public access to backcountry areas;

And whereas forest service roads provide essential access for outdoor recreation, tourism, search and rescue, wildfire suppression, emergency response, and resource-based economic activity, particularly in rural, remote, and destination communities;

And whereas the closure or decommissioning of forest service roads without adequate consultation has increased public safety risks, reduced emergency access and egress options, negatively impacted tourism and recreation-based economies, and shifted costs and operational pressures onto local governments, volunteer organizations, and first responders;

And whereas the UBCM membership has repeatedly endorsed resolutions recognizing the importance of forest service roads and calling on the Province to maintain access for recreation, tourism, and emergency response (2013-B128, 2017-B58, 2017-B59, 2020-EB19 through 2020-EB22, 2024-EB79, 2024-EB80, and 2025-EB68):

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia fully consult and actively engage local governments and Indigenous partners prior to any decision to close or decommission forest service roads or bridges, and that the Province work collaboratively to develop practical solutions that maintain reasonable access to Crown land for recreation, tourism, emergency response, and community resilience.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB68.

2025-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.

**APX41 Remote Communities Forest Service Road Emergency
Egress Maintenance**

Fort St. James

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has been faced with an increasing number of natural disasters annually and the downturn of the Forestry Industry has resulted in forest service roads deteriorating;

And whereas many remote communities rely on forest service roads to serve as emergency egress routes in the case of natural disaster evacuations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Ministry of Forests to review and identify forest service roads that serve as community emergency egress routes;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Forests incorporates increased maintenance standards for the forest service roads that are identified as community emergency egress routes.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB68.

2025-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.

APX42 Forest Service Road Decommissioning and Recreational Access

McBride

Whereas the Village of McBride and surrounding region rely heavily on outdoor recreation activities such as snowmobiling, skiing, hiking, camping, and horseback riding that attract visitors and support local businesses including hotels, restaurants, fuel stations, grocery stores, and retail shops;

And whereas the decommissioning of forest service roads in the Robson Valley, for example areas such as Castle Creek, Dore River, and McKale River, limits access to these recreational areas and negatively impacts tourism and the economic sustainability of rural communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government (Ministry of Forests) to review forest service road decommissioning policies and work with rural communities to ensure continued reasonable access to recreation areas that support local tourism and economic development.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB68.

2025-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.

APX43 Legislative Changes Consultation Process

Zeballos

Whereas the Province of British Columbia implements changes to legislation in anticipation of providing benefit to all British Columbians;

And whereas not all rural, remote communities are provided with capacity to fulfill new legislative requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province provide a more fulsome consultation process with municipalities of all sizes prior to making sweeping legislative changes.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB77.

2025-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.

APX44 Legislate Local Government Consultation

Lake Country

Whereas local governments are key partners in the implementation, administration, and enforcement of provincial legislation and regulatory changes;

And whereas provincial legislation introduced under accelerated or urgent timelines can have significant financial, operational, planning, and service delivery impacts on local governments;

And whereas meaningful consultation with local governments supports improved policy outcomes, reduces unintended consequences, and strengthens collaborative governance between the Province and local governments;

And whereas local governments may have limited opportunity to review, analyze, and provide feedback on proposed legislation when bills are introduced or advanced under urgent or expedited timelines:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province ensure any new or pending legislation or regulatory changes be subject to a minimum six-month consultation period prior to implementation or final approval.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB77.

2025-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.

APX45 Enhanced Provincial-Local Government Consultation on Provincial Initiatives

Pitt Meadows

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are democratically elected, and the successful implementation of provincial initiatives is strengthened by early, structured, and respectful consultation with local governments;

And whereas recent provincial legislation and regulatory initiatives — including housing-related reforms and proposed changes to development approval processes — have not provided for meaningful local government input:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to establish a formal provincial–local government consultation framework for policy, legislative and regulatory initiatives that have implications for local government.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB77.

2025-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.

APX46 Transparency of Governance

Sicamous

Whereas local governments have primary responsibility for land use planning and decision-making and rely on timely, clear, and consistent engagement from the Province of British Columbia when decisions or discussions affect lands within local government boundaries;

And whereas significant and precedent-setting court decisions related to land use in British Columbia, together with the provincial implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the *Heritage Conservation Act*, have created uncertainty for property owners and local governments regarding provincial expectations, legal implications, and future land use considerations;

And whereas a lack of early, coordinated, transparent, and ongoing communications with affected municipalities during and following such decisions has hindered local government planning processes and undermined public confidence in local and provincial governance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to increase transparency by engaging directly with local governments when the province is involved in decisions, discussions, or policy developments affecting lands within local government boundaries to reduce uncertainty for local governments and the public.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB77.

2025-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.

APX47 Support Municipal Ethical Oversight – Independent Office

Kimberley

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are not currently required to adopt a code of conduct, and there remains no provincially mandated, independent mechanism to support local governments when ethical concerns are raised or standards are breached;

And whereas many local governments—particularly smaller and rural municipalities—are under-resourced and lack the capacity, independence, or specialized expertise to address conduct concerns without incurring significant financial and administrative burdens:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests that the Province of British Columbia establish an independent provincial office to support local governments in addressing ethical concerns and conduct breaches;

And be it further resolved that this office be mandated to ensure minimum provincial standards, provide a consistent and impartial approach to complaint adjudication across jurisdictions, and reduce the need for resource-intensive local investigations, particularly in under-resourced communities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-EB88.

2024-EB88 Local Government Ethics Commissioner

Port Moody

Whereas the City of Port Moody strongly supports fair and unbiased resources for local governments;

And whereas in support of this principle, the City of Port Moody called upon the Province to establish an “Office of the Local Government Ethics Commissioner”, which would provide fair and unbiased guidance to local governments on issues such as legality, conflict, code of conduct violations, and bullying:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests the Province establish an Office of the Local Government Ethics Commissioner and require mandatory ethics training for all new elected officials.

APX48 Increase Maximum Fine Amounts for Municipal Bylaw Violations

White Rock

Whereas municipalities in British Columbia rely on effective bylaw enforcement to protect public safety, environmental values, community livability, and municipal assets;

And whereas the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw offences under provincial legislation, including the Community Charter, have not kept pace with inflation, development pressures, or the economic benefits that may be gained through non-compliance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to amend relevant provincial legislation, including the Community Charter, to increase the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw violations.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-NR37.

2025-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.

APX49 Improved Cellular Reliability in Rural and Remote Areas **Kootenay Boundary RD, Rossland**

Whereas reliable cellular service is essential infrastructure for public safety, economic activity, and everyday communication in rural and remote communities;

And whereas many rural and remote regions in British Columbia continue to experience persistent cellular service gaps and service disruptions that affect access to emergency services and the ability of residents and businesses to operate reliably;

And whereas unreliable cellular connectivity creates barriers to local economic development by disrupting business operations, limiting remote work opportunities, and affecting tourism and service delivery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to senior levels of government, relevant regulatory agencies, and telecommunications providers for improved cellular coverage, capacity, and reliability in rural and remote communities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2024-EB102.

2024-EB102 Supporting the Expansion of Cell Coverage in Rural and Remote Areas

NCLGA Executive

Whereas rural and remote areas across British Columbia continue to face challenges in accessing adequate cell coverage, hindering connectivity and safety for residents;

And whereas initiatives to extend cell coverage, such as the proposed Telus tower near Puntzi Lake, present opportunities to address these challenges and improve connectivity in underserved communities;

And whereas community engagement and environmental considerations are crucial in the development of such projects to ensure they meet the needs of local residents and mitigate potential impacts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM extend their full support to initiatives aimed at expanding cell coverage in rural and remote areas to enhance connectivity and safety for residents;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourage telecommunications providers, such as TELUS, to engage in ongoing consultation with local communities and stakeholders throughout all stages of project development to ensure transparency, address concerns, and maximize benefits for residents.

APX50 Keeping BC Forestry Competitive: Improving Access to Wood, Jobs and Investment

Prince George

Whereas British Columbia's forest sector requires timely, predictable access to economic fibre, improved cost structures, and a reliable log supply—including more efficient permitting, reduced administrative and regulatory burdens, transparent and competitive BC Timber Sales volumes, and strengthened support for First Nations through capacity, tools, and revenue sharing mechanisms to participate fully in stewardship, consultation, tenure, and manufacturing opportunities;

And whereas proactive, science based forest management is essential to climate adaptation and wildfire mitigation, and tools such as fuel reduction, salvage, thinning, and prescribed burning are necessary to maintain resilient working forests that store carbon, reduce emissions, and sustain the long term economic viability of mills, contractors, workers, and forest dependent communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the Province of British Columbia to strengthen the forest sector by expediting access to economic fibre, reducing regulatory and cost barriers, ensuring a reliable BC Timber Sales log supply, supporting meaningful First Nations participation, and integrating active forest management practices *into provincial climate adaptation and wildfire mitigation strategies*.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB84, 2024-EB68, 2024-EB96, 2023-NR88.

2025-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.

2024-EB68 Sustainable Forest Management Practices and Wildfires

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas the current forest ecosystem contains significant unnatural old growth forest, excluding Interior Cedar Hemlock and Coastal Rainforest, and experiences damage from devastating wildfires and insect epidemics;

And whereas the biodiversity and sustainability of forests in British Columbia is at risk, impacting human and wildlife health, ecosystem health, and the economy of the forest sector:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC, in conjunction with Indigenous Nations, to modernize forest management policies and regulations, update biodiversity targets, and promote environmental

stewardship, which are key in creating healthy forests, reducing fire hazards, and protecting community safety and critical infrastructure;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to support education on the value of reintroducing fire plan strategies to responsibly manage fuel sources as a healthy way to maintain the forest, ungulate, bird, and amphibian populations, and protect community safety and infrastructure.

2024-EB96 Industry Shutdown - Timber Rights

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the closure of sawmills in the region has caused significant economic distress within local communities that has led to a decline in local employment opportunities which negatively impacts the livelihoods of residents and local businesses;

And whereas recent shutdowns provide a concern that wood harvested in one area will be transported to another for processing, thus jeopardizing the local economic value for communities most impacted:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM requests that the Province considers policy to ensure that timber rights that can reasonably be considered “attached” to a sawmill that is being closed, or that were originally provided to the company (or companies) that owned that sawmill, be transferred to local and/or Indigenous governments upon closure in order to foster economic diversification and community resilience.

2023-NR88 Expediting Forestry Approvals

Merritt

Whereas rural communities across British Columbia have historic and ongoing cultural and economic connections to forest and timber industries;

And whereas the closure of major employers such as mills can affect not only the immediately laid-off workers, but their families, and the economic viability of the entire community;

And whereas the Province of BC has committed to multi-million dollar funds such as the Rural Economic Development Fund and the BC Manufacturing Jobs Fund;

And whereas spending from these funds can be avoided if rural areas do not lose jobs unnecessarily:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM calls upon the Province of BC to streamline and expedite the necessary approvals for forestry practices, including cutting permits (CPs), annual allowable cut (AAC), and necessary First Nations consultation within BC’s *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and to strictly follow stated approval timelines.

APX51 Rural Post-Secondary and Skilled Trades Training

Cariboo RD

Whereas rural and northern communities in the Cariboo North Central region face significant labour market shortages across multiple sectors, including healthcare, education, skilled trades, and emerging natural resource industries;

And whereas the region has experienced substantial economic disruption due to mill closures and contraction within the forest sector, increasing the need for retraining and workforce transition opportunities;

And whereas access to locally delivered post-secondary and skilled trades training is essential to workforce development, economic resilience, and the long-term sustainability of rural and northern communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to prioritize and fund the delivery of post-secondary and skilled trades training in rural and northern communities to address regional labour shortages and support economic resilience.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolutions 2025-EB50, 2024-EB105, 2022-EB31, 2021-SR2.

2025-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.

2024-EB105 Increased Funding for Rural Colleges

Port Alberni

Whereas colleges in rural British Columbia play a crucial role in providing accessible and high-quality education and training opportunities for students across the province, including a closer to home education for those who otherwise cannot access training or education to provide necessary skills for employability;

And whereas rural colleges face increasing demands and challenges, including rising operating costs, growing student populations, and the need to adapt to changing industry needs;

And whereas adequate funding is essential to ensure that rural colleges can continue to provide quality education, support student success, and meet the evolving needs of students and industries, while being challenged by distance and numbers when trying to meet the same requirements as colleges in more heavily populated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM appeal to the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for rural colleges in British Columbia to support their operations, programs, and services and develop a standard of college funding more closely reflecting the real costs of providing required training and education to the population of rural British Columbia.

2022-EB31 Training of BC Workers in Deep Energy Retrofits and Climate-Smart Construction

Vancouver

Whereas BC is facing both a climate emergency and a housing affordability crisis;

And whereas the most affordable housing is that which is already standing, the most affordable of which is aging and in need of climate-smart retrofits which retain embodied emissions, provide resilience in extreme weather and reduce GHGs;

And whereas training workers in deep energy retrofits and construction of deeply affordable climate-smart housing, including installing solar panels, solar hot water systems and heat pumps, would help alleviate currently long installation and construction wait-times and enable a faster pace of construction of climate-smart buildings and energy retrofits needed to achieve our climate emergency goals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of BC to increase support and funding for trades training programs in deep energy retrofits, including installing solar panels, solar hot water systems and heat pumps, and training in the construction of climate-smart buildings including mass timber, Passive House standard and pre-fabricated net-zero-energy wood-frame modular buildings.

2021-SR2 Forest Management in BC

UBCM Executive

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

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

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

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

Section APX Part Two – Local Government Scope

APX52 Post-Secondary Affordability

Victoria

Whereas post-secondary students are facing greater cost-of-living challenges, due to a variety of factors including a lack of affordable housing options, longer and more expensive commutes, a lack of food security and underfunded food banks, and a range of other cost increases, resulting from a university funding model that's over reliant on international students;

And whereas student advocacy organizations have put forward a Student Issues Backgrounder 2025 with policy solutions that can help make life more affordable for students on campus, help bring down housing and transportation costs, and help ensure students have access to affordable food and services that they need to thrive while pursuing higher education:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province implement all 15 policy solutions identified in the Student Issues Backgrounder 2025.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

The Resolutions Committee also advises that this resolution does not meet the criteria for clarity. It is unknown what the 15 policy solutions are. As such, the full extent of the request being made by this resolution is unclear.

APX53 Student Food Security Grant

Oak Bay

Whereas since 2020 an approximately 20 percent inflation rate has contributed to a cost-of-living crisis that has particularly impacted students, and post-secondary food banks are seeing dramatically increased use, including a tenfold increase in visits to the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) food bank from Spring 2020 to Spring 2024;

And whereas local businesses and the broader community regularly support campus food banks with donations, but student societies require stable funding for student part-time staff positions in order to operate and expand food bank programs to meet the increased needs on their campuses:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Honourable Minister Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, to provide funding support to BC post-secondary student unions, by establishing a food security grant, equivalent to \$1.50 per student, to address student food insecurity as evidenced by the increased use of post secondary campus food banks.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX54 Access to Affordable Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (EpiPens)

Port Hardy

Whereas anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that requires immediate treatment with epinephrine, and timely access to epinephrine auto-injectors (commonly known as EpiPens) is critical for saving lives;

And whereas the current cost of EpiPens in British Columbia ranges between \$100 and \$150, creating a significant financial barrier for individuals and families who require this essential medication, particularly those without comprehensive drug coverage:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to implement a program to provide epinephrine auto-injectors at a nominal cost to residents, thereby eliminating financial barriers and ensuring equitable access to this life-saving medication.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

The Resolutions Committee also advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB4.

2025-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.

APX55 Enhanced Mental Health Support Following Infant Loss

New Westminster

Whereas infant loss, including miscarriage, stillbirth, and the death of an infant can result in profound and long-lasting mental health impacts for parents and caregivers;

And whereas access to timely, specialized, and trauma-informed mental health supports following infant loss varies across the province, leaving many families without adequate care during an acute period of grief:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to ensure ongoing provincial funding for research related to pregnancy loss and bereavement care, to provide standardized education and training for health care providers on how to deliver trauma-informed, evidence-based care, and to fund bereavement support programs for families who experience pregnancy loss, infant loss, embryo loss, or failed fertility and IVF treatments.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX56 Employment Insurance Sickness Benefit Duration

Burns Lake

Whereas Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits administered by the Government of Canada provide temporary income replacement for workers who are unable to work due to illness or injury, with benefits available for up to 26 weeks under the *Employment Insurance Act*;

And whereas healthcare system wait times for diagnostic services, specialist consultations, and surgical procedures in Canada and British Columbia frequently extend for several months and, when combined with medically required recovery periods, may exceed the 26-week duration of Employment Insurance sickness benefits, particularly for residents of rural and northern communities who often face additional barriers to timely access to specialized medical care:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM urge the Government of Canada to review the duration and flexibility of Employment Insurance sickness benefits to better align with current medical treatment wait times and recovery periods, including consideration of mechanisms to extend benefits where treatment delays are beyond the control of the claimant.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX57 Violence in Healthcare and Minimum Nurse-to-Patient Ratios Prince Rupert

Whereas all British Columbians deserve access to high-quality healthcare when they need it;

And whereas healthcare workers deserve to be provided with safe workplaces – when workers are not safe, neither are patients;

And whereas minimum nurse-to-patient ratios are an evidence-based solution that improve patient outcomes, provide nurses with manageable workloads, help facilitate safe workplaces;

And whereas unsafe work environments for healthcare workers heighten risks of them leaving the sector, which worsens staffing shortages, can compromise patient access to and quality of care and makes minimum staffing ratios more difficult to achieve:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to take immediate action to prevent violence against healthcare workers, including holding health authorities accountable to provide safe workplaces for their employees;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urges the provincial government to fully implement minimum nurse-to-patient ratios in all healthcare settings as soon as possible.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX58 Public Safety Personnel Network (PSPNET) Program Langley Township

Whereas Public Safety Personnel Network (PSPNET) is delivered through the University of Regina's Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment (CIPSRT/ICRTSP) and is funded by the Government of Canada through Public Safety Canada;

And whereas public safety personnel in rural, volunteer, and Indigenous communities face significant geographic and financial barriers to specialized care which is necessary due to disproportionately high rates of mental health disorders due to frequent exposure to traumatic events, similar to all public safety personnel:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to formally authorize the University of Regina to deliver specialized, therapist-guided online cognitive behavioural therapy (PSPNET) to all public safety personnel across British Columbia;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide funding of \$233,000 per fiscal year in 2026/27 and 2027/28.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

**APX59 Calling for a Cumulative Health Impact Assessment of
the BC's LNG Industry**

New Westminster

Whereas concerns have been raised by health professionals, First Nations, local governments, and other stakeholders regarding the potential cumulative health impacts associated with liquefied natural gas (LNG) development in British Columbia;

And whereas provincial and federal governments are considering further expansion of LNG facilities and related infrastructure in British Columbia, including a proposed expansion of the Tilbury LNG facility;

And whereas the Health Officers' Council of British Columbia has expressed support for an independent review of the potential health impacts of LNG development, and several British Columbia municipalities have called for a cumulative health impact assessment of the industry:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to undertake an independent, cumulative health impact assessment of British Columbia's LNG industry and complete such an assessment prior to further expansion of LNG facilities and related infrastructure in the province.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX60 Online Marketplace Accountability

Nelson

Whereas Canadians lose hundreds of millions of dollars annually to fraudulent listings on online marketplaces, and current consumer protection frameworks provide limited recourse for users of peer-to-peer platforms, as marketplace operators and payment processors typically disclaim responsibility for fraudulent transactions;

And whereas other jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom and the European Union, have established mandatory platform obligations such as seller verification, fraud prevention measures, and accessible dispute resolution supported by independent regulatory oversight:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the federal and provincial governments for the establishment of accountability standards for online marketplace platforms and associated payment processors, including seller verification requirements, timely removal of fraudulent listings, accessible complaint and dispute resolution mechanisms, and effective enforcement measures.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX61 Online Harm Accountability

Nelson

Whereas social media platforms, gaming platforms, and generative artificial intelligence systems are widely used by Canadians, including youth, and certain platform design, algorithmic, and monetization practices can create foreseeable risks of harm, including exploitation of children and vulnerable populations, manipulation of public discourse, and foreign interference;

And whereas Canada currently lacks a clear and comprehensive legislative framework establishing accountability standards for digital platforms, while other jurisdictions have adopted statutory duties of care and regulatory oversight to address systemic online harms and align with emerging international governance approaches:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocate to the Government of Canada to establish clear federal legislation creating a duty of care for digital platforms, requiring reasonable measures to prevent foreseeable harm, protect youth and vulnerable users, and ensure accountability where platforms fail to meet these obligations;

And be it further resolved that AKBLG and UBCM request that the Government of Canada engage in meaningful consultation with local governments and communities, and coordinate with international partners, in the development of such legislation.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX62 Restricting the Access of Children to Social Media and AI Chatbots Prince George

Whereas enacting legislation prohibiting Canadians under 16 from accessing social media platforms and Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots, and requiring technology companies to implement secure, privacy compliant age verification systems to enforce these minimum age restrictions supports online safety;

And whereas requiring platforms to report to appropriate Canadian law enforcement authorities any credible threats of violence, criminal activity, exploitation, or other dangerous conduct involving users over 16 that result in suspension or removal, and establish meaningful, proportionate financial penalties or operational restrictions for companies that fail to comply with these reporting and age verification requirements and investing in education programs that help youth, parents, educators, employers, and employees understand the safe use of online technology promotes the safe use of these tools:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Government of Canada to prohibit access to social media platforms and AI chatbots for Canadians under 16; require technology companies to implement secure, privacy compliant age verification systems; mandate reporting of credible threats or dangerous conduct to law enforcement; establish proportionate penalties for non compliance; and invest in education programs that promote safe online technology use.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX63 CC-130H Hercules Fleet Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas escalating wildfires and climate change are increasing in intensity and cost across British Columbia and Canada threatening the unceded territories of many First Nations and impairing the ability of Indigenous peoples across Canada to exercise their rights protected under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, including rights related to land, culture, and traditional practices and resulting in mounting economic costs and greater risk to life and critical infrastructure, demanding bold and timely action;

And whereas larger fires emit greenhouse gases and black carbon smoke that intensify warning and harm air quality and converting Canada's retired CC-130H Hercules fleet into modern air tankers would protect communities, critical infrastructure, and help reduce catastrophic carbon emissions from wildfires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with the Government of Canada to:

1. Partner with First Nations and the private sector to retrofit a portion of Canada's retired CC-130H Hercules fleet into large air tankers for wildfire suppression in Canada.
2. Deploy these aircraft as part of a strengthened national wildfire response capacity, to be shared with provinces and territories and, where appropriate, used for international humanitarian and emergency missions. Consider that the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre assist in managing deployment under a transparent cost-sharing framework, with initial operating capability by the 2027 wildfire season.
3. Prioritize this made-in-Canada solution that leverages Canadian engineering, protects lives and communities, upholds Indigenous rights, and contributes to environmental sustainability.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX64 Food Waste Reduction and Retail Affordability Framework Sooke

Whereas in BC food waste contributes to landfill emissions and economic inefficiency, and many edible food products are discarded before consumption;

And whereas food affordability challenges continue to affect British Columbians and voluntary retail markdown systems remain inconsistent;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Government of British Columbia to develop legislation requiring large grocery retailers to implement progressive, mandatory price reductions for perishable food products approaching best-before or expiry dates, alongside complementary food waste reduction and food recovery measures.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX65 Overturn Changes to PST Legislation Squamish

Whereas the province of British Columbia has passed, but not yet enacted, legislation that sees the PST expanded to currently exempted professional services, textiles and some telecommunications, that will: directly impede competitiveness of British Columbian businesses; will result in an increased cost of production for businesses and manufacturers; result in an increased cost of living for all British Columbians;

And whereas this legislative change will cause excessive harm to small businesses, private practices, industrial producers, housing developers, municipalities and the textile industry through an increased cost of operations and an increased price of services:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM requests the provincial government overturn their decision to enact the expansion of the PST.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX66 Triple Net Lease Reform New Westminster

Whereas triple net leases shift the responsibility for property taxes, insurance, and maintenance costs from property owners onto commercial tenants, creating financial instability and unpredictability for small and local businesses;

And whereas municipalities rely on vibrant local businesses to support complete communities, economic resilience, and main street vitality, yet lack the legislative authority to regulate commercial leasing practices:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to review and reform commercial leasing legislation, including the use of triple net leases, to improve transparency, fairness, and protections for commercial tenants, particularly small and locally-owned businesses.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX67 Student Ferry Fares**Oak Bay**

Whereas post-secondary students currently pay full adult BC Ferries fares, despite facing significant cost-of-living pressures and limited incomes, and this creates affordability barriers to travel to co-op employment, internships, conferences, networking opportunities, and travelling home to visit family, particularly for students who must regularly travel between Vancouver Island and the mainland;

And whereas indigenous students and students from rural communities are more likely to rely on ferry services, post-secondary students paying a full adult fare reinforces barriers to being able to travel home with ease, increasing inequities in mobility:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Honourable Minister Mike Farnworth, Minister of Transportation and Transit, for a \$10/day flat rate ferry fare pilot program, during non-peak hours, for post-secondary students.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX68 Restrooms at Rest Stops**Kootenay Boundary RD**

Whereas our vast province has considerable distances between communities, rest stops are an important part of the transportation and tourism network as they provide spots for motorists, ranging from motorcycles to recreational vehicles to transport trucks, with an opportunity to rest, stretch, walk a pet or use a restroom;

And whereas not all of these rest areas are accessible to larger vehicles because of space constraints, and not all of the rest rooms are accessible to all users:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province ensures that each rest stop has rest rooms that are easily accessible by all travelers who need them.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX69 Expand Pilot Education Support**Kamloops**

Whereas Canada is facing a critical airline pilot shortage due to retirements, rising training costs, and insufficient public investment that have created critical gaps between workforce demand and supply;

And whereas this national shortage in airline pilots is reducing service to regional and rural communities, increasing economic disruption, threatening aviation safety, and putting a growing strain on the national transportation system;

And whereas excessive training costs and inadequate government funding have unnecessarily prevented qualified Canadians from becoming pilots:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to take immediate action to expand funding, training capacity, and financial support for pilot education in order to protect public safety, economic stability, and reliable air service for all Canadians.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX70 Local Procurement Policies and Practices**Houston**

Whereas the provincial government incurs substantial expenses and carbon emissions on product distribution to its ministries and agencies due to the use of central stores and purchasing;

And whereas with a variety of the products for these agencies and ministries could be sourced locally to support local businesses who have lost income due to provincial policy decisions which have changed the environment and reduced heavy industry dollars to local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to amend its procurement policies and practices to allow ministerial and agency operations to source products directly from local businesses to economically support the communities they serve.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX71 Federal Minister of Forests**Prince George**

Whereas tariffs and other international market challenges have created uncertainty across the forestry sector and duties and tariffs combine to exceed 45% on Canadian lumber entering the US market making our forest sector less competitive and endangering jobs;

And whereas wildfire and other climate change related challenges are increasingly threatening the health and sustainability of Canadian forests:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the federal government to appoint a federal minister to actively support the Canadian forestry sector through resolving the softwood lumber dispute, procurement policies requiring companies contracting with the federal government to source Canadian lumber first and aggressively increase work to open new markets to Canadian forest products with all international partners.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX72 Teacher Workforce Sustainability**NCLGA Executive**

Whereas persistent teacher shortages in rural, northern, and remote communities in British Columbia have resulted in increased reliance on Letters of Permission and have implications for community stability, workforce attraction, and population retention;

And whereas local governments have an interest in education system stability where workforce shortages affect long-term community sustainability and regional economic resilience:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a provincial strategy to address teacher workforce shortages and reduce long-term reliance on Letters of Permission, including targeted recruitment and retention supports for rural, northern, and remote communities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

APX73 Improving Supports for Newcomers**Port Moody**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is predicting significant labour shortages in the coming years due to retirement and immigrants make up approximately 33% of the workforce in the healthcare, technology, entrepreneurship, and essential services sectors;

And whereas due to funding cuts, immigrants who are already part of our communities are increasingly unable to access employment skills training, including credential recognition and language services which are needed to reach their full potential and support our communities fully:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to collaborate with the Settlement Services Sector to investigate bridging gaps in supports for training and language services for newcomers including, but not limited to:

- sustained access to settlement services for immigrants who have not been able to use them within the prescribed timelines or need access due to extenuating circumstances;
- connection to language training services, particularly level 5 and up, potentially through WorkBC Assistive Technology Centre; and
- programs to support system navigation and credential recognition.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

Section APX Part Three – Clarity / Format

APX74 Large-Scale Corporate Consolidation and Foreign Ownership of Farmland

Fraser-Fort George RD

Whereas large-scale corporate consolidation and foreign ownership of farmland continue to take place and impacts the ability for local ownership, access to, and preservation of agricultural lands:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Provincial Government to, a) provide an update on Province's response to 2024 UBCM resolution EB71 on exploration of policies restricting foreign ownership of Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) land in BC, and, b) direct the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to review recommendations 27 and 28 from the Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Report to provide policy options that improve access to land and essential supports for bona fide farmers and ranchers.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to not meet the criteria for clarity.

The Committee would advise that not all members will be familiar with the Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Report (2018), nor with its recommendations #27 and #28, nor with the nine actions associated with recommendations #27 and #28. As such, the full extent of the request being made by this resolution is unclear.

Section APX Part Four – Regional

APX75 Youth Detox and Treatment Centre

Cranbrook

Whereas there is an urgent need for publicly funded beds to support youth (0-18 years of age) struggling with drug and alcohol addiction in southeastern British Columbia (SE BC);

And whereas the closest treatment centres serving youth are located in Kamloops for detox and recovery, an eight-hour drive from Cranbrook, and in Kelowna for recovery, a six-hour drive from Cranbrook;

And whereas there is no public transportation linking SE BC with Kamloops or Kelowna;

And whereas a parent or guardian is required to accompany their child and remain there at their expense while their child participates in detox (Kamloops) and waits for a recovery bed to become available (Kamloops or Kelowna), resulting in hundreds of dollars in personal expenses for travel, accommodation and meals:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Government, through the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Health, provide a minimum of 10 publicly funded detox and treatment beds for youth, to be located in a centre in southeastern British Columbia.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX76 Capital and Service Expansion Support for Child Development Centres in Northern British Columbia

Prince George

Whereas Child Development Centres in Northern British Columbia, including the Child Development Centre of Prince George and District, provide essential services that support the health, development, inclusion, and wellbeing of children and families across the region;

And whereas the Child Development Centre of Prince George and District is operating in an aging facility that requires significant renovation, retrofitting, and modernization to remain safe, accessible, and capable of supporting current and future service delivery needs;

And whereas growing waitlists are resulting in some children aging out before receiving the services and supports they require, creating an urgent need for expanded capacity and earlier intervention;

And whereas there is a strategic opportunity to leverage the Centre's existing building and attached land base to renew infrastructure, expand services, and better meet the needs of children and families in Prince George and Northern British Columbia;

And whereas strengthened partnerships with the University of Northern British Columbia and other post-secondary institutions would support education, practicum placements, workforce development, applied research, and long term capacity building in child development, early childhood care, and family support services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognize Child Development Centres in Northern British Columbia as essential community infrastructure and advocate to the Province of British Columbia for urgent capital and operational investment to renew, modernize, and expand the Child Development Centre of Prince George and District and other Child Development Centres across Northern British Columbia;

And be it further resolved that the Province be called upon to support and fund formal partnerships with Northern British Columbia post-secondary institutions to build the specialized workforce, expand service capacity, and reduce waitlists so children and families can access critical developmental supports when they are needed.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX77 BC Highway Patrols Service

Fraser Valley RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia halted a poorly conceived plan to transfer highway policing responsibilities from the South Coast Highway Patrol to local RCMP and municipal police detachments for Highway 1;

And whereas there was no consultation with affected municipalities in advance of the implementation and there is significant concern the provincial service change will create resource strain, geographic challenges, jurisdictional misalignment, operational impacts, traffic and economic disruption, seasonal pressures, understaffing, and systemic vulnerability for the municipalities along Highway 1 in the Fraser Valley who are experiencing the affects of the service change:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA advocate on behalf of the Fraser Valley Regional District and its affected member municipalities by requesting the Province of British Columbia initiate immediate consultation regarding any proposed service changes for all Provincial Highways in the Lower Mainland.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX78 Columbia and Western Rail Trail

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the Columbia and Western Rail Trail is an important recreation corridor, economic driver, historic asset, alternate escape route for residents of Christina Lake in the event of wildfire, and critical access route for 76 residences along the western side of the Lower Arrow Lake;

And whereas when the Province of BC disestablished the Trail as recreation trail in 2019, it assured the public that recreational access would continue, yet it has now designated the Trail a non-status rail grade which means the corridor will not receive funding, maintenance or management:

Therefore be it resolved that Province of BC be urged to reverse its decision to designate the Columbia and Western Rail Trail as a non-status rail grade and to work with user groups and other ministries, both federal and provincial, to identify, mitigate and proactively manage safety concerns.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX79 Improve Highway Maintenance Standards

**Clearwater,
Kamloops**

Whereas the Interior Health and Northern Health regions of BC in combination make up the largest number of fatalities for vehicle incidents in the province, being 189 out of 331 deaths in 2023 or 57%, while only representing 22% of the province's population;

And whereas the Interior Health region has a death rate of 15.2 per 100,000, and the Northern Health region has a death rate of 18.1, both of which are well in excess of the provincial average of 6.0;

And whereas the safety of highways in the Interior Health and Northern Health regions impacts all British Columbians due to the centrality of these highways;

And whereas the province's commitment to a \$728 million to upgrade Highway 1 between Kamloops and the Alberta border mitigates safety issues on one specific corridor, but does not address safety concerns on the many other highway corridors in Interior and Northern BC:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work with regional districts and municipalities in the Interior Health and Northern Health regions to prioritize upgrades, as well as ongoing road maintenance standards and oversight, to provincial highways within municipal borders and in regional districts;

And be it further resolved that the Province commit to funding improvements with the goal of reducing death rates in the Interior Health and Northern Health regions.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

**APX80 Reduce Vehicle Fatalities in Statistically Significant
 Zones**

**Fraser-Fort George RD,
Valemount**

Whereas the Interior Health (highway death rate 15.2 per 100 000) and Northern Health (highway death rate 18.1) regions of BC, in combination, make up the largest number of fatalities for vehicle incidents in the province (average provincial highway death rate 6.0), being 189 out of 331 deaths in 2023 or 57%, while only representing 22% of the province's population;

And whereas the Province's commitment to upgrade Highway1 between Kamloops and the Alberta border mitigates safety issues on one specific corridor, but does not address safety concerns on the other highway corridors through the interior and north connecting to the rest of BC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC's Ministry of Transportation and Transit to invest in and prioritize road upgrades, improve road maintenance standards and oversight of provincial highways across the interior and northern health regions, with the goal of reducing fatalities.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

**APX81 Highway 97 Road Safety, Maintenance, Upgrades and
 Infrastructure**

Cariboo RD

Whereas Highway 97 is the longest transportation corridor in the Americas running North – South, from Alaska, through the Yukon Territory, into British Columbia, the United States of America, Mexico and South America;

And whereas although we recognize that there have been significant upgrades to parts of Highway 97, it still requires safety upgrades, better maintenance and repairs, expansion of, and infrastructure development, to facilitate the stated goals of both the provincial and federal governments for transporting goods, like agriculture products, forestry resources, minerals and other mining extractions to international markets, along with accesses need to kept open for oil, gas and hydro right of ways;

And whereas alternative routes are necessary when sections of the main Highway are closed (like the Quesnel - Hixon and Durrell Roads), relief from bottlenecks near cities like Quesnel (new route around Quesnel and Replace the Taylor River Bridge), and safety in all weather conditions for the general motoring public and truck transportation:

Therefore be it resolved that NCLGA, UBCM, and FCM work with both the Province of British Columbia and the Federal Government of Canada to maintain, repair, upgrade road safety issues, and expand and develop the road infrastructure of Highway 97.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX82 Highway 29 Road Conditions

Hudson's Hope

Whereas safe, reliable transportation routes are essential for emergency response, access to health care, commerce, education, and daily travel;

And whereas ongoing concerns continue to be raised regarding the state of Highway 29, including hazardous winding sections at Bear Flat and the unstable stretch at Halfway Hill, which is at significant risk of washout and poses a threat to public safety:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to prioritize the remediation of Highway 29, including slope stability and hazard mitigation at Halfway Hill, as well as installing additional passing lanes and chain-up areas to enhance safety and ensure reliable travel for all users.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX83 Prince Rupert-Alaska Ferry Terminal Reinstatement

North Coast RD

Whereas the closure of the Prince Rupert-Alaska Ferry Terminal in 2019 significantly reduced economic activity and cross-border connectivity for the community and region;

And whereas reinstatement of the Prince Rupert-Alaska Ferry Terminal has been delayed due to unresolved intergovernmental and administrative processes between Canada and the United States, contributing to the ongoing deterioration of the facility:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the Province of BC to collaborate with the Government of Canada to support the reinstatement of the Prince Rupert-Alaska Ferry Terminal.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

APX84 Energy Certainty to Support Long-term Economic Development and Resource Sector Modernization

Campbell River

Whereas homes, businesses, and industries in Vancouver Island and coastal communities rely heavily on energy generated outside the region and delivered through long-distance transmission systems, subsea infrastructure, and marine transport, resulting in a high degree of dependence on external energy supply and limited opportunities for local generation;

And whereas resource, transportation, and building sectors are seeking to modernize, improve efficiency, and reduce emissions while remaining competitive and affordable, and communities across Vancouver Island and the coast are working to attract investment and sustain local jobs, yet constrained energy availability—combined with accelerating provincial electrification policy and the pending expiry of BC Hydro's electricity purchase

agreement with Capital Power's Island Generation facility—is already resulting in lost investment and development opportunities:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC urge the Province of British Columbia, BC Hydro, FortisBC, and the British Columbia Utilities Commission to collaborate with local governments, First Nations, and industry to ensure long-term energy certainty for Vancouver Island by:

- immediately convening and resourcing formal energy roundtables with the Province of British Columbia, BC Hydro, FortisBC, the British Columbia Utilities Commission, local governments, First Nations, and industry to address urgent energy supply constraints, assess interim and long-term solutions, and prevent further loss of investment and economic activity in Vancouver Island and coastal communities;
- recognizing the importance of local, dispatchable, and redundant energy generation—and the critical role of existing facilities such as Island Generation—in supporting economic development, grid reliability, and industrial modernization;
- ensuring that long-term energy planning and contracting decisions consider the economic development needs of AVICC communities alongside the timelines for new renewable energy projects to come online; and
- supporting interim energy solutions that allow resource industries and new investments to remain, modernize, and grow in coastal and island communities while Indigenous-led renewable projects advance to completion;

And be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for consideration.

UBCM Resolutions Committee Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

Appendix B

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES BYLAWS

(Made pursuant to the "Union of British Columbia Municipalities Act", being Chap. 18 of the Statutes of British Columbia, 2006).

1. MEMBERSHIP:

- (a) The membership of the Union shall consist of all cities, districts, townships, towns, villages, regional districts, First Nations and other local governments within the Province of British Columbia that meet criteria established by the Executive and that make application to join the Union and pay the annual membership dues.
- (b) Life membership may be granted by the Executive to persons who have made a significant contribution to local government in British Columbia. All Past Presidents shall be life members. Life members who are not member delegates shall have the privilege of the floor, but with the exception of the immediate Past President shall not be entitled to vote.

2. OFFICERS:

The Officers of the Union shall be: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and Third Vice-President.

3. EXECUTIVE:

- (a) There shall be an Executive which shall be composed of:
 - the Officers of the Union;
 - the Immediate Past President, who shall be the last president to have completed the term of office as President;
 - a Vancouver Representative, who shall be a member of the Vancouver City Council;
 - a Small Community Representative, who shall be a member of a Council of a Village or a municipality with a population not greater than 2,500;
 - an Electoral Area Representative, who shall be an Electoral Area Director of a Regional Board;
 - a GVRD Representative who must be a member of the GVRD Board;
 - five Directors representing the five Area Associations as defined in Section 21;
 - five Directors at Large; and
 - two representatives ("Vancouver Metro Area Representatives") who must be elected members of either or both a council of a member municipality of the GVRD or of the GVRD Board.

The members of the Executive shall be the Directors of the Union.

- (b) The Officers, the Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative and the Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, shall be elected annually at the Annual Convention, and except as herein otherwise provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected at the next Annual Convention. The Vancouver Representative shall be appointed annually by the Vancouver City Council, the GVRD Representative shall be appointed annually by the Board of the GVRD, and the five Area Association Directors shall each be appointed by their respective Area Associations as identified in Section 21. All such appointments shall be communicated to the Nominating Committee by the appointing body pursuant to Section 4(b).
- (c) Except for the Immediate Past President, all members of the Executive, including Officers of the Union, shall hold office only so long as they remain elected representatives of a member of the Union. If a

person holding the office of Immediate Past President ceases to be an elected representative of a member of the Union while holding the office such person shall only hold the office for the remainder of the then current term.

- (d) No person shall hold a position as Officer of the Union unless elected as an Officer by the membership of the Union and no person shall be elected more than twice, whether consecutively or otherwise, as President of the Union.

In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the Officers, the next ranking Officer willing to serve shall fill the vacancy, provided that if the office of President cannot for any reason be filled as aforesaid, the Executive shall call a special election for the office of President and such election may be held by mail or electronic ballot pursuant to the rules and procedures established and determined by the Executive.

In the event of a vacancy:

- amongst the Officers, other than President, the Executive may appoint, from amongst persons qualified to be elected to the Executive, Acting Directors at Large equal to the number of vacancies;
 - amongst the Directors at Large, the Small Community Representative, the Electoral Area Representative, or the Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, the Executive may appoint a person qualified to hold the office to fill the position for the term remaining;
 - in the position of Vancouver Representative, GVRD Representative or amongst the five Directors appointed by the Area Associations such vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.
- (e) The Union shall pay the expenses of the Executive incurred on authorized business of the Union, except for attendance at the Annual Convention. For attendance at the Executive meeting immediately preceding the Annual Convention such expenses shall be limited to the per diem rates and extra hotel accommodation costs incurred for the period of that Executive meeting only. No travelling expenses nor any part of other expenses ordinarily incurred by Executive members in attending the Annual Convention will be borne by the Union. In the event that the Immediate Past President no longer holds local elected office, while still remaining a member of the Executive, their expenses incurred in attending the Annual Convention and the Executive meeting immediately prior to it shall be paid by the Union.

4. NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE:

- (a) There is constituted a committee of the Executive to be known as the Nominating Committee consisting of the Immediate Past President (if any) and the five appointed Area Association Directors provided that where any of the five appointed Area Association Directors declares an interest in seeking election to the Executive of the Union, the Area Association that appointed such Area Association Director may name another elected official of a member of the Union to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- (b) The Nominating Committee shall elect a Chair from amongst the members of the Committee and shall prior to the Annual Convention:
- issue a call for nominations for each of the positions of Officer of the Union and for the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five Directors at Large, and the Vancouver Metro Area Representatives;
 - encourage potential nominees to come forward as candidates for office and as requested provide information to such person relating to duties, responsibilities and roles pertaining to the various offices;
 - review the credentials of nominees to ensure that each nominee is qualified to hold office pursuant to Section 4(j);
 - accept qualified nominees nominated by two elected officials of members of the Union;
 - obtain the name of a qualified person who has been appointed by the City of Vancouver to assume office as the Vancouver Representative, the name of the GVRD Representative and the names of

the five Area Association Directors who have each been appointed to assume the office of Area Association Director by the respective Area Association;

- at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention, prepare and provide to all members of the Union a report on nominations accepted for each office that have been received by the close of business on the last business day of July and on the persons appointed by the City of Vancouver, by the GVRD and the five Area Associations. Such report shall be neutral and the Nominating Committee shall not recommend any nominee or group of nominees.
- (c) In making its report the Nominating Committee, taking into consideration the names of appointees submitted by the City of Vancouver, the GVRD and the five Area Associations, shall ensure they are balanced and representative nominations including:
- that sufficient nominations are received;
 - that each general area of the Province is represented on the Executive nominated or appointed.

The Nominating Committee shall not recommend any nominee or group of nominees.

- (d) The Chair of the Nominating Committee, during the morning session of the first day of the Annual Convention, shall present the nominations for the positions of Officers on the UBCM Executive, i.e. President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and Third Vice-President. After the Chair's report on these positions has been read, the Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for each of the positions of Officers, in addition to the names presented by the Nominating Committee.
- (e) If, at the close of nominations, only one candidate for each position of Officer stands validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith proclaim the candidate elected.
- (f) If, at the close of nominations, more than one candidate stands validly nominated for any of the positions of Officers, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall cause an election to be held.
- (g) On the second day of the Annual Convention at the time after the results of the election of Officers have been announced, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall present the nominations for the positions of:
- Small Community Representative;
 - Electoral Area Representative;
 - for the five positions of Director at Large; and
 - the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives.

After the Chair's report on these positions has been read, the Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for each of the positions of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, for the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives.

- (h) If, at the close of nominations: only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Small Community Representative, or only one person stands validly nominated for the position of Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Directors at Large, only five persons stand validly nominated; or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, only two persons stand validly nominated, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall forthwith declare the only candidates in each of the categories to be elected.
- (i) If, at the close of nominations, more than one person stands validly nominated for the positions of Small Communities Representative, Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, more than five persons stand validly nominated, or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives more than two persons stand validly nominated, the Chair shall cause an election to be held.
- (j) Where a nomination is made from the floor, the nominators must advise the Chair that the nominee is qualified pursuant to Section 3 to hold the office and they have consented to be nominated. The Chair

shall forthwith ask the nominee to confirm such consent from the floor and if the nominee is not present on the floor at the time of nomination, the nominators may either withdraw the nomination or immediately provide the Chair with the written and signed consent of the nominee.

- (k) Nominations shall require two nominators. The nomination shall state only the candidate's name, elected office, municipality, regional district, First Nation or other membership affiliation, and Area Association, and that the consent of the person nominated has been received.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE:

- (a) If, at the close of nominations, more than one candidate stands validly nominated for each position of the Officers, and for the position of Small Community Representative, and for the position of Electoral Area Representative, or in the case of the five positions of Director at Large, more than five such candidates stand, or in the case of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, more than two candidates stand, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall cause elections to be held as may be required.
- (b) The election of Officers shall be held on the afternoon of the first day and the morning of the second day of the Annual Convention.
- (c) The election of Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five positions of Director at Large, and the two positions of Vancouver Metro Area Representative shall be held on the afternoon of the second day and the morning of the third day of the Annual Convention.
- (d) If any election is to be held, ballots shall be prepared and distributed. In the case of an election for Officer positions, one ballot shall be used. In the case of elections for Small Community Representative, Electoral Area Representative, the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, individual ballots shall be used for each category. The names of the candidates shall be listed alphabetically in order of surnames on the ballots, and shall show only the candidates' names, official positions, municipality, regional district or other member affiliation and Area Association. Before any ballot is taken, any person nominated may decline or withdraw their name by giving two hours' notice thereof prior to the start of the election.
- (e) Scrutineers shall be appointed by the President and it shall be among the duties of such Scrutineers to count the votes, or verify the votes, or both, on such ballots and declare the result of such elections to the Chair of the Nominating Committee who shall report the results of the elections to the Convention. In the case of a ballot vote being held for the five positions of Director at Large, and the two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, all ballots marked for more than the number to be elected shall be counted as spoiled ballots.
- (f) All elected representatives from members who are present at the Convention shall be entitled to vote for Directors at Large. Only representatives from Small Communities members who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Small Community Representative, only representatives from Electoral Areas who are present at the Convention shall vote for the Electoral Area Representative, and only representatives of the GVRD and the delegates from its member Municipalities may vote for Vancouver Metro Area Representatives. No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed.
- (g) In the event that the result of election for the position of any Officer of the Union, Small Community Representative or Electoral Area Representative cannot be declared because of an equality of votes between two or more persons receiving the greatest number of votes, then the Chair shall hold a run-off election amongst those persons who received equal votes.

In the case of an election for the position of Vancouver Metro Area Representative, the Chair shall declare elected the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes. If a candidate cannot be elected because of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Chair shall hold a run-off election for the positions remaining undeclared in which the only candidates shall be the unsuccessful candidates in the original election who do not withdraw.

In the case of an election for office as Director at Large, the Chair shall declare elected the five candidates who received the highest number of votes, provided that if a candidate cannot be declared elected because of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Chair shall hold a run-off election for the positions remaining undeclared in which the only candidates shall be the unsuccessful candidates in the original election who do not withdraw.

6. FINANCIAL AUDIT

It shall be the responsibility of the Executive to cause the accounts of the Union to be audited annually at the close of each fiscal year and to report thereon at the Annual Convention.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Union may employ an Executive Director to carry out such duties on behalf of the Union as the Executive may direct. The Executive Director shall be appointed and the remuneration fixed by the Executive.

8. SOLICITOR

The Union may retain a Solicitor whose appointment shall be made and remuneration fixed by the Executive. The Solicitor shall render such legal services as are required by the Executive.

9. AUDITORS

Auditors shall be appointed annually at the Annual Convention and shall hold office until the next Annual Convention.

10. DUTIES AND POWERS OF EXECUTIVE

- (a) The Executive shall have the power and it shall be their duty to put into effect the will of the Union as expressed by resolution at any of its meetings. Between meetings they shall manage the affairs of the Union and shall report all the transactions of the year to the Annual Convention.
- (b) The President, or in the President's absence the senior Vice-President in attendance, shall preside at all meetings.
- (c) The Executive may appoint sub-committees, and may delegate to such sub-committees such powers as may be necessary for the proper carrying out of the duties delegated to the Executive by the Union.
- (d) The Executive may confer and vote by correspondence or electronic means.
- (e) The Executive shall establish the annual budget and shall fix the fees of the members.
- (f) A quorum of the Executive shall be a simple majority thereof.
- (g) The Executive shall meet immediately prior to each Convention and shall be responsible for preparing the programme.
- (h) The Executive shall have power to make such reasonable expenditures as may become necessary for the carrying out of the business of the Union.
- (i) The Executive may enter into contracts on behalf of the Union, acquire or lease real and personal property and generally carry on the business of the Union within the limits of the fiscal arrangements of the Union.
- (j) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these bylaws or any policy, rule, or procedure adopted by UBCM, if a situation arises, such as a state of emergency, that prevents the Annual Convention from being held as an in-person event at a physical location, the Executive may mandate that the

Annual Convention be held as a virtual convention conducted and attended via alternative communications medium (a "Virtual Convention").

- (k) Should the Executive elect to hold the Annual Convention as a Virtual Convention, it will notify members in accordance with these bylaws.
- (l) A Virtual Convention will, where possible, be conducted in accordance with the requirements of these bylaws and any applicable policy, rule, or procedure adopted by UBCM. However, where the Executive determines that adhering to a requirement, policy, rule or procedure at a Virtual Convention is either impossible or would, in the Executive's sole opinion, be very difficult or impractical, the Executive may provide an alternative requirement, policy, rule, or procedure suitable to the Virtual Convention's format.
- (m) Notwithstanding the foregoing subsection, the Executive will conduct the following business at a Virtual Convention:
 - publish the previous fiscal years' financial audit and report thereon;
 - appoint an auditor or auditors to hold office until the next Annual Convention;
 - elect Officers and the Executive;
 - vote on Annual Resolutions; and
 - such other business as the Executive in its sole opinion deem necessary.

11. REPRESENTATION AT CONVENTIONS:

All elected officials of members attending the Annual or any Special Convention of the Union shall be delegates entitled to participate in debates and to vote on any matter before the Convention. Other delegates shall not be entitled to the privilege of the floor unless authorized by the Convention.

12. CONVENTIONS:

- (a) One general meeting shall be held every year which shall be known as the Annual Convention.
- (b) The time and forum for Conventions shall be decided by the Executive. The Executive shall give ninety days' notice in writing thereof to all members of the current year's Annual Convention.
- (c) The Annual Convention shall be called for three (3) days, with additional special interest sessions offered immediately prior to the Annual Convention.
- (d) Other general meetings may be called at any time by a three-fourths majority vote of the Executive and shall be known as Special Conventions.
- (e) Special Conventions shall meet at such time and forum as the Executive shall determine and as much notice thereof as possible shall be given to all members.
- (f) The President, or in the President's absence, the senior Vice-President in attendance, shall preside at all Conventions but the Chair may be delegated to a member of the Executive for particular business.
- (g) At all Conventions there shall be a registration fee. The amount of the registration fee shall be determined by the Executive and may be altered from time to time.
- (h) At all Convention sessions fifty (50) voting delegates shall constitute a quorum.

13. VOTING AT CONVENTIONS:

- (a) Voting on ordinary resolutions normally shall be by a show of voting cards or by electronic voting device, 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 a vote using electronic voting devices. The results of a vote using electronic voting devices are final.

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

In the event that electronic voting devices are not available or not functioning, the Chair may call for a standing vote, whereupon the Chair shall again put the same question to the Convention to be decided by a count of those standing in favour of and against the motion. In the event that the result of the standing vote is questioned by fifty or more voting delegates then present, or at any time at the discretion of the Chair, the Chair shall order that the matter before the Convention be determined by ballot, and the result of such ballot shall be final.

- (b) Where voting is by ballot, the scrutineers appointed under section 5(e) will distribute the ballot, collect the same, and will count and report the vote.
- (c) In all cases, where the votes of the delegates then present, including the vote of the Chair, are equal for and against a question, the question shall be negatived, and it shall be the duty of the Chair to so declare.
- (d) No vote by proxy shall be recognized or allowed.

14. SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION AT CONVENTIONS:

- (a) All resolutions for discussion at the Annual Convention (the "Annual Resolutions") shall be forwarded to the Executive Director not later than June 15 and the Executive Director shall arrange for the distribution of the same and forward a copy of all resolutions to be dealt with to the members at least thirty (30) days before the date of the Annual Convention. Resolutions shall only be accepted from members and Area Associations. Subjects not included shall be considered only if dealt with as in Clause (c) of this Section.
- (b) Matters to be discussed at a Special Convention will be such matters as are contained in the notice given of such Special Convention, and a Special Convention, provided that majority of the members are represented, shall have the power to entertain matters not contained in the notice if duly admitted for discussion under the provisions of Clause (c) hereof.
- (c) It shall be competent for any delegate at an Annual Convention, or at a Special Convention if a majority of the members are represented, to put forward any motion, which, if duly seconded shall be dealt with as follows: The Chair shall put the question "Shall the motion before the meeting be admitted for discussion?" and it shall require a three-fifths majority vote before the motion can be put. At the discretion of the Chair any such motion shall be submitted in writing and copies may be required to be provided to all delegates present before consideration thereof. If such a motion is in regards to a new resolution introduced "off the floor", defined as a resolution not distributed in the Resolutions Book or Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline, consideration shall take place on the Friday of Convention immediately following consideration of the Resolutions Committee Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline.
- (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing the Executive may submit any matters not requiring Extraordinary Resolution to any Convention for consideration or action at any time.
- (e) Guest speakers may be permitted at the discretion of the Executive.

15. COMMITTEES (Other than Nominating Committee):

- (a) It shall be the duty of the President to appoint and to define the powers and duties of every Committee except the Nominating Committee and the Resolutions Committee.
- (b) There shall be a Resolutions Committee composed of the members of the Executive.
- (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:

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; or
4. Resolution is regional in focus.

16. ANNUAL DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

- (a) Annual Dues. The Executive shall have the power to establish and levy annual dues upon members in such amounts as the Executive may deem requisite to meet the financial requirements of the Union.
- (b) Special Assessments. The Executive shall have power to establish and levy, by consent of each member affected, special assessments upon said members in such amounts as the Executive may deem requisite. The Executive shall have the power to levy special assessments on members in addition to the annual levy of fees.
- (c) Special assessments for legal assistance. The Executive shall have the power to establish and levy special assessments from all members for the purpose of providing financial assistance to members in legal appeals where such assistance has been approved by the Executive.

17. BORROWING POWERS

- (a) The Executive shall have the power to borrow on the credit of the Union in anticipation of the receipt of annual fees or special assessments an amount not in excess of a sum or sums then levied or assessed but not yet collected.
- (b) All borrowing by the Union in excess of a sum equal to the amount of the annual fees collected in the fiscal year preceding the incurring of the indebtedness shall be authorized only by resolution of the Union.

18. SEAL

The Seal of the Union shall be kept in the custody of the Executive Director, and shall not be affixed to any instrument except by authority of a resolution of the Executive, and in the presence of the President and the Executive Director, or any two officers of the Union named in such resolution, and they shall sign every instrument to which the Seal of the Union is so affixed in their presence.

19. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Any request of the Union to the Government of the Province of British Columbia for an amendment to the Act of the Legislature incorporating the Union, and any amendments to these bylaws, may only be made pursuant to Extraordinary Resolution duly adopted by the Union.

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 distribution sent to members 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.

21. GENERAL:

- (a) Members are requested to notify the Executive Director of any action they propose to take which may in any way affect local government legislation.
- (b) The fiscal year-end of the Union shall be May 31.
- (c) For greater certainty, it is hereby confirmed that:
 - (i) The Union shall not be operated for the purpose of making a profit but shall instead be operated exclusively to pursue the objects set out in section 3 of its Act of Incorporation;
 - (ii) any revenue generated by the operation of the Union shall be applied solely to defray the expenses of carrying out its objects or to establish such reserves as may, in the opinion of the directors, be reasonably necessary to ensure that the Union will be able to carry out its objects in the future;
 - (iii) no part of the income of the Union shall be payable to, or otherwise available for, the personal benefit of any member of the Union; and
 - (iv) paragraph (iii) shall not prohibit the payment of fair market value consideration for the provision of goods, property or services by any member of the Union or restrict the Union from the normal and proper pursuit of its objects, even though the pursuit of those objects is beneficial to its members.
- (d) Should the Union liquidate its assets or cease operations, its assets will be applied first to satisfy all creditors and any surplus remaining thereafter shall be distributed in a manner determined by the directors as most likely to further the objects of the Union without making any of the assets available for personal benefit of its members.
- (e) The Area Associations referred to in these bylaws are the:
 - Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities
 - Lower Mainland Local Government Association
 - Southern Interior Local Government Association
 - North Central Local Government Association
 - Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments.

22. RULES OF PROCEDURE:

- (a) Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Union, its Executive and Committees, so far as they may be applicable without coming in conflict with the Act of Incorporation, bylaws, or rules adopted by the Convention.

- (b) The Presiding Officer shall enforce order and strict observance of these bylaws. Subject to an appeal to the meeting sustained by a majority vote of delegates present, the Presiding Officer shall have the right to decide all questions of order and the Officer's rulings in this regard shall be final.
- (c) A delegate wishing to move, second or speak to a motion other than in respect of an Annual Resolution 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.
- (d) Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes. The introducer of a motion is permitted three minutes.
- (e) No delegate may speak more than once on any one question unless and until all other delegates desiring to speak have been heard.

23. HANDLING OF RESOLUTIONS:

- (a) Unless the Convention has by ordinary resolution resolved to group the Annual Resolutions pursuant to a recommendation of the Executive and has concurrently resolved to block vote on some or all of the grouped Annual Resolutions in a process recommended by the Executive, the Chair shall cause each Annual Resolution as distributed in the Resolutions Book to be separately read one at a time, and such Resolution as read will not require a mover or seconder and will, once read, be properly before the Convention.
- (b) After the reading of each Annual Resolution and before the reading of the next Annual Resolution:
 - (i) A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will concisely give the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee;
 - (ii) The Chair will then call for the sponsor of the Annual Resolution as read to speak, and if the sponsor does wish to speak, the sponsor may speak for three minutes;
 - (iii) the Chair will then call for any person opposed to the adoption of or proposing an amendment to the Annual Resolution as read to speak;
 - (iv) if no person opposed or proposing an amendment wishes to speak, the Chair must call the question;
 - (v) if a delegate does wish to speak in opposition or propose an amendment, such delegate may speak for two minutes, and thereafter the Chair shall recognize subsequent speakers until no further delegate wishes to speak;
 - (vi) upon there being no further speakers to an Annual Resolution, the Chair must call the question;
- (c) In the event of the Convention passing an ordinary resolution to group the Annual Resolutions as recommended by the Executive and to block vote as contemplated by S. 23(a), then the Chair need not cause such of the Annual Resolutions as are to be subject to block voting to be read one at a time, and S. 23(b) shall not apply. The Chair must introduce a motion to move each block of Annual Resolutions separately, and subject to S. 23(d), the Chair shall call for the question.
- (d) Each time the Chair moves a motion to adopt a group of Annual Resolutions as a block, any delegate may forthwith move an amendment to have one or more of the Annual resolutions in the group removed from the block vote and considered and debated separately. A delegate may only move such a motion if they wish to speak in opposition or propose an amendment to an Annual Resolution. Such motion must be seconded. If the motion passes the Annual Resolution or Resolutions subject of the motion, shall be considered immediately following a vote on the block as amended. Section 23(a) and

(b), as they apply to the consideration of individual Annual Resolutions shall apply to such separately considered Annual Resolutions.

- (e) Should debate continue on any Annual Resolution for an undue length of time, then in the absolute discretion of the Chair, the Resolution may be cleared from the floor by the Chair deciding to refer the Annual Resolution to the Resolutions Committee for further consideration and subsequent report. Any delegate may forthwith move without seconder a motion "shall the Chair's decision be upheld?" which motion must be forthwith put to the vote without debate. If such motion is successful, debate on the Annual Resolution shall continue until the question on the Annual Resolution is called.

PASSED AS AMENDED by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities in Annual Convention assembled at Victoria, British Columbia, on the eighteenth day of September, 1991.

Mayor Joyce Harder
President

Richard Taylor
Executive Director

CERTIFIED CORRECT with Bylaw Amendments to the following sections authorized on the noted dates having been incorporated in the above bylaw consolidation:

Section	4(f)	- September 23, 1992
	4(i)	- September 23, 1992
	5(b)	- September 23, 1992
	5(c)	- September 23, 1992
	5(d)	- September 23, 1992
	21(c)	- September 22, 1993
	21(d)	- September 22, 1993
	2	- September 21, 1994
	3(a)	- September 21, 1994
	3(c)	- September 21, 1994
	3(d)	- September 21, 1994
	4(a)	- September 21, 1994
	4(b)	- September 21, 1994
	4(c)	- September 21, 1994
	4(d)	- September 21, 1994
	4(g)	- September 21, 1994
	4(h)	- September 21, 1994
	4(i)	- September 21, 1994
	4(j)	- September 21, 1994
	4(k)	- September 21, 1994
	5(a)	- September 21, 1994
	5(c)	- September 21, 1994
	5(d)	- September 21, 1994
	5(e)	- September 21, 1994
	5(g)	- September 21, 1994
	6	- September 21, 1994
	3(a)	- September 23, 1998
	3(b)	- September 23, 1998
	3(d)	- September 23, 1998
	4(b)	- September 23, 1998
	4(c)	- September 23, 1998
	4(g)	- September 23, 1998
	4(h)	- September 23, 1998
	4(i)	- September 23, 1998

- 5(a) - September 23, 1998
- 5(c) - September 23, 1998
- 5(d) - September 23, 1998
- 5(g) - September 23, 1998
- 5(f) - September 29, 1999

Richard Taylor
Executive Director

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|---------|---|
| Section | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3(a) - September 29, 2010 3(b) - September 29, 2010 3(d) - September 29, 2010 4(b) - September 29, 2010 4(g) - September 29, 2010 4(h) - September 29, 2010 4(i) - September 29, 2010 5(a) - September 29, 2010 5(b) - September 29, 2010 5(c) - September 29, 2010 5(d) - September 29, 2010 5(e) - September 29, 2010 5(f) - September 29, 2010 5(g) - September 29, 2010 14(a) - September 29, 2010 15(c) - September 29, 2010 22(c) - September 29, 2010 23(a) - September 29, 2010 23(b) - September 29, 2010 23(c) - September 29, 2010 23(d) - September 29, 2010 23(e) - September 29, 2010 13(a) - September 28, 2011 21(b) - September 18, 2013 23(d) - September 27, 2017 14(c) - September 12, 2018 10(j) - September 23, 2020 10(k) - September 23, 2020 10(l) - September 23, 2020 10(m) - September 23, 2020 1(a) - September 14, 2022 3(b) - September 14, 2022 3(d) - September 14, 2022 3(e) - September 14, 2022 4(g) - September 14, 2022 4(j) - September 14, 2022 4(k) - September 14, 2022 5(d) - September 14, 2022 5(e) - September 14, 2022 10(d) - September 14, 2022 10(f) - September 14, 2022 12(b) - September 14, 2022 12(c) - September 14, 2022 12(e) - September 14, 2022 13(a) - September 14, 2022 14(a) - September 14, 2022 14(c) - September 14, 2022 |
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16 - September 14, 2022
16(a) - September 14, 2022
20 - September 14, 2022
21(a) - September 14, 2022
21(c)(i) - September 14, 2022
22(a) - September 14, 2022
22(c) - September 14, 2022
23(a) - September 14, 2022
23(b) - September 14, 2022
23(c) - September 14, 2022
23(d) - September 14, 2022
14(a) - September 20, 2023
15(c) - September 24, 2025

Gary MacIsaac
Executive Director

2035/70/UBCM Bylaws - 2025 CURRENT

Appendix C



UBCM GOVERNANCE REVIEW REPORT

This *Report* has been prepared by Neilson Strategies Inc. for the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM). The document is presented for discussion with, and for the sole use of, UBCM. No representations of any kind are made by the consultants to any party with whom the consultant does not have a contract.



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INTRODUCTION

UBCM's governing body — the Executive — is comprised of 21 members, all of whom hold elected office at the local government level in British Columbia. The composition of the Executive has been designed to create a body that is representative of the membership it serves in terms of geography (i.e., regions of the province), type of local government, and size of community. It has also been designed to create a body that is accessible to elected officials across British Columbia who wish to serve on the Executive.

In recent years, questions have been raised on the degree to which the Executive remains representative of membership. Concerns have also been brought forward about the challenges faced by elected representatives in some member local governments to get elected to positions on the Executive. In response to these questions and concerns, and in an ongoing desire to optimize the governing body's legitimacy to membership, UBCM commissioned an independent *Governance Review* focused on the composition of the Executive. Neilson Strategies Inc., a local government consultancy based in British Columbia, was selected to undertake the *Governance Review*.

Questions on composition are the primary focus of the *Governance Review*, but not the sole focus. The *Review* is concerned, as well, with the potential to change the UBCM name to one that may be perceived to better reflect the diversity of local government in British Columbia. The matter of name change was the subject of Resolution 2024 NEB14, endorsed by membership at the 2024 UBCM Convention.

GOVERNANCE REVIEW REPORT

This report, titled *UBCM Governance Review*, presents the consultant's findings and recommendations for consideration by the Executive, and for presentation to membership. The text is broken into six sections:

- *Section I: Current Composition* — The composition model in place today for the UBCM Executive is examined in the first section of the report. Each of the 21 Executive positions, including the five that comprise the Officers Table, is described. Changes to the composition model in previous years are reviewed. The rationale for the overall current mix of positions is explained.
- *Section II: Comparative Research* — The composition models in place at UBCM's counterpart organizations in other provinces, and in British Columbia's own Area Associations, were examined as part of the *Governance Review*. Key observations from the comparative research are presented in section two.
- *Section III: Engagement of Membership* — Efforts to connect with membership on the matters of Executive composition and UBCM name

change were essential to the *Governance Review*. Engagement points included three focus group discussions, presentations at each of the five Area Association conventions, and a survey made available to all local government elected representatives across the province. Section three of the report presents a summary of the engagement findings specifically on the matter of composition.

- *Section IV: Changes to Consider* — Specific changes to consider in the composition of the Executive are introduced and assessed in section four. All changes were identified through the consultant’s review of the current composition, the comparative research conducted on other organizations’ models, and input from engagement with membership. Recommendations are provided.
- *Section V: UBCM Name Change* — The matter of UBCM name change is explored in section five. Arguments in support of a change, and against a change are examined. Input from membership is reviewed; a recommended path forward is offered.
- *Section VI: Summary of Recommendations* — Section six presents a summary of the consultant’s recommendations on the composition of the Executive, and on the matter of UBCM name change. All recommendations were presented to the Executive for consideration on July 17, 2026, and again on July 30, 2026. Decisions taken by the Executive on the recommendations are outlined in section six; closing comments by the consultant are provided.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

The *Governance Review* was commissioned, as noted, to examine and make recommendations on the composition of the Executive and the question of UBCM name change. The review of composition focuses on questions related to the ways in which positions on the governing body may be created and/or designated to provide for a body that is representative of the membership it serves. Questions on the overall size of the Executive, and on the terms of office for positions on the Executive, are also considered within scope for the *Review*.

Items considered outside of the scope include those related to the configuration of the individual Area Associations, and the composition of the Area Association governing bodies. Also out-of-scope is the UBCM’s nominations process for individuals who seek election to the Executive, the scheduling of Conventions and voting during Conventions, and the Executive’s committee structure.

SECTION I

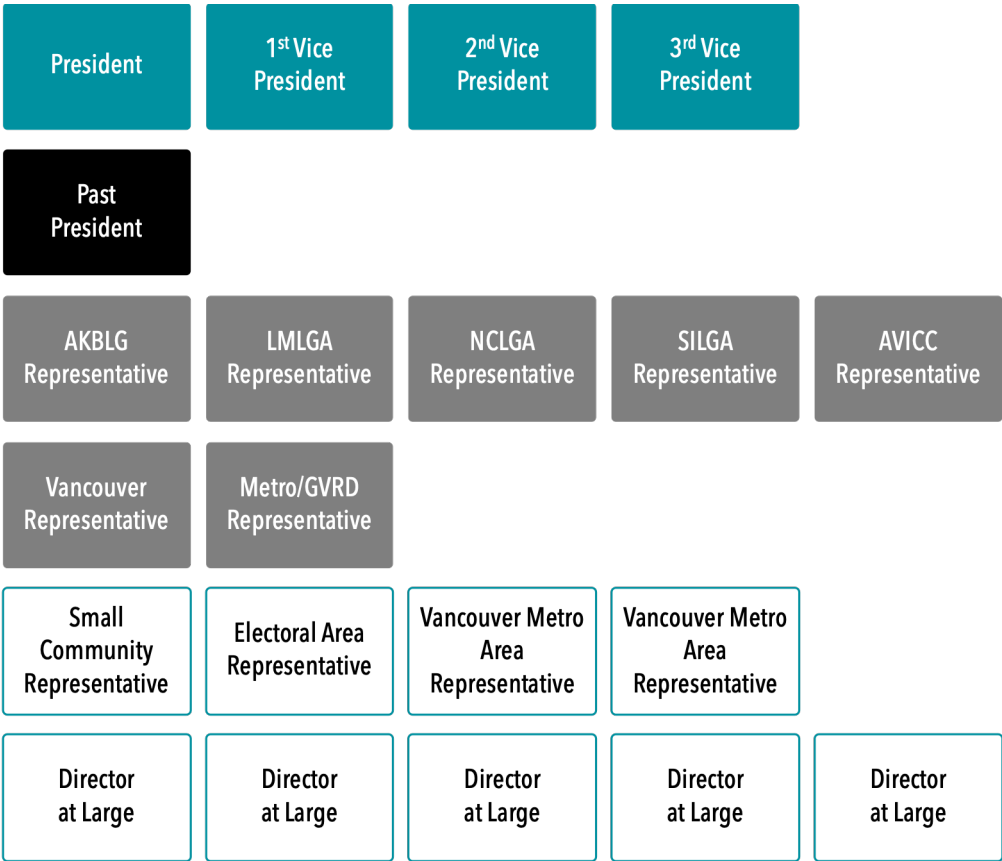
CURRENT COMPOSITION MODEL

UBCM BYLAWS

Figure I.1 shows the current composition of the Executive as set out in the *Union of British Columbia Municipalities Bylaws*. The following points speak to the positions in the figure:

- Directors of the Union* — Section 3(a) of the *Bylaws* identifies all 21 members of the Executive as Directors of the Union. Each Director is elected or appointed, as the case may be, for a one-year term.
- Officers of the Union* — Section 2 of the *Bylaws* identifies four Officers of the Union, including: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and Third Vice President. Each Officer is elected at large by delegates at UBCM’s Annual Convention. By tradition, individuals who are elected to the position

Figure I.1
Current Composition Model



of Third Vice President stand for, and are elected to, Second Vice President in the following year, then First Vice President and President in subsequent elections. This progression through Officer positions is not prescribed in the *Bylaws*; it is, instead, a custom followed in most (but not all) years.

- *Past President* — The position of Past President is filled, as its title suggests, by the last Officer to have completed the term of office as President. Past President is an appointed position — the individual identified for the position is not expected to stand for election. The Past President is not an Officer of the Union; however, for the purposes of this *Governance Review*, the position is considered to be part of the Officers Table alongside the four Officer positions identified in Section 2 of the *Bylaws*.
- *Area Association Representatives* — UBCM’s member local governments are eligible for membership in one of five Area Associations:¹
 - Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG)
 - Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC)
 - Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA)
 - North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA)
 - Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA)

Each Area Association is responsible for appointing one representative to the UBCM Executive annually. Three of the five Area Associations’ bylaws specify the Associations’ Presidents as the appointees to the UBCM Executive. The Presidents of the remaining two Associations are appointed to the Executive as a matter of practice.

- *Vancouver and GVRD Representatives* — The City of Vancouver — British Columbia’s largest municipality by population — appoints one member of Council each year to a dedicated position on the Executive. A separate position is filled each year by a member of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (i.e., GVRD) Board, who is elected by the Board and appointed to the UBCM Executive.²
- *Small Community, Electoral Area and Vancouver Metro Area Representatives* — One position on the Executive is dedicated to a representative who is a member of a Council for a Village, or a municipality with a population not greater than 2,500. This Small Community Representative is elected each

¹ The five Area Associations are recognized in section 21(e) of the Bylaws. Member local governments are not required to join an Area Association; however, most if not all UBCM members also belong to the Area Association in their region.

² The Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) was legally renamed Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) in 2017. The term GVRD is used in this report in place of MVRD, however, when referring to the GVRD Representative position on the Executive. The term GVRD Representative remains in use in UBCM’s Bylaws.

year at Convention by Small Community delegates. A separate position is reserved for an Electoral Area Representative who is an electoral area director of a regional district board, and who is elected each year by the full group of electoral area directors at Convention.

Two positions on the Executive are reserved for Vancouver Metro Area Representatives. These positions are distinct from the GVRD Representative in that they are elected by members of a council of a member municipality within Metro Vancouver, along with the electoral area director of the GVRD's sole electoral area.

- *Directors at Large* — The final five positions on the Executive are Director at Large positions, filled each year by elected representatives from any local government member in the province. As the title suggests, the representatives are elected to positions in at-large votes at Convention in which all delegates of member local governments are eligible to vote.

The 21-member Executive is supported in its decision-making by nine Executive Committees, one of which is the Presidents Committee. The Presidents Committee holds overall management responsibility for UBCM affairs between Executive meetings, oversees member services programs, serves as the Human Resources Committee on staffing issues, and is the Audit Committee for the purposes of the UBCM's annual audit. The Committee also oversees financial and budget reporting, provides ongoing strategic direction to the organization, and provides leadership in addressing provincial and federal government matters. The membership of the Presidents Committee includes the four Officers of the Union, the Past President and the GVRD Representative.

CHANGES OVER TIME³

UBCM was established in 1905 with a seven-member Executive that included a President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary Treasurer and four Directors at Large. Over the following 90 years, the size of the Executive was increased in increments to a total of 16 Directors, with a President, two Vice Presidents, a Past President, Honorary Secretary Treasurer, five Area Association Representatives, three Directors at Large, and single Representatives of Villages, the City of Vancouver and Electoral Areas. These changes, which introduced several of the positions that help to define the current composition, addressed a desire for greater representation by geography (i.e., regions), type of local governments and size of community.

In 1994, UBCM formed an Executive Restructure Committee to address concerns raised at 1993 Convention about size of the governing body, and positions on the body, including Officers. As a result of the Committee's work, the Executive was increased to 18 positions with the addition of two Directors at Large. The position of Third Vice President was introduced to replace the Honorary Secretary Treasurer. In

³ The changes here were documented in UBCM's August 2010 *Report of the Structure Committee*.

1998, membership endorsed additional changes to Executive, recommended by a new Restructure Committee, to enhance representation by size of community. The Village Representative was redefined as the Small Community Representative for communities with no more than 2,500 people. A GVRD Representative, elected by GVRD Board members, was also added for a total of 19 Directors.

Finally, in 2010 membership endorsed recommendations set out in a UBCM *Report of the Structure Review Committee*. The Committee was formed to consider potential changes proposed by the GVRD⁴ — changes that called for three new (for a total of four) GVRD Representatives on the Executive, changes to the City of Vancouver Representative, and a rotational election system for the Officer positions.⁵ In assessing the proposed changes, the Committee determined that:

- there was value in updating the composition of the Executive to address changes and trends in the province
- additional representation of urban communities was necessary, either for the GVRD specifically, or for large communities in general
- the size of the Executive could be expanded to address representation concerns
- new or changed positions should be elected by membership — at large, or by specific constituencies — rather than appointed

The Committee ultimately agreed that the GVRD, by virtue of its population, required additional representation. Two (rather than three) additional positions from the GVRD area were recommended. Both positions would be identified as Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, open to all local government elected officials from the GVRD and its member municipalities, elected annually by delegates from the Metro Vancouver area. The Committee disagreed with the proposed change to the City of Vancouver Representative. The Committee also disagreed with the change to a rotational election system for Officers. For the Committee, the opportunity for all delegates to vote on Officer positions trumped the desire to ensure regional balance at the Officer table.

The changes introduced in 2010 were the most recent changes made to the composition of the Executive. No changes to composition have been introduced since that time.

UNDERSTANDING THE MODEL

The composition model in place today for the Executive has been designed to create a governing body that is representative of the membership it serves. Geography has for many years been considered an important basis of representation to take into

⁴ The Structure Review Committee included four Past Presidents, the GVRD Representative and the five Area Association Representatives.

⁵ The GVRD also called for UBCM to establish a Large Urban Community Caucus — a change that would not affect the composition of the Executive.

account. For UBCM, geography translates into the regions of the province as defined and represented by UBCM's five Area Associations. The five positions on Executive that are reserved for Area Association Representatives ensure that the issues facing communities in the different regions of British Columbia, and the perspectives of the local governments in each of the regions, are brought forward to Executive discussions, and are reflected in the decisions taken by Executive.

Type of local government is a second basis of representation taken into account in the composition. In British Columbia, types of local governments include municipalities, regional districts and the Islands Trust. First Nations governments that exercise local government responsibilities and that are governed by elected councils are also considered, for the purposes of UBCM's *Act* and *Bylaws*, a type of local government. Most of the positions on the Executive are open to elected officials from all types of local governments, if not all local governments in every part of the province. Four positions, however, are limited to elected officials from particular types of local government, as follows:

- the City of Vancouver representative must be filled by a municipal council member (from the City of Vancouver)
- the GVRD Representative must be filled by a regional district director (from the GVRD)
- the Small Community Representative must be filled by a municipal council member (from municipalities with fewer than 2,500 people)
- the Electoral Area Representative must be an electoral area director from one of the province's 27 regional districts

The current composition does not provide guaranteed representation on the Executive for the Islands Trust or First Nation members.

Finally, size of community (i.e., population) has been taken into account in determining the composition of Executive. The Small Community Representative position guarantees that the issues and perspectives of the smallest communities in British Columbia, as a group, are reflected in the discussions and work of the governing body.⁶ The largest municipality in the province by population — the City of Vancouver — has a guaranteed seat, as does the GVRD, the largest regional district. The Vancouver Metro Area, with half of the population in British Columbia, has an additional two seats on the Executive.

Nine of the 21 positions on the Executive are at-large positions, including the five Directors at Large and the four Officers. These positions are open to local government elected officials from the entire membership. The positions are representative of membership as a whole.

In all, the current composition of the Executive has been designed, and has evolved

⁶ The local governments of the smallest municipalities account for close to 20% of UBCM's members.

over time, to be representative of UBCM’s membership. The approach UBCM has taken to representation balances a number of bases, all of which are considered important in designing a governing body that reflects the membership it serves. When the different bases are balanced appropriately, membership is able to see itself in the governing body. And when members can see themselves reflected in the Executive’s composition, the legitimacy of the governing body in representing membership is enhanced.

SECTION II

COMPARATIVE RESEARCH

PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS

Every province and territory in Canada has at least one local government association that, similar to UBCM, exists to represent, promote and advocate for the local government sector in the province, and the common interests of their local government members. One local government advocacy organization — Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) — exists at the national level. The full list of organizations including FCM is presented in Figure II.1.

Figure II.1
Local Government Associations in Canada

Jurisdiction	Association
Canada	Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Newfoundland and Labrador	Municipalities of Newfoundland and Labrador (MNL)
Nova Scotia	Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)
Prince Edward Island	Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities (FPEIM)
New Brunswick	Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick (AFMNB) Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB)
Québec	Fédération Québécoise des Municipalités (FQM) Union des Municipalités du Québec (UQM)
Ontario	Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Manitoba	Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM)
Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
Alberta	Alberta Municipalities (ABMunis) Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)
Nunavut	Nunavut Association of Municipalities (NAM)
Northwest Territories	Northwest Territories Association of Communities (NWTAC)
Yukon	Association of Yukon Communities (AYC)

Each of the organizations in Canada is governed by an Executive with a specific composition. The models, taken together and individually, point to certain themes that are useful to consider in the review of the UBCM Executive composition. Consider the following points:

- *Size of Governing Body* — Size is an important consideration in determining the composition of governing bodies. The governing body must be large enough to endure sufficiently broad and meaningful representation of membership. A body that is too small may not be — or be perceived to be — adequately representative. A body that is too large, on the other hand, may be less effective in governing that it otherwise could be. Figure II.2 shows the size of the Executive that is in place in each of the UBCM counterparts across the country. The information in the figure shows that UBCM’s Executive, with 21 directors, is considerably smaller in size than that of the associations in Québec and Ontario, as well as that of the FCM. UBCM’s Executive is larger, however, than that of the associations in all other provinces and territories, albeit in some cases only slightly larger.

Figure II.2
Size of Executives

Jurisdiction	Association	Size of Executive
British Columbia	UBCM	– 21 directors – includes 4 officers — President, 3 Vice Presidents
Canada	FCM	– 74 directors – includes 14 officers — President, 3 Vice Presidents, Past President, Secretary-Treasurer
Newfoundland and Labrador	MNL	– 15 directors – includes 4 officers — President, Vice President, Finance Committee Chair, Secretary-Treasurer
Nova Scotia	NSFM	– 17 directors – includes 2 officers — President, Vice President
Prince Edward Island	FPEIM	– 17 directors – includes 3 officers — President, 2 Vice Presidents
New Brunswick	AFMNB	– 9 directors – includes 3 officers — President, 2 Vice Presidents
	UMNB	– 20 directors – includes 5 officers — President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Past President, Urban Chair
Québec	FQM	– 47 directors – includes 3 officers — President, 2 Vice Presidents
	UQM	– 50 directors – includes 4 officers — President, 2 Vice Presidents, Treasurer
Ontario	AMO	– 47 directors – includes 10 officers — President, 8 Caucus Chairs, Secretary-Treasurer

Jurisdiction	Association	Size of Executive
Manitoba	AMM	– 19 directors – includes 3 officers — President, 2 Vice Presidents
Saskatchewan	SARM	– 9 directors – includes 2 officers — President, Vice
	SUMA	– 9 directors – includes 1 officer — President
Alberta	ABMunis	– 15 directors total – includes 1 officer — President
	RMA	– 7 directors total – includes 2 officers — President, Vice President
Nunavut	NAM	– 6 directors total – includes 3 officers — President, Vice President Treasurer
Northwest Territories	NWTAC	– 7 directors total – includes 3 officers — President, 2 Vice President
Yukon		– 13 directors – includes 4 officers — President, 2 Vice President, Past President

- *Geography* — The bylaws of the different associations outline the composition of the different Executives. In almost all cases, bylaws point to geography as a key factor in the determination of composition. The associations' bylaws in each of the ten provinces, and at the national (FCM) level, feature regional representation in the make-up of the governing bodies.⁷ It is broadly recognized that issues facing local governments, and the perspectives of local governments on all issues, may be different in different parts of the provinces, and in different regions of the country. Providing opportunities for the different regional issues and perspectives to be represented at decision-making tables is considered important.
- *Type of Local Government* — Some associations include type of local government in the composition of their Executives. Types vary across the country based on provincial legislation. Some provinces specify different types of municipalities with significant differences in authority; others such as Alberta make distinctions between rural and urban local governments. A small number of associations identify regional governments (or, in the case of Ontario, regional and single-tier governments) in the make-up of Executives.
- *Size of Community* — Representation by size of community is an additional feature common to many organizations. Ontario's AMO, for example, has

⁷ The only exceptions are associations in the territories.

guaranteed seats on its Executive for small and large urban municipalities, the City of Toronto (the largest municipality), and rural (small) communities. Québec's FQM has places for the largest, smallest and mid-size communities. ABMunis in Alberta provides places for representatives of the two largest cities (Edmonton and Calgary), and for representatives with populations of fewer than 500,000.

- *Other Factors of Representation* — Some associations apply other criteria to build Executives that are representative of membership. Five associations have caucuses — policy and discussion forums for specific constituencies of members — represented on Executive. A few associations provide guaranteed representation for francophone or bilingual municipalities. A few others provide one or more position for staff appointees. UBCM and Northwest Territories' NWTAC are the only two associations that specifically include First Nation governments as a separate category of member. Neither of these associations, however, nor any of the others provides for First Nation representation, as a separate category, on the Executive.
- *Term of Office* — UBCM is the only local government association in Canada with one-year terms of office for all members of the Executive. Saskatchewan's SUMA and PEI's FPEIM have terms of office of four years for all members. Nova Scotia's NSFM, and FCM at the national level, have one-year terms for officer positions specifically, with two-year terms for other positions. All other associations feature two-year terms for all positions. Many associations have staggered elections processes which call for half of directors to be elected, or appointed as the case may be, each year.
- *Election of Officers* — FCM is unique among associations in its use of rotational elections for officer positions. Rotational elections at FCM designate certain officer positions in certain years for specific regions of the country. Each year, representatives of member local governments elect through at-large elections individuals from specific regions for Officer positions that are designated on a rotational basis to the specific regions. Every year, the regional designation for the Officer positions change to feature different regions. The approach is designed to ensure that all five defined regions in FCM are represented at the Officers table at all times.

AREA ASSOCIATIONS (BC)

As noted previously, there are five Area Associations in British Columbia certified by the UBCM and listed in section 21(e) of the UBCM *Bylaws*. Each of the Associations exists as a separate society under the umbrella of UBCM; each is governed by its own elected Executive.⁸ The composition models in place for the Associations' Executives are, arguably, less relevant to the *Governance Review* than the models in place at the provincial associations given the relatively small size of the Area Association service

⁸ The Executive for NCLGA is referred to as the Board of Directors.

areas and membership. Certain points, however, may be useful to highlight. For example, the Executives at all of the Area Associations all have fewer directors than the UBCM Executive.⁹ Geographic representation is less strong at the Area Association level. Two Associations — NCLGA and LMLGA — recognize regions in the composition of their governing bodies — in both cases, regional districts in the Association are represented on the Executive. AVICC is the only Association with a seat on Executive for an electoral area representative. None of the Associations recognizes size of community as a factor in determining composition.

Four of the five Area Associations have one-year terms of office for all Executive positions.¹⁰ AKBLG features a two-year term for all positions, in part to allow directors more time to exercise and hone governance abilities, and in part to address concerns around availability of candidates for director places.

⁹ NCLGA has the largest Executive with 14 directors. AKBLG and AVICC have the smallest governing bodies with nine directors each (AVICC has a provision in its bylaws for 11 members).

¹⁰ The Area Associations with one-year terms allow (and require) individuals on the Executive to seek re-election every year to Executive positions, including Officer positions, in order to serve for more than one year. At SILGA, as at UBCM, an individual may not be elected to the position of President for more than two one-year terms.

SECTION III

ENGAGEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Engagement of membership over the course of the *Governance Review* was critical to ensuring that all perspectives, concerns, criteria and other factors were brought forward in the *Review's* consideration of Executive body composition, and in discussions on the arguments for and against a change in name. Early in the *Review* process, an engagement program was developed with a range of opportunities to connect with membership as a whole, specific constituencies of members, the current Executive, and others with first-hand experience in UBCM governance and administration. Figure III.1 presents the full engagement program, including two upcoming webinars scheduled for August 2026 on the *Governance Review* report and its recommendations.

Figure III.1
Engagement Opportunities

Focus Groups	
UBCM Executive Fairmont Vancouver Airport, Richmond, BC	February 25, 2026
UBCM Senior Leadership Team Local Government House, Victoria, BC	March 31, 2026
UBCM Past Presidents Online	April 1, 2026
Membership Survey	
UBCM Membership Survey — All Elected Officials Online	April 15 – May 29, 2026
Area Associations — Presentations and Discussions	
Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments Trail Memorial Centre, Trail BC	April 18, 2026
Association Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC	April 25, 2026
Lower Mainland Local Government Association Westin Whistler Resort & Spa, Whistler, BC	April 30, 2026
Southern Interior Local Government Association Revelstoke Community Centre, Revelstoke BC	May 1, 2026
North Central Local Government Association Prince George Conference & Civic Centre, Prince George, BC	May 21, 2026

Webinars on Governance Review Report	
Webinar — Access to All Elected Officials Online	September 1, 2026 (tbc)

The remainder of this section reviews the different engagement efforts and the input received by members.

FOCUS GROUPS

Three facilitated focus group discussions were convened at the beginning of the study process to confirm and/or identify issues to examine in the *Governance Review*. The first group was the current Executive, followed by the UBCM Senior Leadership Team. The third group was comprised of nine Past Presidents.

Each focus group began by introducing the *Governance Review* as a study being undertaken in response to questions on the degree to which the Executive is representative of the membership. The *Review* was also, it was explained, prompted by concerns raised by some members about the challenges their elected representatives face in their efforts to get elected to the Executive. Changes to the composition of the Executive in response to these questions and concerns would be identified and explored through the *Review*. Also explored would be the matter of UBCM name change to one that may be more reflective of the diversity of local government types in British Columbia.

Focus group participants were asked a set of broad questions to test views on the current composition model and the perceived need, if any, for change. A question on potential barriers to serve on the Executive for elected representatives in different regions was also asked, as was a question specifically on regional representation, and a question on terms of office and other elements of composition. The final point for discussion was the matter of a potential UBCM name change.

On the matter of composition, focus group participants on the whole expressed the view that the Executive as currently structured is reasonably representative of membership. This overarching view notwithstanding, some specific issues and potential changes were brought forward in the discussions. Key themes are highlighted as follows:

- Terms of Office* — There was broad consensus among participants in all groups on the value of two-year terms of office for some Executive body positions, particularly the non-Officer positions. One-year terms for Officers were supported based on the practice, followed in most years, of progression by Officers through the Officer ranks. Staggered terms of office were endorsed alongside calls for two-year terms in an effort to provide for continuity in governance.

- *Regional Representation at Officer Table* — Participants expressed support for a change in favour of rotational elections for Officer positions in order to ensure representation at the Officer Table for each of the Area Associations every year. This call for change was prompted by concerns raised primarily by the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) about structural challenges faced by some in their efforts to get elected to Executive, especially to Officer positions. Differences in the numbers of member local governments and elected representatives across Area Associations, coupled with the tendency of delegates in some Areas Associations to vote in blocs, are pointed to as impediments to election for representatives in some jurisdictions.
- *Progression through Officer Ranks* — It is customary at UBCM for individuals who achieve election as Third Vice President to run unopposed in subsequent years to successively higher positions in the Officer ranks. This progression, as noted previously, is a tradition followed in most but not all years. The UBCM *Bylaws* are silent on the practice.

Some participants in the focus groups advocated formalizing the practice to ensure progression every year. For these participants, progression would ensure that individuals elected to the position of Third Vice President remain engaged at the Officers Table, and on the Presidents Committee, for several years.¹¹ The extended tenures, some feel, are important for stability and continuity in the governance of the association. Most participants, however, disagreed with the notion of automatic progression. These participants accept the potential for stability and continuity, but caution that not all individuals in the Officer track may be best equipped to provide such advantages. The value in letting delegates stand for any office in any election, and in having delegates select the best candidates through elections, trumps the arguments for stability and continuity.

- *Representation by Size* — Participants acknowledged the relatively small populations in most members' communities, the unique issues facing small communities, and the important perspectives of smaller local governments.¹² Continued, guaranteed representation for small communities is supported, albeit with a possible change from the existing population threshold of 2,500, to an updated threshold of 5,000.

Participants also spoke about the issues and challenges facing British Columbia's largest urban area — Metro Vancouver — as well as the importance of ensuring that Metro Vancouver, with half of the population in

¹¹ The exception is for individuals who fail to hold elected office in a local government election that occurs during their tenure at the Officers Table.

¹² BC Stats July 2024 estimates, can Stats Canada January 2025 estimates — both incomplete data sets — point to a median municipal population of approximately 6,000. The same databases reveal that 70 municipalities have fewer than 5,000 people.

the province, remains invested and engaged in UBCM governance. The need to recognize the province’s large urban areas as a collective was also noted. There are fifteen cities at present with populations over 100,000, including seven outside of Metro Vancouver.

Support among participants for retaining the City of Vancouver’s guaranteed seat on Executive was not strong. In the not-too-distant future, it is almost certain that Vancouver will no longer be the largest city in British Columbia — a change that will weaken the rationale for the City’s dedicated position on the Executive. Suggestions to open the position to other Metro municipalities, or to large cities in general, were put forward.

- *Other Points* — Participants expressed support for retaining the Director at Large positions, which can be filled by elected representatives from any member across the province, and which as a result are representative of the broader membership. Participants voiced no support for expanding the size of the Executive beyond 21 positions to provide a greater level of representation. There was only limited support for the creation of a position to be filled by First Nation member governments.¹³ There was, similarly, little support for one or more positions designated for regional districts as a distinct type of local government.¹⁴

One perspective that was put forward in one of the focus groups challenged the need for the composition of the Executive to take into account differences in geography, size of community, type of local government, and other factors. This perspective supports the notion that any representative elected to Executive can adequately understand the issues facing different regions and constituencies, and can properly represent the views and interests of the different regions and constituencies in discussions at Executive. This perspective was not supported by other focus group participants. There is a strong relationship between representation and legitimacy. A governing body that is representative of key differences in membership is viewed by membership as a legitimate body. A governing body with a composition model that ignores differences in membership is considered to lack legitimacy. Governance acumen and intentions of individuals on the governing body are valuable; they do not, however, trump the importance for representation.

AREA ASSOCIATIONS

The consultant, introduced by UBCM’s Executive Director, made a presentation on the *Governance Review* at each Area Association convention over a five-week period beginning April 18, 2026. Each presentation outlined the current composition of the Executive, asked for input on a set of composition questions, and canvassed views on

¹³ There are 14 First Nation member governments in UBCM.

¹⁴ Participants noted that regional districts are federations of municipalities and electoral areas. Electoral areas receive one designated seat on the Executive; electoral area directors are eligible to fill several other seats.

the matter of a UBCM name change. Input in response to questions was obtained in real time using the SLIDO software platform.

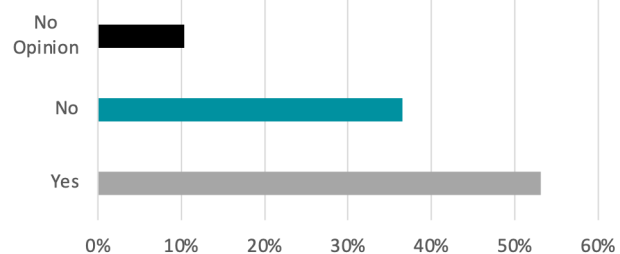
The input on questions of Executive composition is reviewed under separate bullets in this section of the text (input on the case for a name change is presented in Section V). Key differences among Associations, where relevant, are identified and explained.

- *Reasonably Representative* — The consultant explained that the current composition of the Executive, as well as that which is in place for the governing bodies of other local government associations in Canada, takes into account geography, type of local government and size of community, among other factors. The consultant noted that efforts have been made to provide for an Executive that is reasonably representative of UBCM membership. Perfection, it was noted, is not the objective.

Area Association delegates were asked if the current composition provides for a governing body that is reasonably represented. Figure III.2 presents the response. The figure shows that slightly over half (53%) of all delegates (all Associations combined) expressed the view that the Executive, with its current composition, is reasonably representative. Embedded in the data, AKBLG, AVICC and SILGA expressed a clear preference for “yes”. LMLGA and NCLGA were evenly split between “yes” and “no”.

Figure III.2

Does the current composition provide for a governing body that is reasonably representative of membership? (n=260)



- *Regional Representation at Officers Table* — The consultant explained that Officer positions at UBCM hold considerable responsibility on the Executive, and perform important and regular work on behalf of the Executive and membership. The current composition is designed to provide representatives from all Area Associations the ability to get elected to Officer positions. As noted, however, the concern has been raised that numbers of delegates and bloc voting tendencies result in disproportionate representation in the Officer ranks for certain Associations. The concern may point to structural challenges faced by representatives from other regions in their efforts to achieve election to Officer positions. It is possible, the consultant noted, to

ensure equal representation at the Officers table through the use of rotational elections.

Area Association delegates were asked if they thought it was important to have every Area Association represented at the Officers Table. Figure III.3 presents the response. The figure shows a clear preference on the part of delegates

(amalgamated) for guaranteed Area Association representation. Detailed data for each Association show strong support across regions.

- *Representation by*

Size — The consultant noted that the current composition recognizes size of community as a factor of representation. Small communities are recognized and given a designated seat. The City of Vancouver is represented, as is GVRD and the Vancouver Metro Area. Large urban communities, defined as municipalities with more than 100,000 people — there are 15 across the province — are not recognized as a constituency. Should they be? Figure III.4 presents the views of the Association delegates.

The data in the figure illustrate support for the recognition of large urban communities; such support, however, at 52% is not decisive. Further, a breakdown of the data by Area Association reveals that only LMLGA and SILGA recorded

majorities in favour. In AVICC and AKBLG neither “yes” nor “no” won a majority of votes; in NCLGA 55% voted “no”.

Figure III.3

Is it important to have every Area Association represented at the Officer level? (n=287)

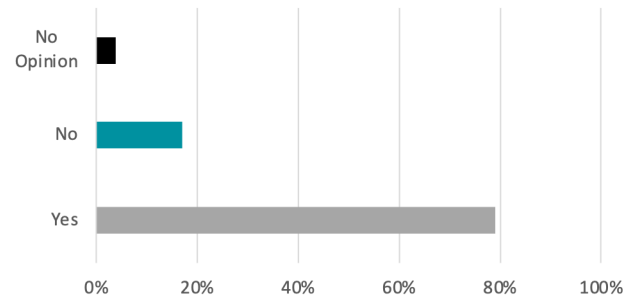
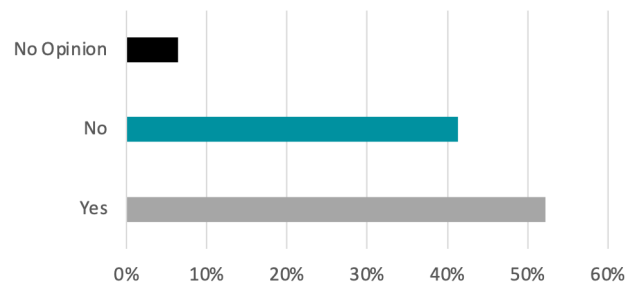


Figure III.4

Should Large Urban Communities, defined to include all 100,000+ cities across the province, be recognized in the composition of the Executive? (n=295)



- *Terms of Office* — The consultant reminded Area Association delegates that all positions on the Executive have one-year terms of office. The single-year terms, it was noted, maximizes opportunities for elected officials to serve. Longer terms, however, may be perceived to enhance the effectiveness of the governing body by giving members of Executive more time to fully understand UBCM and its workings, and to hone their governance skills. Delegates were reminded, as well, that UBCM is unique in its use of single-year terms for both Officer and non-Officer positions.

Delegates were asked if terms for Executive positions — all or some — should be two years, in line with those of almost all other local government associations across Canada. Figure III.5 presents the decisive response.

- *Size of Executive* — The final question on composition related to the size of the Executive, currently at 21 positions. The consultant explained that the choice of size reflects an attempt to balance the desire for broad representation, and the ability of the Executive to optimize its effectiveness as a governing body.

Delegates were asked if the size of the Executive should be held at 21. Figure III.6 presents the response. Strong support for capping the size at its current number was expressed in the aggregate, and by each Area Association.

Figure III.5

Should terms for Executive positions — all or some — be two years? (n=259)

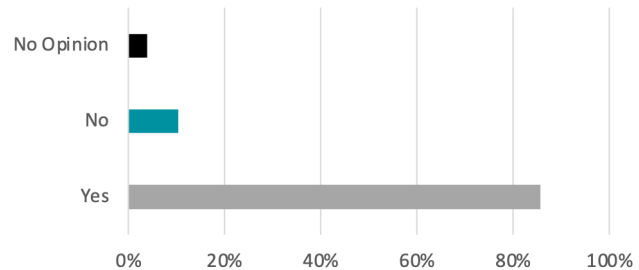
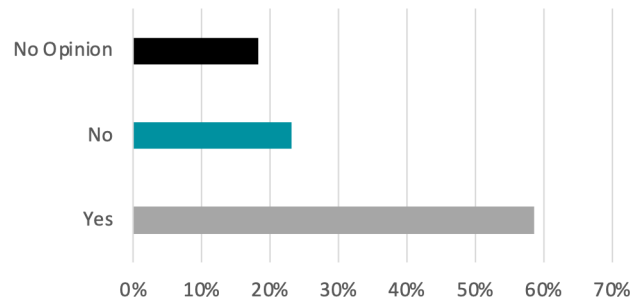


Figure III.6

Should the size of the Executive be held at 21? (n=263)



Each presentation to the Area Associations included an opportunity for questions from the floor to the consultant and UBCM Executive Director. The number of questions and comments overall was low, in large part because of the limited time available for discussion on the topic (all Associations featured busy conventions with several presentations to delegates). Comments and questions that were raised pointed, in many cases, to items that were related more to the work of UBCM and less to the *Governance Review*. Some questions and comments, however, are worth noting — see Figure III.7.

Figure III.7
Additional Comments and Questions from Area Associations

Topic	Comment / Question
General	– general sense that composition model is sound – change needs to be incremental
Representation by Area Association	– in LMLGA, Metro Vancouver does not represent FVRD – FVRD is distinct; feels excluded from Executive — without a voice – representation for regional districts (FVRD in particular) important
Urban/Rural	– farming and rural areas not adequately recognized in Executive – FVRD identified as particularly important voice for agriculture – look to provincial rural initiative for definition of rural; use definition to inform representation – level of electoral area representation appears low to some
Concept of Representation	– directors on Executive need to remember that they are <u>not</u> there to represent or advocate on behalf of their own communities – important to highlight difference between “reflection” vs “representation” when considering composition of Executive
First Nation members	– not supportive of separate seat for First Nation members – important to welcome First Nation members; but UBCM is a local government advocacy organization
Terms Limits	– may wish to consider term limits for Executive members to encourage changeover of representatives
Votes	– UBCM could consider weighted votes on Executive to reflect population differences
Involvement	– Executive members need to be active, even if they are appointed (not elected) to positions
Terms of Office	– have staggered elections to ensure continuity – single-year terms give too much power to staff at UBCM

Topic	Comment / Question
President	– consider having President elected by peers on Executive, similar to regional district chairs
Progression at Officers Table	– no support for automatic progression
Equitable Representation	– consider cap on number of representatives from any one region

SURVEY OF MEMBERSHIP

An online survey of membership was conducted to canvass the views of local government elected representatives across British Columbia on the matters of Executive composition and UBCM name change. Questions related to composition were posed to help determine if changes to the make-up of the governing body may be needed to make the Executive more representative of membership in terms of geography, type of local government, size of community and/or other factors. Questions were posed as well to gather views on the way in which Officer positions are elected, the size of the Executive and the terms of office for each position on the Executive. A set of questions to explore the arguments for and against a change to the UBCM name were also put forward in the survey.

Figure III.8 provides an overview of the survey's construction and a profile of the local government representatives who completed the survey.

Figure III.8
Overview of Survey and Respondents

Survey/Respondents	Description
Purpose	– to canvass the views of local government elected representatives on matters of Executive composition and UBCM name change
Format	– online survey comprised of four parts — About You, Composition of UBCM Executive, UBCM Name Change, Closing Comments — and a total of 17 questions – 15 questions structured as multiple choice; two questions open-ended – <i>Survey Backgrounder</i> available online (link provided) to explain current composition, purpose of <i>Governance Review</i>
Availability	– available through UBCM website from April 15 to May 29 – advertised in several editions of <i>Compass</i> – link through QR code provided at Area Associations
Number of Respondents	– 224 surveys submitted (180 complete, 44 partial); participation rate considered very high (approximately 15%)

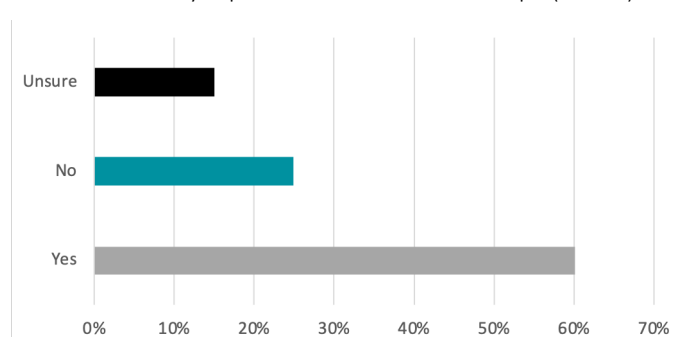
Survey/Respondents	Description
	of elected representatives from all members combined) compared to that recorded on past UBCM surveys – measures in place to protect against duplicate submissions
Local Government Type	– 75% of respondents self-identified as municipal council member (mayor or councillor) – 24% self-identified as electoral area director – 1% self-identified as First Nation chief or council member
Local Government Size	– 51% of respondents from jurisdictions below 5,000 population – 36% from jurisdictions between 5,000 and 50,000 – 5% from jurisdictions between 50,000 and 100,000 – 8% from jurisdictions greater than 100,000
Region of Province	– AVICC – 37% – AKBLG – 20% – NCLGA – 18% – LMLGA – 14% – SILGA – 12%

The points that follow present the survey's findings on the composition:

- *Reasonably Representative* — As reported in Figure III.9, 60% of survey respondents expressed the view that the Executive, with its current composition, is reasonably representative. This number is slightly higher than that recorded at the Area Association presentations (combined).
- *Regional Representation* — Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents reported that the inclusion of five Area Association Representative positions ensures a sufficient level of regional representation. A similar percentage of respondents (59%) expressed the view that elected officials from their specific Area Association have a fair and realistic opportunity to achieve election to an Officer position on the Executive. Both percentages represent majorities; neither, however, is a decisive majority. When broken down by region, respondent groups from each Area Association recorded relatively

Figure III.9

Does the Executive's current composition provide for a body that is reasonably representative of membership? (n=193)



similar levels of majority support for both points.

Figure III.10 shows that 42% of respondents agreed that changes to the election of Officers should be considered to ensure that all regions are represented at the Officer Table.

Data on responses by Area Association reveal that all Associations other than NCLGA supported such changes.

The 42% figure is consistent with the previously reported finding on opportunities to achieve election to the Officers Table. It stands in stark contrast, however, to views put forward by Area Association delegates on the desire to ensure representation by all Area Associations at the Officers Table (see earlier Figure III.3). The view expressed at the Area Association conventions may have been informed by the consultant's explanation of rotational elections (the ability to provide such an explanation as part of the survey was more limited).

- *Size of Executive* — A strong majority of respondents (70%) expressed the view that the size of the Executive, at 21 members, is appropriate. Fifty-eight percent (58%)

took the view that any increase in size would make the Executive less effective as a governing body (Figure III.11).

- *Representation of Different Groups* — One question in the survey sought the views of respondents

Figure III.10

Should changes to the ways in which Officer positions are elected be considered to ensure that all regions are represented at the Officer level? (n=189)

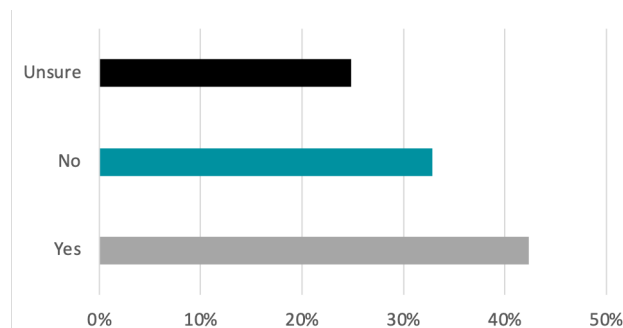


Figure III.11

Would an increase to the size of the Executive help or hinder its effectiveness as a governing body? (n=186)

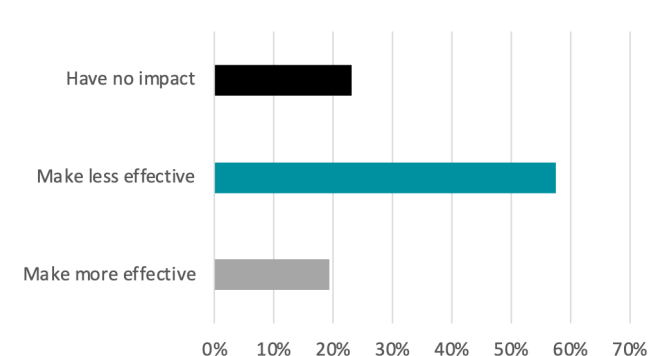
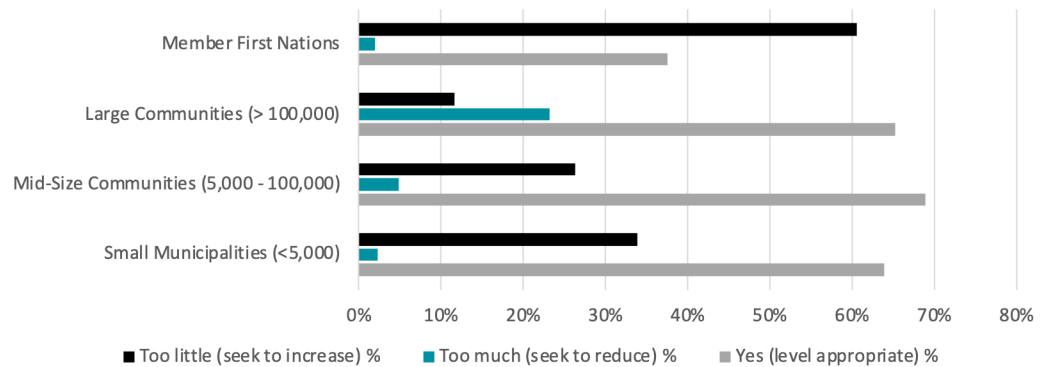


Figure III.12

Does the current composition of the Executive provide an appropriate level of representation for: (n=185)

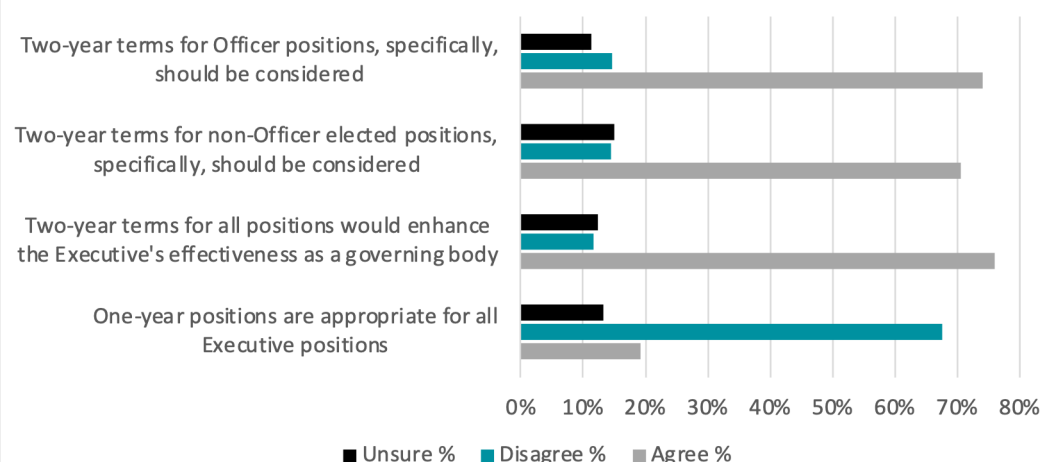


on the degree of representation in the current model for different sizes of communities, and for First Nation member governments specifically. Figure III.12 presents the survey results. The figure shows support for increasing the level of representation for First Nation members. The levels of representation for different sizes of communities, however, were identified as appropriate by a majority of respondents in all cases.

- *Terms of Office* — The survey asked a question on terms of office that was more nuanced than that which was asked at the Area Association conventions. Figure III.13 presents the question and responses provided.

Figure III.13

Would an increase to the size of the Executive help or hinder its effectiveness as a governing body? (n=189)



The responses show a clear preference for two-year terms for all positions on the Executive, including Officer positions. The current one-year terms received little support — a finding consistent with the input provided by Area Association delegates (see earlier Figure III.5).

As noted, the survey featured two open-ended questions designed to encourage respondents to make additional comments, both on the composition of the Executive and on the matter of a UBCM name change. Figure III.14 highlights themes that emerged from the comments on composition of the Executive. Each theme listed in the figure was raised by at least three different respondents.

Figure III.14
Themes Raised in Comments on Executive Composition

Theme	Comment
Representative	the current composition of the Executive provides for a governing body that is representative of membership — no changes required
Specific Jurisdictions Under-represented	- the Fraser Valley Regional District should have a dedicated position on the Executive - the Capital Regional District should have a dedicated position
Types of Local Government Under-represented	- the Islands Trust should be represented on the Executive - First Nations members should have a dedicated position - Electoral areas need greater representation - Regional Districts should be represented
Small Communities Under-represented	small communities should have greater representation on the Executive
Regional Representation Needs Increase	- greater regional representation (defined by Area Associations) is required - ensure all Area Associations are represented at Officers Table
Increase Terms	- two-year terms are warranted - staggered elections should be considered to ensure continuity

SECTION IV

COMPOSITION CHANGES TO CONSIDER

This section of the report identifies, assesses and — where warranted — recommends changes to the composition of the UBCM Executive. The choice of changes is informed by the consultant’s review of the current composition model, the findings of the comparative research into governing body composition in local government associations across Canada, input from the three focus groups, results from the engagement with Area Associations, and the findings of the membership survey. All changes seek to address the questions raised by some about the degree to which the Executive is representative of membership, as well as concerns brought forward concerning possible challenges faced by some elected representatives to achieve election to the Executive. Potential changes to composition seek, overall, to optimize the governing body’s ongoing legitimacy to membership.

Figure IV.1 presents the list of recommended changes to consider. The changes, which are assessed in the text below the figure, do not represent a definitive list. In the consultant’s judgement, however, the changes are the most important ones to consider.

Figure IV.1
Recommended Changes to Consider

Change	Description
Introduce Rotational Elections for Officers	– ensure, through the introduction of rotational elections, that all Area Associations are represented at the Officers Table every year
Adjust Representation for Specific Sizes	– adjust current mix of positions to provide greater representation for different sizes of communities, specifically small communities and large urban communities
Adjust Terms of Office	– increase terms of office for at least some Executive positions to optimize Executive’s effectiveness in governance – introduce staggered elections to avoid complete turnovers of Executive members, and enhance continuity

One set of potential changes that is not recommended, and that is not included in Figure IV.1, concerns adjustments to the level of representation on the Executive for specific types of local governments, including Regional Districts and First Nation members. Potential changes based on local government types are reviewed at the end of the section. Reasons for not recommending the changes are provided.

Before turning to the assessments it is important to consider the matter of Executive body size. As noted earlier, the Executive is currently made up of 21 positions,

including the five positions at the Officers Table. The assessment of potential composition changes in this section of the report treats the current Executive size as fixed — that is, as a constraint to accept. The acceptance of this constraint, which is consistent with the views of membership, has implications for the consideration of potential changes to composition. Any changes designed to enhance representation for specific jurisdictions or groups will inevitably reduce the level of representation for others in a fixed-size Executive. Changes put forward for consideration must acknowledge this impact on existing groups, and must be compelling.

It is also useful to highlight, prior to assessing the potential changes, the prevailing view expressed by a majority of Area Association delegates, survey respondents and focus group participants that the current composition of the Executive provides for a governing body that is already reasonably representative of membership. This view suggests that incremental rather than sweeping changes should be the focus of the *Review*.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO CONSIDER

Introduce Rotational Elections for Officer Positions

At present, elected representatives from local governments in any one of the five Area Associations may be nominated as candidates for election, and may ultimately be elected, to any one of the four Officer positions. The proposed change to rotational elections would restrict, on a rotating basis, the pool of candidates for different Officer positions to individuals from different Area Associations. The change would ensure that each of the Area Associations is represented at the Officers Table every year.

- *Rotational Elections* — Rotational elections are used by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to enhance representation by region at the Executive's Officers Table. Each year, representatives of member local governments vote in at-large elections at the FCM Convention for Officer positions that are designated on a rotating basis to specific regions. Consider the position of President, which in 2026 was designated to Ontario. In that year, all delegates from all regions elected, through an at-large vote, an individual from a pool of Ontario candidates to serve as President. In 2027, the position's designation will rotate to feature the Prairies & Territories region. All delegates from all regions will elect an individual from a pool of Prairies & Territories candidates as President in that year. In year three, the position's designation will rotate again, as it will in years four and five. Over the five-year period, and in every subsequent five-year period, the position will be filled by five individuals, one from each of the five regions.

Each of the Officer positions at FCM is designated to a different region each year. Each position's designation is then rotated annually to feature a new region. The result is that every year, every region is represented at the Officers Table.

Figure IV.2 shows how rotational elections could work for the UBCM Officers Table. In year one (e.g., 2031) under the rotational scenario example, elected representatives would elect through an at-large vote an individual from a pool of LMLGA candidates to the position of President. In the same year, delegates would select a candidate from NCLGA for the position of First Vice President, a candidate from SILGA as Second Vice President, and a candidate from AVICC as Third Vice President. The Past President position would be filled in that year by the most-recent President, who would have been elected as a candidate from AKBLG. Each year the Area Association designation for each of the four Officer positions would rotate to feature a new Area Association. Every year under this system all of the Area Associations would be represented at the Officers Table.

Figure IV.2
Rotational Elections for UBCM

Year Ending	President	First Vice	Second Vice	Third Vice	Past Pres
1 or 6*	LMLGA	NCLGA	SILGA	AVICC	AKBLG
2 or 7	NCLGA	SILGA	AVICC	AKBLG	LMLGA
3 or 8	SILGA	AVICC	AKBLG	LMLGA	NCLGA
4 or 9	AVICC	AKBLG	LMLGA	NCLGA	SILGA
5 or 0	AKBLG	LMLGA	NCLGA	SILGA	AVICC

* For example 2031, 2036

- *Rationale for Change* — The change to rotational elections for Officer positions is a response to concerns raised about the perceived challenges faced by representatives from some Area Associations in their efforts to have candidates from their regions elected to Executive, and to Officer positions more specifically. As noted earlier in the report, these concerns point to differences in the numbers of delegates from each Area Association at Convention, and the tendencies of some Area Associations to vote in blocs.¹⁵ Rotational elections would nullify these differences and tendencies, and in so doing address the “uneven playing field” for the four Officer positions. The change would automatically enhance regional representation in the composition of the Executive.

¹⁵ Data on representation at the Officer Table since 2011 corroborate the concerns raised. Close to two-thirds of the Officer terms over the 15-year period were filled by representatives from NCLGA and LMLGA.

- *Points to Consider* — The potential change would not address the uneven playing field concerns for non-Officer elected positions on Executive. Each Area Association, however, has some level of guaranteed representation at the non-Officer level through its Area Association appointee. The issue of transition would also be important to consider. A change to a rotational election system for Officers would inevitably result, in the first year of the change, in at least one incumbent being removed from eligibility for the next level of Officer position that the individual would, by tradition, progress to under the current system.
- *Recommendation* — The consultant’s recommendations on the potential change to rotational elections for Officer positions is as follows:

THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to introduce a system of rotational elections for Officer positions to ensure that every Area Association is represented every year at the Officers Table.

Adjust Representation by Size of Community

UBCM’s member municipalities serve communities that range in size from 150 to 750,000 people. Current estimates from Statistics Canada and BC Stats identify 70 municipalities with populations below 5,000, 77 municipalities between 5,000 and 100,000, and 15 cities above the 100,000 mark. The current composition of the Executive recognizes the community size through the inclusion of:

- one Small Community Representative position, dedicated to an elected representative who is a member of a Council for a Village, or a municipality with a population not greater than 2,500, elected each year at Convention by Small Community delegates
- one City of Vancouver Representative, representing the largest municipality in British Columbia, appointed each year by the City of Vancouver Council
- one GVRD Representative, elected each year by the GVRD Board, to represent the largest metropolitan region of the province
- two Vancouver Metro Area Representatives, also in place to represent the largest metropolitan region, but elected each year by members of a council of a member municipality within Metro Vancouver, along with the electoral area director of the GVRD’s sole electoral area

Representation by size of community is an important consideration in determining the composition of the UBCM Executive, as it is for the Executives of some of UBCM’s counterpart organizations across the country. Based on comparative research

findings, discussions with focus groups, input from delegates at the Area Association conventions, and input from the broader membership through the survey, potential changes to representation by community size are explored in this section of the text.

- *Representation for Small and Large Communities* — One issue to consider concerns the level of dedicated representation for small communities. Representation for small communities was not included as a specific question in the Area Association presentations; a question was included, however, in the membership survey. A majority of respondents to the survey expressed the view that the current level of representation for small communities is appropriate.

A second issue related to size concerns large urban communities, defined for the purposes of the *Governance Review* as municipalities with populations at 100,000 or more. A question on representation for this category of member was included in both the Area Association presentations and the survey; it also arose in one of the focus group discussions. A slim majority of delegates at Area Association conventions who provided input on the matter expressed the view that large urban communities, as a separate constituency, should be recognized in the composition of the Executive. Conversely, a majority of survey respondents identified the current level of representation for large urban communities as appropriate.

- *Rationale for Change* — One-third (52) of UBCM’s 162 municipal members fall into the current small community category with fewer than 2,500 people. The challenges facing small communities — financial sustainability, population stability and staffing succession are examples — are unique. It is important to ensure that these challenges and the perspectives of small community leaders are at the table in discussions at Executive. It is similarly important that large urban community leaders see their cities reflected in the composition of the Executive, with their challenges and perspectives represented in discussions and decisions of the governing body. Large urban centres, by virtue of their size, financial resources, local government administrations and scope of responsibilities, bring a degree of political clout that is critical to the work of the Executive in its discussions with the province and others on matters of policy, finance, public safety, land use and other topics. Ensuring that large urban communities are represented in the Executive is critical for UBCM’s advocacy efforts.¹⁶
- *Points to Consider (Small Communities)* — The Small Community Representative position recognizes the importance, both historically and at

¹⁶ It is interesting to note, as well, that UBCM’s membership dues are determined on a *per capita* basis, with larger members contributing the bulk of membership revenues. This point emerged during the Past Presidents focus group in the discussion on the appropriate level of large urban community representation.

present, of the small community group. There is no suggestion to eliminate this position from the Executive. Any suggestion to increase the level of representation, however, is difficult to support, especially in a fixed-size Executive where any increase in representation for one group would automatically result in a decrease in representation for another. It should also be noted that representatives from small communities have several pathways to the Executive, in addition to the Small Community Representative seat, and therefore several opportunities to bring small community perspectives to the table.

One change to the Small Community Representative for the Executive to consider concerns the population threshold of 2,500 people. This threshold was introduced in 1998 when the position was created out of the earlier Village Representative position. An increase to 5,000 population may be warranted simply to reflect 30 years' of population growth. This change would add 18 municipalities to the category.

- *Points to Consider (Large Urban Communities)* — There is a need to ensure that large urban communities, with their financial and political strength, are adequately represented at the Executive. The current level of representation introduced in 2010 for the Vancouver Metro Area, including the GVRD and City of Vancouver, takes into account large urban communities concentrated in the Vancouver Metro Area. Today the area remains the most populous (by far) in the province, and continues to host eight of the communities in British Columbia with populations over 100,000. Seven large communities, however, are located in other regions, including the Fraser Valley (Abbotsford and Chilliwack), Okanagan (Kelowna), Thompson-Nicola (Kamloops) and Vancouver Island (Saanich, Victoria, Nanaimo).

A redistribution of the four Executive positions currently assigned to Vancouver Metro Area, City of Vancouver and the GVRD (combined) to better reflect the geographic distribution of large urban centres may be warranted. One option is to repurpose two of the four positions as Large Urban Community Representatives, to be filled by elected representatives from cities with more than 100,000 people, elected by delegates from the same group. This option may be defensible given the importance of the large urban constituency. The option may also, however, be viewed as taking too much away from the largest metropolitan area, which remains home to one-half of the province's population, and which only recently (2010) achieved its current level of representation.

Another option is to leave the Vancouver Metro Area and GVRD positions unchanged, but repurpose the City of Vancouver Representative position to a Large Urban Community Representative. The City of Vancouver's designated seat on the Executive was assigned to Vancouver several decades ago in recognition, primarily, of the City's status as the largest municipality in the

province. It is almost certain that the City will lose this distinction to the City of Surrey by the mid-2030s if not earlier. This impending change in status provides an opportunity to repurpose the position from representative of the single largest municipality, to representative of the category of large urban communities.¹⁷

- *Recommendation* — The consultant’s recommendations on the potential changes to representation on the Executive for small communities and large urban communities are as follows:

THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to increase the population threshold for the Small Community Representative from 2,500 to 5,000 people.

THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to repurpose the City of Vancouver Representative position on the Executive to the Large Urban Communities Representative position;

AND THAT the Large Urban Communities Representative position be filled by a member of council from a municipality with a population of 100,000 or greater, elected at Convention by delegates from the same group of municipalities.

Adjust Terms of Office

At present, every position on the Executive has a one-year term of office. Adjusting the terms of office for some or all of the positions to up to two years may be warranted.

- *Two-Year Terms of Office* — As noted previously, UBCM is unique among its counterparts in other provinces and at the national level as the only local government association in Canada with one-year terms of office for all of its directors, including officers. Questions on the adequacy of single-year terms were discussed with focus group participants, raised during Area Association presentations, and included in the membership survey. Participants in all forms of engagement expressed in overwhelming numbers a preference for two-year positions for some or all positions on the Executive. Two-year terms of office are perceived to provide Executive members the time required to better understand the important issues, and to develop important governance and advocacy acumen. Two-year terms may also be perceived to

¹⁷ Members of Vancouver City Council would be eligible to serve in a repurposed position, as would members of Surrey City Council, and the councils of every city with 100,000 or more population.

enable to Executive to better take charge in setting directions at UBCM.¹⁸ Executive members who serve single-year terms may be less informed and, as a consequence, more reliant on staff in setting directions.

The broad level of strong support points to two-year terms for at least some positions. The question to consider relates to the extent of the change. Should a change to two-year terms apply to all positions including Officers, all positions except Officers, or to a smaller range of positions?

- *Points to Consider* — When considering the extent of application for terms of up to two years it is important to take into account the tradition of progression through the Officer ranks. Under the current system of single-year terms of office, most individuals who achieve election to Third Vice President remain at the Officer Table for five years — a significant period of time. This dynamic, it should be emphasized, reflects a tradition of progression rather than a prescribed path through the Officer ranks.

A change to two-year terms for Officer positions would, with the tradition of progression, keep individuals at the Officer Table for a full decade — a period of time that may be considered onerous for elected representatives, and untenably long for many UBCM members. For this reason, terms of up to two years may be most appropriate for Executive positions that are not at the Officers Table.¹⁹ One-year terms of office may be most supportable for Officer Table positions, including that of Past President.

The implications of two-year terms for Area Association Representatives are also important to consider. Each of the Area Associations, whether by tradition or in accordance with its bylaws, appoints its President to the position of Area Association Representative on the UBCM Executive. With the exception of AKBLG, the Area Associations feature one-year terms of office for all of their Officer positions, including President. A change to two-year appointments to the UBCM Executive would force the Area Associations, other than AKBLG, to adjust their own terms of office. Such adjustments may be difficult for some if not all of the Associations to implement. As well — and perhaps more to the point — decisions on terms of office for Area Association governing bodies are the prerogative of the Area Associations themselves. UBCM is not in a position to introduce changes to its own terms of office that would require changes at the Area Associations.

Finally, the UBCM may wish to make use of staggered elections (or, as the

¹⁸ This point was raised in plenary discussion following the AKBLG presentation.

¹⁹ The language “up to two years” is used to reflect the possibility that some individuals who serve on Executive in non-Officer positions may choose (or be forced) to leave Executive before the end of their terms, or may choose to stand for election to an Officer position mid-way through their terms.

case may be, appointments) for positions with two-year terms of office.²⁰ Under staggered elections, approximately half of the positions with two-year terms would be elected/appointed in year one for two years. The other half would be elected/appointed in year two for two years. In no year would there be a complete turnover of positions. Enhanced continuity in governance would be the outcome of this approach.

- *Recommendation* — The consultant’s recommendations on the potential changes to terms of office for Executive positions are as follows:

THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to change the term of office from one year to two years for all positions on the Executive, with the exception of the four Officer positions, the position of Past President, and the Area Association Representative positions.

THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, for staggered elections for all Executive positions with two-year terms of office.

POTENTIAL CHANGES NOT RECOMMENDED

Adjust Representation for Specific Local Government Types

UBCM’s membership includes all 162 municipalities in British Columbia, all 27 regional districts, 14 First Nation governments and the Islands Trust. The current composition of the Executive recognizes local government types in a limited fashion. The Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) is provided a position; however, the rationale for the position has more to do with the dominant size of Metro Vancouver than with the jurisdiction’s status as a regional district. The City of Vancouver’s designated position, similarly, is attributable to the City’s population rather than its municipal status. The Electoral Area Representative position recognizes unincorporated jurisdictions in the province, which represent an important component of regional districts. The position is not place, however, to represent regional districts as a type of local government that includes electoral areas, member municipalities and, in some cases, treaty First Nations. There are no designated positions for First Nation members or the Islands Trust.

Specific questions on the preferred level of representation by type of local government were not discussed in the focus groups, nor were they posed to membership as part of the Area Association presentations or in the membership

²⁰ The suggestion for staggered elections arose at two of the Area Association sessions and in comments by respondents to the membership survey.

survey. Participants in all of the engagement opportunities, however, were invited to identify concerns to address and make specific suggestions on composition.

- *Representation for Specific Types* — The suggestion to include one or more position on the Executive for regional districts, in addition to the GVRD, emerged in two of the focus groups, in one of the Area Association presentations, and in written comments provided in completed surveys. In some cases specific regional districts — the FVRD and Capital RD stand out — were identified for representation;²¹ in most cases, reference was made to regional districts in general as a category of local government. Support for a seat on the Executive for First Nations members was recorded in response to a question in the membership survey; the suggestion for a seat was also made in the survey's comments section by a few respondents, and by two individuals in the focus groups.
- *Rationale for Change* — Regional districts are a unique type of local government in British Columbia (indeed, in Canada). They provide local services to, and are the local government for, electoral areas; they also exist as regional federations of municipalities, electoral areas and in some cases treaty First Nations, responsible for regional governance and shared services. The issues facing regional districts are distinct in some respects from those facing municipalities. The governance structure of regional districts, service structure and service funding models are also distinct. One or more designated seat for regional districts on UBCM's governing body may help to recognize the uniqueness of regional districts, and to ensure that the perspectives of regional district boards and directors are reflected in the discussions at and decisions of the Executive.

UBCM's 14 First Nation members and the Islands Trust are distinct from other types of local government in their own ways. The rationale for designated representation on the Executive for these two member groups rests on the desire, expressed by some, to include their unique perspectives in Executive matters.

- *Points to Consider (Regional District Representation)* — The 27 regional districts in the province are, in many instances, quite different from one another in terms of location, population, geography, economy, and mix of urban and rural (agricultural) development, among other factors. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to adequately reflect the diversity among regional

²¹ The FVRD Board of Directors, in a letter to the UBCM President, made the suggestion that UBCM redistribute one of the seats on Executive currently assigned to the GVRD and the Vancouver Metro Area to the FVRD, and one to the Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD). The FVRD's suggestion highlights its concerns that the FVRD and SLRD, which are included along with the GVRD in the LMLGA, is unable to achieve election to the Executive because of the GVRD's dominance. The FVRD's suggestion does not speak to a desire to enhance representation by type of local government through the addition of a seat for regional districts in general.

districts with one or two seats on the Executive. A call for even more seats in order to recognize inter-regional jurisdictional differences would result in an excessively large board, and would be difficult to defend.

It is also worth highlighting the nature of regional districts as federations of municipalities and electoral areas, governed by boards of directors that include municipal directors, electoral area directors and in some cases treaty First Nation directors. Municipal and treaty First Nation directors are elected to their respective municipal and First Nation councils, then appointed by the councils to their regional district boards. The local governments for these directors are the municipalities and First Nation governments; the regional districts are the federations to which the municipalities and treaty First Nation governments belong. Electoral area directors, conversely, are directly elected to the regional district boards. For these directors and the areas they represent the local governments are the regional districts. Regional districts, in their role as local government for electoral areas, are already recognized in the current composition of the UBCM Executive through the dedicated Electoral Area Representative position.

One final point builds further on the role of regional districts as federations. Every municipality and every electoral area in the province is a member jurisdiction of a regional district.²² The municipal and electoral area directors, along with treaty First Nation directors where applicable, have various pathways to Executive positions. At Executive, these directors bring to discussions and decisions an understanding of the issues facing their regional district federations, as well as perspectives expressed at regional district tables.

- *Points to Consider (Islands Trust)* — The Islands Trust is a special purpose local government, created in 1974 with an important mandate preserve and protect the southern Islands of British Columbia. Trustees at the Islands Trust have pathways to serve on the UBCM Executive as Directors at Large and Officers. It would be difficult within the current 21-member Executive to defend assigning a specific seat to an redistributing a designated seat to an Islands Trust Representative.
- *Points to Consider (First Nation Members)* — There are at present 14 First Nations members of UBCM. First Nations members represent an important constituency in UBCM's membership. The call for dedicated representation for First Nations members on the Executive, however, presents certain challenges. The first challenge relates to the UBCM's role in advocacy. UBCM exists to represent and advocate on behalf of local governments in British Columbia — governments with responsibilities set out primarily in the

²² The sole exception is the North Rockies Regional Municipality, incorporated in 2009, with a current population of 5,400.

*Community Charter*²³ and *Local Government Act*. Local governments and First Nation governments will, in some instances, deal with similar challenges and have common interests that could benefit from UBCM's advocacy efforts. First Nations governments, however, are quite different in many respects from local governments, with different challenges and interests. UBCM is not positioned to represent or advocate for First Nations interests where they do not overlap with those of local government.

On a similar note, there are several representative and credible Indigenous associations in place in British Columbia to advocate on behalf of Indigenous governments' interests and needs. Examples include the BC Assembly of First Nations, Union of BC Indian Chiefs and First Nations Leadership Council.

Finally, it is important to note that in keeping with the principles of self-determination and self-governance, any discussion of representation on the Executive must involve First Nations in exploring questions on the desirability of representation, the level of representation that would be considered meaningful, and the choice of representative(s).

- *Recommendation* — The consultant does not recommend changes that would adjust representation for specific local government types.

²³ *Vancouver Charter*, in the case of the City of Vancouver.

SECTION V

UBCM NAME CHANGE

The matter of the UBCM name change is addressed in this section of the report. The text begins with a review of Resolution 2024 NEB14, along with extraordinary resolutions in 2012 and 2022. Potential arguments for and against a name change are then explored to assess the case for change. Input on the topic from the engagement with membership is presented, followed by the consultant’s recommendation on the matter.

REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS

In 2024, delegates at the UBCM Convention endorsed Resolution 2024 NEB14, put forward by the Cariboo Regional District. The full resolution is presented in full in Figure V.1.

Resolution 2024 NEB14 did not identify a suggested name to replace the current brand. The resolution also did not seek membership’s endorsement of an actual amendment to the *Union of British Columbia Municipalities Act*. Any proposed change to the *Act* requires an Extraordinary Resolution sponsored by the Executive, and approved by a “three-fifths” majority vote at Convention.²⁴ Resolution 2024 NEB14 simply called on the Executive to initiate the process of formally requesting an amendment to the *Act*.

Figure V.1
Resolution 2024 NEB14
Union of BC Municipalities Name Change

Whereas the Union of BC Municipalities (“UBCM”) was established to provide a common voice for local governments across BC and has done so since 1905;

And whereas the membership of UBCM consists of more than just municipalities, including regional districts, Indigenous governments, and improvement districts, which the name of UBCM does not adequately represent:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Union of BC Municipalities Executive, as empowered by the bylaws of the Union of BC Municipalities, to initiate the process of formally requesting an amendment to the Union of BC Municipalities Act to change its statutorily established name to be reflective of the diversity of local governments in BC by means of an Extraordinary Resolution to be considered at Convention in 2025.

The issue of name change arose in 2012 with Extraordinary Resolution 2012-ER1. This resolution called on the provincial government to amend the *Union of British Columbia Municipalities Act* to replace the UBCM name with the name Union of British Columbia Local Governments (UBCLG). The Extraordinary Resolution was put forward by the Executive in response to an earlier resolution on the topic that

²⁴ Section 20 of the UBCM Bylaws uses the term “three-fifths”.

required and received simple majority support. When Extraordinary Resolution 2012-ER1 was put to a vote, however, it did not achieve the three-fifths super majority support necessary.

In 2022, super majority support was achieved for Extraordinary Resolution 2022-ER1. This Extraordinary Resolution resulted in the province amending sections of the *Act* to recognize the diversity of local government types served by UBCM. The amendments did not, however, result in any change to the UBCM name (no such change was requested).

ASSESSING THE CASE FOR CHANGE

The process to amend the *Act* to replace the UBCM name with one perceived to be more inclusive of the diversity of local government types would be a significant undertaking. It would involve consultation on a replacement name, followed by the introduction at Convention of a new Extraordinary Resolution on the matter. Prior to proceeding with these steps, the Executive seeks to better understand the case for change. Figure V.2 is designed to assist the Executive in achieving this understanding. The figure presents a series of arguments that proponents may put forward in support of a change to the UBCM name. The figure also puts forward arguments that opponents may cite to dismiss the call for change.

Figure V.2
Arguments For and Against Change

Arguments in Favour of Change	Arguments Against Change
A change to the UBCM name would: — make the organization more reflective of the diversity of local government types in British Columbia (municipalities, regional districts, Indigenous governments, Islands Trust) — provide a greater sense of belonging to, and encourage greater engagement by, all members, many of which are not municipalities — modernize UBCM’s identity (in the same way that amendments to the <i>UBCM Act</i> in 2022 helped to modernize language to foster inclusivity)	A change to the UBCM name would: — dilute the considerable UBCM brand value and name recognition, both of which have been promoted and nurtured for 120 years — create confusion on the part of audiences who deal with UBCM, and who recognize the UBCM brand — be symbolic, but have limited practical impact — create the potential for division, including in efforts to build consensus on a new name — require significant resources — time, money — to implement fully

Arguments in Favour of Change	Arguments Against Change
– provide greater clarity to different audiences (e.g., other orders of government, the media, the public) who interact with the organization on the role of UBCM in serving all of local government – strengthen the organization’s advocacy efforts by highlighting the full breadth of membership	– result in unintended consequences that could create uncertainty

The points in favour of a name change may be compelling and persuasive to elected representatives who recognize that UBCM was formed to provide a common voice for local government, and who recognize UBCM’s belief in the adages “strength in numbers” and “united we stand, divided we fall”.²⁵ The arguments that highlight diversity and sense of belonging may be particularly powerful.

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

The matter of a UBCM name change was put to the focus groups, tested on delegates at the Area Association conventions and included in the survey of membership.

- *Focus Group Discussions* — In the focus group discussion with the Executive there was some support for a name change, based largely on the desire to foster a sense of inclusion and belonging. For most of the Executive, however, the costs of any change — financial cost, confusion, brand value — outweighed the benefits. UBCM’s Senior Leadership Team (administration) expressed strong and united views against a name change, based primarily on the desire to protect the name brand value, and to avoid the expenditure of resources (e.g., time and money).

The focus group of Past Presidents departed from the other groups on the matter. The Past Presidents expressed considerable (though not unanimous) support for a change to a name that was perceived to be more inclusive, and more representative of the full range of local government members.

- *Area Associations* — In questions/comments from the floor, a small number of delegates advocated strongly for a change to one that more explicitly recognized regional districts (and electoral areas in particular), First Nation members and the Islands Trust. In a question on the matter asked during every presentation, however, a clear majority of delegates who provided feedback (using SLIDO) rejected the notion of a name change. Elected

²⁵ From UBCM website (About the UBCM).

representatives were provided the arguments in favour and the arguments against, then asked to answer the question:

Given all considerations, is the case for change to the UBCM name strong enough to seek the necessary legislative amendment and make a change?

Figure V.3 presents the results of voting by Area Association, and for all Associations combined.

- *Membership Survey* — Figure V.4 presents the survey findings on the matter of the name change. Fifty percent (50%) of respondents rejected the case for a change. Of the remainder, 38% supported a name change, and 12% was unsure.

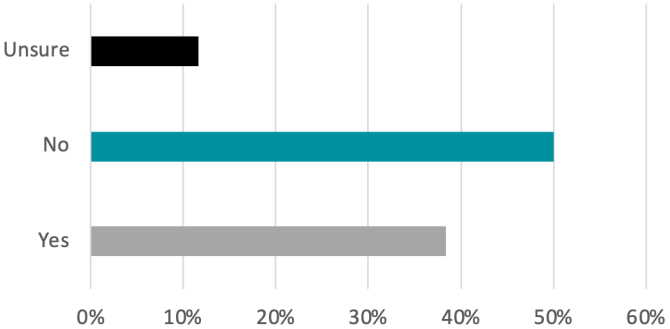
Data behind these numbers show that the argument-in-support of a name change most favoured by respondents related to making the organization more reflective of the diversity of local government. Three arguments-against a name change resonated with members: the significant time and money required to implement a change; the largely symbolic (non-

Figure V.3
Assessing the Case for Change

Area Association	Participants	AGAINST Change	
		Number	Percent
AKBLG	53	36	68%
AVICC	92	52	57%
LMLGA	63	45	71%
SILGA	66	53	80%
NCLGA	58	34	59%
Total	332	220	66%

Figure V.4

Given the arguments in favour and against, is the case for a change to the UBCM name strong enough to select a new name and seek the necessary changes to the *UBCM Act*? (n=180)



practical) impact of any change; and the fear of diluting the brand value and name recognition.

RECOMMENDATION

Changing the UBCM name would be a significant undertaking that would involve:

- consultation with membership on a preferred replacement
- introduction by the Executive of an Extraordinary Resolution, which would require three-fifths super majority support
- provincial government support for amendments to the *UBCM Act*

Written comments in the completed surveys indicate that several of the elected representatives who are in favour of a change are passionate in their advocacy for a name that may be perceived to be more reflective of local government diversity. The survey results also show, however, that the issue is polarizing for membership as a whole. The overall response to the question of change failed to win the level of support that the Executive may feel is necessary to introduce an Extraordinary Resolution, let alone approach the province for legislative amendment. Feedback from the Area Association presentations make the case for change even less certain. The case for change in the view of membership, and in the view of the consultant, is less-than-compelling. The consultant's recommendation is as follows:

THAT the Executive choose to not pursue a change to the UBCM name.

SECTION VI

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Figure VI.1 summarizes the consultant's recommendations, presented in Sections IV and V, on the composition of the Executive and the matter of UBCM name change.

Figure VI.1
Summary of Recommendations

Changes to Composition of the Executive – Section IV	
Rotational Elections for Officer Positions	<i>THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to introduce a system of rotational elections for Officer positions to ensure that every Area Association is represented every year at the Officers Table.</i>
Representation by Size of Community	<i>THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to increase the population threshold for the Small Community Representative from 2,500 to 5,000 people.</i> <i>THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to repurpose the City of Vancouver Representative position on the Executive to the Large Urban Communities Representative position;</i> <i>AND THAT the Large Urban Communities Representative position be filled by a member of council from a municipality with a population of 100,000 or greater, elected at Convention by delegates from the same group of municipalities.</i>
Terms of Office	<i>THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to change the term of office from one year to two years for all positions on the Executive, with the exception of the four Officer positions, the position of Past President, and the Area Association Representative positions.</i> <i>THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, for staggered elections for all Executive positions with two-year terms of office.</i>
Change to the UBCM Name – Section V	
UBCM Name	<i>THAT the Executive choose to <u>not</u> pursue a change to the UBCM name.</i>

REVIEW BY THE EXECUTIVE

At its meeting on July 17, 2026, and again on July 30, 2026, the Executive reviewed the *UBCM Governance Review Report* and the consultant's recommendations. Four recommendations were endorsed by the Executive, including:

- *THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to increase the population threshold for the Small Community Representative from 2,500 to 5,000 people.*
- *THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to change the term of office from one year to two years for all positions on the Executive, with the exception of the four Officer positions, the position of Past President, and the Area Association Representative positions.*
- *THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, for staggered elections for all Executive positions with two-year terms of office.*
- *THAT the Executive choose to not pursue a change to the UBCM name.*

The Executive considered at length the remaining three recommendations, including one on the matter of rotational elections for Officer positions, and two on the matter of representation by size of community. On the matter of rotational elections, the Executive chose to defer the recommendation for two years to allow for further exploration of alternative approaches aimed at bolstering regional representation at the Officers Table.

On the matter of representation by size of community, the Executive declined to endorse the consultant's recommendations. The Executive instead, endorsed the following motion:

- *THAT the Executive seek support from UBCM membership, through an Extraordinary Resolution, to repurpose one of the two Vancouver Metro Area Representative positions on the Executive to establish an Urban Community Representative position;*

AND THAT the Urban Community Representative position be filled by a member of council from a municipality with a population of 100,000 or greater, elected at Convention by delegates from the same group of municipalities.

CONSULTANT'S COMMENTS

In the consultant's view, there is merit to the Executive's preferred courses of action on the recommendations dealing with rotational elections for Officer positions to ensure regional representation at the Officers Table, and the repurposing of an

existing Vancouver Metro Area position on the Executive to recognize urban communities with populations greater than 100,000.

- *Rotational Elections* — The introduction of rotational elections for Officer positions stands, in the consultant's view, as a practical and effective approach to guarantee representation at the Officers Table for all Area Associations every year. It is also a proven approach, embedded in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Executive composition framework. For UBCM, the approach would eliminate barriers faced by some Area Associations in their efforts to elect candidates to Officer positions, and in so doing, would enhance the governing body's legitimacy to all members and all regions.

These points notwithstanding, the consultant recognizes the possible benefit of spacing out potential changes to the Executive's composition over a two-year period, and the value of identifying and assessing other options for ensuring equal representation of Area Associations at the Officers Table.

- *Large Urban Community* — The proposal to repurpose an existing Vancouver Metro Area Representative position, to one designated for urban communities throughout British Columbia with populations greater than 100,000, would dilute to some degree the level of representation currently provided to the Vancouver Metro Area. The degree of dilution, however, may be both reasonable and acceptable given the desire to recognize a new, defined group of municipalities — urban communities with populations greater than 100,000 — and the relatively strong level of representation that municipalities in the Vancouver Metro Area would continue to enjoy.