

2021 UBCM Resolutions



Resolutions to be Considered at the 2021 UBCM Virtual Convention

Broadcast from the Vancouver Convention Centre Vancouver, BC

The resolutions session is presently scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 15

9:00am to 12:00pm

Special Resolutions

Policy Paper Consideration: *Ensuring Local Government
Finance Resiliency Paper [Policy Book 1 Blue cover]*

Endorse Block of Resolutions

Not Endorse Block of Resolutions

2020 No Recommendation Resolutions

No Recommendation Resolutions (*time permitting*)

Thursday, September 16

9:00am to 12:00pm

Policy Paper Consideration: *Primer on Climate Action and the
Municipal Pension Plan [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 2021 Resolutions Committee

One hundred and seventy resolutions were received by the June 30 deadline and have been printed in the Resolutions Book. They are indexed by both resolution number and sponsor.

Format and Rules for 2021

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 UBCM Convention will be held virtually. The UBCM Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions have been updated for 2021, based on our experiences during the first virtual convention in 2020.

The Resolutions Committee is pleased to note that two three-hour sessions for resolutions have been scheduled for the 2021 Convention.

In order to maximize the number of resolutions to be considered by the membership during the resolutions sessions, the Resolutions Committee re-examined the No Recommendation resolutions. They sought those resolutions that could reasonably be reassigned from No Recommendation into either the Endorse or Not Endorse Block, for the membership to consider. The Committee identified six resolutions where the issue raised and the request made in the resolution is sufficiently close, or sufficiently contrary, to current UBCM policy to justify reassigning the resolution from No Recommendation to either the Endorse or Not Endorse Block, respectively. These six are noted with a special notation, where they appear in either the Endorse Block or Not Endorse Block of resolutions.

Advance Preparation

The Resolutions Committee is committed to facilitating efficient and effective policy debate in the six hours 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 debate as many resolutions as time permits.

Order of Debate

Debate will begin with the individual consideration of three Special Resolutions (SR). That will be followed by the consideration of an Endorse Block (EB) of resolutions and a Not Endorse Block (NEB) of resolutions.

Next, individual consideration of resolutions from 2020 with the recommendation of No Recommendation (2020-NR). 2020-NR resolutions consist of a small number of resolutions from 2020 which were referred to the UBCM Executive due to a lack of time at Convention. The Executive declined to make a decision and decided that the topic raised by these resolutions deserved consideration by the full UBCM membership. These resolutions were referred back to the sponsors, who were asked to consider re-submitting them in 2021. Those that were re-submitted have been placed into Section 2020-NR.

In the time that remains, debate will continue with the individual consideration of the No Recommendation (NR) resolutions submitted in 2021.

All resolutions will be considered in the order in which they appear in the book. Motions to vary the agenda will not be considered in 2021.

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. Please refer to the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions for the details of these policies.

Resolutions in Section C will not be considered during Convention. They refer to similar resolutions in other sections in this book, or will be referred back to the relevant Area Association.

Resolutions received after the deadline are considered late resolutions and will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration following Convention. Late resolutions will not be considered during Convention.

Any resolution not included in this book is considered an off-the-floor resolution. Off-the-floor resolutions are not permitted in 2021.

2021 UBCM Resolutions Committee

Mayor Maja Tait, Chair
Councillor Gord Klassen Vice-Chair
Councillor Laurey-Anne Roodenburg
Councillor Pete Fry

Organization of Resolutions in the Resolutions Book

Section	Description	Handling
EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTIONS (ER)	Extraordinary resolutions—to amend the UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the <i>UBCM Act</i>	Considered individually
SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS (SR)	UBCM Executive resolutions on priority issues	Considered individually
ENDORSE BLOCK (EB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that support established UBCM policy Recommendation: Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment 	Considered as a block
NOT ENDORSE BLOCK (NEB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that are contrary to established UBCM policy Recommendation: Not Endorse 	Considered as a block
2020 NO RECOMMENDATION (2020-NR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions that were referred back to sponsors by the UBCM Executive in 2020. New issues Recommendation: No Recommendation or No Action Required 	Considered individually
NO RECOMMENDATION (NR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New issues Recommendation: No Recommendation, or No Action Required or Refer to UBCM Executive 	Considered individually
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolutions referred to similar resolutions found elsewhere in the Resolutions Book Resolutions to be referred back to the sponsor or Area Association 	Not admitted for debate

Classification in the Resolutions Book

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

Legislative

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

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.

Elections

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

Transportation

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

Taxation

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

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).

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.

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.

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*.

Community Economic Development

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

Regional Districts

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

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.

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. Resolutions addressing Indigenous issues are also found here.

Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions

General Rules

1. Two three-hour session will be held to consider resolutions in 2021. The sessions will begin and end promptly at the scheduled hours.
2. 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. Guest speakers may be permitted at the discretion of the Executive.

Voting Rules

3. Only elected officials from member municipalities, regional districts and First Nations are entitled to vote.
4. Voting on resolutions shall be conducted through the online system provided in 2021. Registered delegates must be online during the resolutions session in order to vote. No vote by proxy is allowed.
5. The results of an online vote are final.
6. In all cases, where the votes of delegates, 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.

Rules of Procedure

7. The fundamental principles of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the Union so far as they may be applicable without coming into conflict with the rules and procedures set out for 2021.
8. The Chair shall enforce order and strict observance of the rules and procedures for 2021. The Chair shall have the right to decide all questions of order and the Chair's rulings in this regard shall be final.
9. A delegate wishing to speak to a motion shall enter a phone queue and shall wait until they are recognized by the Chair before speaking. The delegate must announce their name, elected position, municipal, regional district or First Nation office, or other qualifications each time they speak.
10. Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes. The introducer of a motion is permitted three minutes.
11. No delegate may speak more than once on any one question unless and until all other delegates

desiring to speak have been heard.

12. 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 the Chair to refer the resolution to the UBCM Executive for further consideration and report.

13. Motions to vary the agenda will not be considered in 2021.

Resolutions by Section

14. EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTIONS: Those which will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate. These are prefixed "ER" and are printed in the first section of the Resolutions Book. Extraordinary Resolutions will be considered individually by the membership. Extraordinary Resolutions are seeking membership approval to amend UBCM Bylaws or to ask the Province to amend the *UBCM Act*.

Proposed amendments for Extraordinary resolutions will not be permitted in 2021.

15. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS: Those which will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate. These are prefixed "SR" and are printed in the second section of the Resolutions Book. Special Resolutions will be considered individually by the membership. Special Resolutions are sponsored by the UBCM Executive. Special Resolutions can also be sponsored by a member municipality, regional district and First Nation, and are selected by the UBCM Executive to be assigned as an SR. Special Resolutions address priority issues of the membership.

Any member municipality, regional district and First Nation may, in advance of Convention, submit a proposed amendment for an SR Resolution. Proposed amendments must be received **by 4:00pm on Tuesday, September 14, 2021**. All proposed amendments received will be reviewed by the Parliamentarian to ensure they are in order. Those deemed in order will be announced during the resolutions session, at the time of consideration of each SR resolution.

A discussion and then a vote on the amendment can take place. If the proposed amendment is endorsed by a simple majority, then the SR as amended will be considered. If the amendment is not endorsed, then the original, unamended SR will be considered.

16. ENDORSE BLOCK OF RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that include:

- previously considered and endorsed resolutions; or
- resolutions in keeping with the 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 printed in the third section of the Resolutions Book. They will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate as a block. A block is comprised of a group of resolutions to be considered together. The Endorse Block of Resolutions will be considered in one vote by the membership, following consideration of all Special Resolutions.

17. 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 printed in the fourth section of the Resolutions Book. They will be placed before the Convention for Plenary debate as a block. A block is comprised of a group of resolutions to be considered together. The Not Endorse Block of Resolutions will be considered in one vote by the membership, following consideration of the Endorse Block.

Both the Endorse Block of Resolutions and the Not Endorse Block of Resolutions will be shared with the membership prior to Convention. Any member municipality, regional district and First Nation may, in advance of Convention, attempt to pull a resolution from either block for individual consideration, by following these steps:

- Endorse a motion at a Council or Board meeting requesting removal from the block;
- Send the motion, along with the reason(s) for wanting to pull a resolution from a block, to the UBCM Executive **by noon on Friday, September 10, 2021**;
- Executive will consider and determine which requests are approved;
- Executive approval to pull a resolution will result in an amended block being presented at Convention; and

- Any amendments will be announced during the resolutions session, prior to the amended block being considered.

Any resolutions pulled from either block for individual consideration will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration following the Convention. Resolutions pulled from either block will not be considered during Convention.

18. 2020 NO RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTIONS:

Those resolutions that were referred to the UBCM Executive following Convention 2020. The Executive chose to refer those resolutions back to their sponsors citing the need for membership consideration and debate, rather than a decision from Executive. Sponsors were encouraged to re-submit those resolutions for the 2021 cycle.

Those resolutions that include:

- resolutions on topics not previously considered;
- 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 “2020 NR” and are printed in the fifth section of the Resolutions Book.

The 2020 No Recommendation resolutions will be considered individually in the order in which they are printed in the Resolutions Book. Member motions to proposed amendments for 2020 No Recommendation resolutions will not be permitted.

Any 2020 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.

19. 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 printed in the sixth section of the Resolutions Book.

The No Recommendation resolutions will be considered individually in the order in which they are

printed in the Resolutions Book. Member motions to proposed amendments for No Recommendation resolutions will not be permitted.

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.

20. C RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions which have been:

- consolidated or grouped and referred to a similar resolution in an Endorse Block or Not Endorse Block;
- consolidated or grouped and referred to a similar No Recommendation resolution;
- referred to a Special Resolution to be put forward at Convention; or
- deemed too regional in nature and will be referred back to either the sponsor or the Area Association.

These are prefixed “C” and are printed in the seventh section of the Resolutions Book and cross-referenced for delegates’ information. Sponsors will be notified of the action taken regarding the resolution with which their resolution was consolidated and cross-referenced.

C resolutions will not be considered individually, nor as a block during Convention. Requests and motions to bring a C resolution forward for debate at Convention will not be accepted.

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

21. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the Extraordinary Resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

22. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the Resolutions Committee’s recommendation.

23. The resolution, after reading, will require a mover and a seconder.

24. The Chair shall then call on a representative of the UBCM Executive, as sponsor, to introduce the resolution.

25. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.

26. The Chair will then call for discussion from the elected officials from member municipalities, regional districts and First Nations who are entitled to vote.

Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes.

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

Voting shall be conducted through the online system provided in 2021.

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

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

Step-by-Step Rules for Special Resolutions

28. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the Special Resolution to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

29. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the Resolutions Committee’s recommendation.

30. The Chair shall then call on the sponsor, to introduce the resolution.

31. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.

32. The Chair will then call for discussion from the elected officials from member municipalities, regional districts and First Nations who are entitled to vote.

Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes.

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

Voting shall be conducted through the online system provided in 2021.

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

A simple majority is required to endorse a Special Resolution.

Step-by-Step Rules for both the Endorse and Not Endorse Blocks of Resolutions

34. The Chair will introduce a motion to adopt:

- as an Endorse Block (EB), all resolutions recommended Endorse and Endorse with Proposed Amendment; or
- as a Not Endorse Block (NEB), all resolutions recommended Not Endorse.

35. If there was no motion made by a member prior to Convention to pull a resolution from either block, or if the Executive rejected a motion made by a member to pull a resolution from either block, then the blocks as

originally presented in the Resolutions Book will be considered.

There will be no further debate on either block.

The Chair will call the question and each block will be voted on.

36. If there was a motion made by a member prior to Convention, to pull a resolution from either block, and the motion was approved by the Executive, then the Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the block as amended. The Chair will detail which resolution(s) was pulled from the block for individual consideration by the Executive following Convention.

There will be no further debate on either amended block.

The Chair will call the question and each block will be voted on.

37. Voting shall be conducted through the online system provided in 2021.

A simple majority is required to endorse either block.

Step-by-Step Rules for 2020 No Recommendation Resolutions

38. Time permitting, individual consideration of the 2020 No Recommendation resolutions will begin, in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book. Those 2020 NR resolutions not considered individually will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration following Convention.

39. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the 2020 No Recommendation resolutions to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

40. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the Resolutions Committee's recommendation.

41. The resolution, after reading, will require a mover and a seconder.

42. The Chair shall then call on the sponsor, to introduce the resolution.

43. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.

44. The Chair will then call for discussion from the elected officials from member municipalities, regional districts and First Nations who are entitled to vote.

Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes.

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

Voting shall be conducted through the online system

provided in 2021.

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

A simple majority is required to endorse a 2020 No Recommendation resolution.

Step-by-Step Rules for No Recommendation Resolutions

46. Time permitting, following the consideration of the 2020 NR resolutions, individual consideration of the No Recommendation resolutions will begin, in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book. The NR resolutions will be debated until the final session for resolutions has concluded. Those NR resolutions not considered individually will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration following Convention.

47. The Chair will cause the title and enactment clause of the No Recommendation resolutions to be dealt with by the Convention to be read.

48. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will then give the Resolutions Committee's recommendation.

49. The resolution, after reading, will require a mover and a seconder.

50. The Chair shall then call on the sponsor, to introduce the resolution.

51. The sponsor is permitted three minutes to introduce the resolution.

52. The Chair will then call for discussion from the elected officials from member municipalities, regional districts and First Nations who are entitled to vote.

Delegates must confine their remarks to a maximum speaking period of two minutes.

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

Voting shall be conducted through the online system provided in 2021.

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

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

Resolutions Not Printed in the Resolutions Book

54. LATE RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions received after the submission deadline of June 30. Late Resolutions will not be considered at Convention in 2021. Rather these Late Resolutions will be referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration

following Convention. Sponsors will be notified of the decision made by Executive regarding their resolution.

55. OFF-THE-FLOOR RESOLUTIONS: Those resolutions that would be brought off-the-floor during Convention will not be permitted at Convention in 2021.

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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

Proposing an Amendment to an SR Resolution

In advance of Convention, members who wish to propose an amendment to a Special Resolution may do so by taking the following steps:

- Submit the proposed amendment to a Special Resolution in writing.
- Proposed amendments must be received by the UBCM Executive **by 4:00pm on Tuesday, September 14***.
- If more than one amendment to an SR resolution is received, the amendments will be dealt with in the order in which they were received.
- UBCM's Parliamentarian will review all proposed amendments, as per past practice.

*Proposed amendments to an SR should be submitted via email to:
UBCM Executive, c/o Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst
Email address: jjustason@ubcm.ca

Discussion will begin in the order the resolutions are printed.

Sponsors do not have to move each resolution individually, but they are invited to speak to their resolution at the appropriate time.

Section SR

Finance

SR1 CARIP Replacement Funding

UBCM Executive

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 immediately provide an annualized, allocation based and flexible replacement funding program which is equal to or greater than CARIP that supports the continued advancement of local and provincial climate action plans and strategies.

However, the Committee notes that the Province, in responding to endorsed resolutions: 2016-B23 Carbon Reduction Targets; 2014-B26 Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2012-B121 2021 Carbon Neutral Goals; and 2009-B111 Climate Action Services, cites the benefits of the CARIP program towards achieving the requests being made by these four resolutions.

See also resolutions C2, C3, C4, C5 and C6

UBCM Executive comments:

Background

The Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution in an effort to consolidate the five resolutions that have been submitted this year. These five resolutions encompass asks related to:

- 1. postponing the termination of CARIP funding until such time as local governments have been adequately consulted on continued provincial support for the provision of greener and more livable communities;*
- 2. developing an alternative to CARIP that provides comparable, non-competitive, annual funding for critical climate action projects; and*
- 3. replacing CARIP with a new, non-competitive funding program commencing in the 2022 fiscal year that provides equivalent or better funding to all local governments.*

In 2008, then Premier Gordon Campbell announced that local governments were eligible for the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) grant if they signed on to the Climate Action Charter and agreed to publicly

report on their climate action progress. CARIP is a conditional grant program that provides funding to Charter signatories equal to 100 percent of the carbon tax they pay to support local government operations. The program was designed to encourage investment in climate action at the local level.

One-hundred and eighty-nine (189) local governments have signed the Climate Action Charter to date. Incorporating climate action into their core operations and services, local governments have invested significant financial and human capital into building energy efficient and weather resilient communities.

In April 2021, the provincial budget announced \$11 million to develop and fund a new program for local governments to plan for compact and energy efficient communities. In early May, the Province announced the end of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program in the absence of any local government consultation.

UBCM Policy Position

The UBCM 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: 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.

At the same time, the Province has cited the benefits of CARIP program towards achieving the requests made in several endorsed resolutions: 2016-B23 Carbon Reduction Targets; 2014-B26 Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2012-B121; 2021 Carbon Neutral Goals; and 2009-B111 Climate Action Services.

UBCM has prioritized climate action within several provincial election platforms, annual 'Advocacy Days,' as well as special committee work. In December 2020, UBCM released the recommendations of the Special Committee on Climate Action which called for capacity building resources and funding for local governments to support a low carbon future. The recommendations outline concrete actions that can be taken for buildings, transportation, land-use planning, solid waste, resilience, social mobilization and governance. These climate action recommendations are currently informing the work of the UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance.

Current Status

Following the cancellation of CARIP funding, UBCM raised the importance of the program funding to local governments with the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and senior Ministry staff. UBCM issued correspondence to the Province on the impact of the funding to local governments and called for engagement in shaping the design of the new \$11 million program for climate action. Numerous local governments have submitted correspondence to UBCM and the Province on the value and importance of the funding in: building staff capacity; developing climate action policy and plans; investing in local climate action projects; and leveraging dollars from the other orders of government.

As previously noted, five (5) resolutions have been submitted on the CARIP funding decision that call for the postponement of the provincial decision and/or new replacement funding at comparable or greater levels than CARIP. Despite the significant provincial engagement on this issue, it is neither clear as to whether the Province is actively working on a replacement funding program nor the nature, scope, amount and timing of such a program.

Conference decision: _____

Community Economic Development

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.

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to improve the community benefits of forest resources through the establishment of community forests, incentives for value-added/build with wood initiatives and strengthening provisions to provide for local processing (2019-B156, 2018-B43, 2017-B36, 2016-B32, 2016-B42, 2015-B37, 2015-B38, 2015-LR2, 2013-B79, 2013-B105, 2013-B116, 2012-B33, 2012-B109, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B104, 2011-B105, 2011-B167, 2010-B40, 2010-B104, 2010-B105, 2009-B47, 2009-B128, 2009-B131, 2008-B36, 2008-B37, 2007-B43, 2007-B44, 2007-B45, 2006-B44, 2006-B42, 2006-B43, 2005-B32).

Members have also supported protection of old growth (2019-B36, 2017-B66, 2016-C27); have asked for a proactive provincial approach to address forest health (2017-B103); and members have supported the allocation of funding for training and re-training /transition for workers and communities affected by changes in resource-based activities (2008-B46, 2006-B46).

See also resolutions C13, C14, C15, C16, C17, C18 and C19

UBCM Executive comments:

Background

*The Executive is bringing forward this Special Resolution in an effort to consolidate the seven resolutions that have been submitted this year. These seven resolutions encompass asks related to: support for working forests, sustainable forest management, preservation of old growth, economic transition for affected communities, and ensuring decisions are based on the best scientific information available. As noted in the Resolutions Committee comments, these are all policy positions that have been supported by the UBCM membership. In addition to consolidating the member asks, the purpose of this Special Resolution is to provide some current context since all seven resolutions were written prior to a number of new forest policy developments including the release of the *Modernizing Forest Policy in BC¹Intentions Paper* and the establishment of the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel in June 2021.*

Over the past two years, a series of forest policy consultations and engagements have been undertaken, such as the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization, Interior Forest Sector Renewal, Forest and Range Practices Act Improvement Initiative and the Old Growth Strategic Review. On behalf of the membership UBCM has provided submissions to each of these consultations conveying current member endorsed policy. The release of the June 2021 Intentions Paper and the establishment of the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel signal the Province's next steps in moving forward with forest policy changes.

¹ *Modernizing Forest Policy in BC* https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/modernizing_forestry_in_bc_report.pdf

UBCM Policy Position

As noted in the Resolutions Committee comments the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that have sought greater engagement and consultation with local governments on forest policy, recognizing the significant impact that decisions can have on forest-dependent communities and their residents.

Through the advocacy work of UBCM's Community Economic Development Committee, forest policy change has remained at the forefront UBCM's work with the provincial government. The Committee has partnered with the Province on webinars; met with the Forests Minister to share our policy interests; hosted UBCM convention sessions and represented local government interests through a variety of external committee and working group appointments.

Current Status

*In September 2020, the Independent Panel on Old Growth released its report *A New Future for Old Forests*². In response to the report, the Province committed to acting on the 14 recommendations to protect old growth forests.*

The first five recommendations within the report address the conditions required for change:

- 1. Engage the full involvement of Indigenous leaders and organizations to review this report and any subsequent policy or strategy development and implementation.*
- 2. 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.*
- 3. Adopt a three-zone forest management framework to guide forest planning and decision-making.*
- 4. Adopt a more inclusive and stable governance model that gives local communities and stakeholders a greater role in forest management decisions that affect them.*
- 5. Provide the public with timely and objective information about forest conditions and trends.*

The report's recommendations outline a four-phased process consisting of immediate actions in the first six months, near-term actions over six to 12 months, mid-term actions over six to 18 months and long-term actions over 18 to 36 months.

In follow up to the Independent Panel report, the Province announced on June 9th that at the request of the Pacheedaht, Ditidaht and Huu-ay-aht First Nations it was deferring old-growth harvesting in the Fairy Creek watershed and central Walbran areas in their territories while the First Nations have an opportunity to develop an Integrated Resource Stewardship plan that will determine the future of forests in its territory. This deferral is in addition to immediate deferrals announced with the release of the Independent Panel report.

Two additional announcements in June 2021, as noted in the Special Resolution, include engagement on the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper and the establishment of the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel. With respect to the Intentions Paper, the Province is working with UBCM to host a series of webinars in late July to obtain local government feedback on the 20 recommendations for forest policy changes. This process will also be conducted in a phased approach and Policy Intention #7 within the Paper speaks to a commitment to implementing further deferrals of old growth forests. Parallel consultations are occurring with aboriginal communities on the Intentions Paper.

The second announcement relates to the establishment of a five-member Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel. This Panel will build on the technical work already undertaken with respect to mapping, analysis and detailed information related to the status of old growth forests ecosystems to better inform the public, government to government with First Nations on future deferral areas. Panel members will also provide recommendations and advice on priority areas for development of deferrals. Both of these actions by the Panel are consistent with two recommendations from the Independent Panel's Old Growth Strategic Review.

The Special Resolution put forward by the Executive reflects the need for continued local government consultation as the Province moves forward to implement forest policy change that will impact BC communities. It acknowledges and supports the Province's commitment to reconciliation with indigenous communities but also seeks to ensure that local governments continue to be engaged, recognizing that transition support will be needed as policy changes are implemented.

² *A Future for Old Forests* <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/stewardship/old-growth-forests/strategic-review-20200430.pdf>

Conference decision: _____

Selected Issues

SR3 Strengthening Responsible Conduct

UBCM Executive

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

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

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

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

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting: a mandatory requirement for Councils and Boards to consider adopting a Code of Conduct; the design of a mandatory educational module that supports responsible conduct; or the embedding of the foundational principles that support responsible conduct in the prescribed oath of office or in guidance materials for local governments that have established a local oath of office.

The Resolutions Committee notes that issue of conduct by local elected officials is complex, and requires a multifaceted response in order to bring about substantive systemic change. The proposed actions within the Special Resolution provide incremental changes that would appear to align with the work that has been undertaken to date by the Working Group on Responsible Conduct (WGRC).

See also resolutions NEB1 and 2020-NR1

UBCM Executive comments:

Background

Local governments in British Columbia operate within a system of governance that is guided by the core concepts of autonomy, empowerment, accountability and collaboration. These concepts should be kept in mind as local governments consider potential solutions to strengthening the practice of responsible conduct by local elected officials.

The current broad legislative powers of local government in tandem with court decisions uphold the ability of local governments to manage the conduct of local elected officials. Local governments can adopt Codes of Conduct that include enforcement provisions, and appoint independent third parties to, as needed, investigate particular cases.

The UBCM Executive affirms the value of local governments taking ownership of tools that support responsible conduct. Codes of Conduct that have been developed and endorsed by Councils and Boards through discussion lead to a deeper shared understanding than those imposed externally. These important discussions also prepare the ground for the effective informal resolution of differences, which has been shown in local government experience to lead to more effective outcomes that formal processes of enforcement.

UBCM Policy Position

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership endorsed a 2017 policy paper that set out a workplan for strengthening the framework that supports responsible conduct by local elected officials in BC. In response to the direction provided by the membership, the Working Group on Responsible Conduct has developed an integrated suite of resources, including:

- *Identification of foundational principles for responsible conduct;*
- *A model Code of Conduct and Guide;*
- *A database of consultants to advise communities when dealing with conduct issues; and*
- *A guide with procedural considerations for informal and formal approaches to dealing with matters of conduct, including considerations for the development of fair processes to enforce Codes of Conduct.*

Current Status

Delegates will note that there are indications from the membership that further resources are needed to support responsible conduct (as per resolutions NEB1 and 2020-NR1 that have been submitted by members for consideration this year).

It is the view of the UBCM Executive that new tools and resources should reflect the core concepts that guide the local government system in BC, so that autonomy, empowerment, accountability and collaboration are upheld. The Executive believes that the incremental steps proposed in this Special Resolution build upon the tools and powers already available to local governments, and if implemented, will deepen the common understanding of the foundational standards that support good governance, and the overall practice of responsible conduct by local elected officials in BC.

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 – EB77

After consideration of Section SR resolutions, a spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion to consider Section EB as a block:

- Shall the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section EB be adopted?

If the motion is approved by delegates, then the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section EB resolutions will be endorsed as a block.

Pulling a Resolution for Individual Consideration

In advance of Convention, members who wish to pull resolutions from the Endorse Block of resolutions for individual consideration (individual consideration because members want to amend the resolution or do not agree with its recommendation) will need to take the following steps:

- Endorse a motion at a Council or Board meeting requesting removal from the Endorse Block;
- Send the motion, along with the reasons for wanting to pull the resolution from the Block, to the UBCM Executive to be received **by noon on Friday, September 10***;
- The UBCM Executive will decide which requests are approved;
- Executive approval to pull a resolution will result in an amended Endorse Block of resolutions being presented at Convention; and
- Any amendments to the Endorse Block will be announced during the resolutions session.

Resolutions pulled from section EB for individual consideration will be Referred to Executive, and not considered during Convention.

*Requests to pull a resolution from the Endorse Block should be submitted via email to:
UBCM Executive, c/o Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst
Email address: jjustason@ubcm.ca

Timing

If the allotted time elapses and debate of Section EB has not been completed, the resolutions in the EB block will be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Section EB

Legislative

EB1 Electronic Permit and Public Hearing Notification

Islands Trust

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that call for a review and amendments to the Local Government Act and Community Charter to address the statutory advertising provisions that require newspaper advertising for public notices (2019-B1, 2018-B1, 2017-B1, 2016-B1, 2015-B88).

In its response to 2019-B1 the Province indicated: "Research and policy work will continue to focus on balancing key local government system principles –such as transparency and accountability -with local government's requests for additional flexibility in statutory notice requirements. Once the work is completed, outcomes and findings will be shared with the UBCM Executive for discussion and consultation on possible next steps."

Conference decision: _____

EB2 WorkSafe BC Coverage for Local Elected Officials

NCLGA Executive

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

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

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

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 2014-B98 which asked the Province to amend the Workers Compensation Act to include local government elected officials in the definition of "worker."

In response to 2014-B98, the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, and Minister Responsible for Labour indicated that it did not have plans at that time to amend the Workers Compensation Act to provide worker coverage to elected officials.

The current edition of the WorkSafe BC Assessment Manual (dated April 6, 2020) states: "However, elected officials in provincial/municipal government, school or library boards, and similar agencies are not considered workers or employers and are therefore not covered under the Act in their capacity as elected officials. Personal Optional Protection is not available to these individuals."

Conference decision: _____

EB3 Enabling Legislation for Green Roofs

**North Vancouver District,
Port Moody**

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

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

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

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 considered, but did not endorse, a similar resolution in 2020, NR4. Resolution 2020-NR4 requested that the Province amend the Local Government Act to empower local governments to expressly require green roofs and enforce the related building standard of construction, and to require and enforce maintenance of green roofs, including with security requirements.

This resolution differs from 2020-NR4 as it offers flexibility for local governments to choose to implement the green roof requirement, it isn't asking that all local governments be mandated to require green roofs and to enforce the related building standard of construction and maintenance.

Conference decision: _____

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

**Lake Country,
Powell River**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend Section 744 of the Local Government Act to remove the words "breakdown or malfunction" to reduce local government liability.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has pursued legislative reforms with respect to civil liability since its first Liability Action Plan in 1986. Since that time the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing liability with respect to:

- *building regulations, permits and inspections (2009-B56, 2006-A1, 1996-B1, 1995-A1, 1995-B1);*
- *sidewalk and crosswalk use and maintenance (2002-B24, 1993-B8); and*
- *liability in general (2003-SR1 and "Response to Discussion Paper on Civil Liability" at the 2002 Convention)*

The "Response to Discussion Paper on Civil Liability" at the 2002 Convention resulted in a joint submission by UBCM and the Municipal Insurance Association to the Attorney General on the issue of civil liability.

The Committee also notes that in 2015, UBCM working in collaboration with MIABC sought amendments at that time to what were s. 290 and 288 of the Local Government Act. The latter related to the issue of nuisances, had become problematic due to the fact that judicial decisions, as opposed to government policy, significantly altered local government exposure to claims. And while many jurisdictions across Canada reacted by strengthening statutory protection due to the narrow interpretation of then s. 288 that same protection was not provided to BC local governments. Under BC legislation, a local government and its taxpayers are immune from actions based on nuisance if the damages to Property B arise:

- *in relation either to sewer, water or drainage systems or to dikes and roads, and*
- *due to breakdown or malfunction.*

The request by the sponsor is in keeping with UBCM attempts to reduce local government liability.

Conference decision: _____

Community Safety

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

NCLGA Executive

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Endorse***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide more timely community-based information that can be shared with local governments and their residents during declared local and provincial states of emergency.

However, the 2018 BC Flood and Wildfire Review, delivered by Chief Maureen Chapman and George Abbott, acknowledged "concerns about the timeliness and accuracy of public communications around wildfire and other disasters." Specifically, during the 2017 wildfire season, residents and communities had difficulty obtaining reliable real-time information. The report recommended provincial strategies for more effective information-sharing, including a request that the Province develop an emergency communications hub to provide reliable, responsive and real-time information.

The UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions requesting provincial assistance with the provision of emergency services, including 2018-B95, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, and 2013-B44. Notably, resolution 2016-B56 requested that the Province work collaboratively with local governments to provide physical and human resources to support emergency response and disaster events.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local governments (2109-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141, 2002-SR1). UBCM, as part of its feedback towards the modernization of the Emergency Program Act, has recommended ongoing consultation and communication between the Province and local governments.

Conference decision: _____

EB6 Flood Mitigation Response

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Endorse***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed an identical resolution under a different name: 2011-B11 Flood Mitigation Programs.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting support and/or funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B33, 2018-B37, 2018-B94, 2018-B123, 2016-B56, 2015-B6, 2015-B7, 2015-B97, 2014-B75, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B3, 2012-B4, 2012-B62, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8).

In 2019, Emergency Management BC began work to amend and modernize BC's emergency management legislation. New legislation will incorporate principles from the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction,

including a greater emphasis on mitigation as a means to managing emergencies. In examining local government responses to provincial proposals, UBCM found that the need for funding and support to address new and ongoing emergency management responsibilities were the most prevalent concerns. As a result, UBCM recommended:

- That EMBC develop an ongoing sustainable funding framework for local governments to address emergency management responsibilities; and,
- That EMBC confirm adequate provincial support services for local governments, to address emergency management capacity issues.

Conference decision: _____

EB7 911 Call Answer Levy

Bulkley-Nechako RD

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

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

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

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 similar resolutions asking that wireless service providers collect a call answer levy as a means to contribute to the costs associated with the delivery of 911 emergency service (2012-LR1, 2011-B13, 2009-B10, 2004-SR1).

In 2019, UBCM re-affirmed its support for enabling legislation to create a new 911 emergency communications framework. This support is based in part on the establishment of a governance entity to manage and distribute revenue generated through a call answer levy on cellular devices. During that same year, UBCM worked with the Province through a 911 Steering Committee, examining three key components of the provincial 911 system: funding model, governance structure, and standards. This included analyzing the feasibility and support for a call answer levy on cellular devices. UBCM was informed, in 2020, that the Province would not be tabling new 911 emergency communications legislation during the spring 2020 legislative session. It is not known if or when the Province may consider tabling such legislation.

Conference decision: _____

EB8 Extending the Life of Fire Apparatus

Port Alberni

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking flexibility from the Fire Underwriters Survey in setting requirements and guidelines to accommodate the particular challenges faced by fire services (2020-EB11, 2016-B5, 2014-B49, 2011-B2, 2009-B5, 2008-B60).

Following the endorsement of resolution 2016-B5, UBCM delivered correspondence to the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS), requesting a meeting to discuss equipment requirements for local fire departments. FUS did not respond to the letter; and, has previously shown reluctance to engage in substantive discussion with UBCM regarding equipment standards.

See also resolution EB9

Conference decision: _____

EB9 Fire Apparatus Maintenance for Small Geographic Fire Departments Chase

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking flexibility from the Fire Underwriters Survey in setting requirements and guidelines to accommodate the particular challenges faced by fire services, including those in small and rural communities (2020-EB11, 2016-B5, 2014-B49, 2011-B2, 2009-B5, 2008-B60).

Following the endorsement of resolution 2016-B5, UBCM delivered correspondence to the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS), requesting a meeting to discuss equipment requirements for local fire departments. FUS did not respond to the letter; and, has previously shown reluctance to engage in substantive discussion with UBCM regarding equipment standards.

See also resolution EB8

Conference decision: _____

EB10 Increased Capacity at the National Forensic Lab Services Prince George

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

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

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

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

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

Over the past several years, due to federal budget cuts, the capacity of the National Forensic Laboratory Services has been reduced. In July 2019, UBCM delivered correspondence requesting that the RCMP reconsider a subsequent decision to reduce the number of firearms used in crimes that would be sent to federal laboratories for testing.

As a result of the reduction in forensic services, the BC Task Force on Illegal Firearms, in 2017, recommended that the Province build its own firearms tracing hub to increase firearms forensic capacity. Earlier this year, BC opened its own firearm forensic lab.

Conference decision: _____

EB11 Increasing Capacity in Provincial Court Systems through Alternative Coordinated Initiatives

Prince George

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed a variety of resolutions seeking for the Province to create and fund specialized courts and other alternatives to the traditional court system including:

- *restorative justice programs (2018-B9, 2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2010-B2, 2009-B7, 2008-B4, 2007-B3, 2006-B10, 2003-B2);*
- *Indigenous court system (2019-B207);*
- *domestic violence treatment court (2007-B165);*
- *drug treatment court (2005-B2, 2005-B104, 2004-B104, 2000-B61);*
- *diversionary programs for first-time offenders (2003-B114); and,*
- *bylaw court (2001-B11, 1998-B2, 1994-B11).*

The Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking increased judicial resources (2018-B89, 2012-B2, 2011-B9, 2009-B2, 2007-B88, 2001-B49).

Conference decision: _____

EB12 Civil Forfeiture Proceeds

Chilliwack

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for proceeds from the disposition of forfeited property to be transferred to local governments (2019-B4, 2014-B16, 2011-B15, 2009-B4, 2004-A1, 2004-B3, 2004-B7, 2003-B3, 1998-B2, 1992-B58).

In response to endorsed resolution 2019-B4, the Province did not directly respond to the request to share seizures of proceeds of crime with local governments to address protective services costs.

Conference decision: _____

EB13 Medical Cannabis Production Sites

Cowichan Valley RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions, which in part, sought more local government involvement over medical cannabis production (either personal or commercial), to ensure respect for local bylaws and zoning and ensure community safety. These include:

- *2020-EB16 - called for expanded legislative framework for local authorities to oversee building and fire safety requirements for cannabis production facilities, and for local governments to be notified of locations to ensure enforcement of local bylaws to mitigate safety risks.*
- *2018-B7 - called for local governments to be notified of locations with medical cannabis personal production licenses to ensure the safety of first responders who may attend these locations.*
- *2018-B93 - called for mandatory ventilation systems in all commercial and personal production sites, and the ability for Health Canada inspectors to enter these sites to ensure compliance.*

- *2012-B111 - called for medical cannabis producers (personal and commercial) to be required to obtain a municipal license or permit to ensure compliance with local bylaws and all electrical, fire, health, building and safety regulations.*

The federal government has not responded to any of the resolutions listed above.

Conference decision: _____

Transportation

EB14 Consultation by Ministry Prior to Undertaking Works on Highways

Gibsons

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

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2000-B65, which asked the provincial government to consult with local governments during the planning and implementation of improvements to provincial highways, in order to ease and minimize the impact of the improvements on surrounding local governments and residents.

More generally, the Committee would reference member-endorsed resolution 2019-SR1, calling on the Province to ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter are adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives.

Conference decision: _____

EB15 Provincial Maintenance of Arterial Roads Within Municipalities

Merritt

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

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

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

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

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

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 2018-B85 which asked the Province to review snow and ice control in rural areas, as well as minimum equipment standards, and staffing requirements. Members also endorsed resolution 2007-B98, which requested that the Province work with UBCM to ensure that the standards, practices, and funding for winter maintenance of provincial highways within a local jurisdiction are harmonized with the standards and practices used by the local government to clear its roads of snow, ice, and gravel.

Conference decision: _____

EB16 Safe Passing Distance for All Road Users

North Vancouver City

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse, following Resolutions Committee scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Motor Vehicle Act by requiring drivers to provide 1 metre of space at speeds 50 km/h or less, and 1.5 metres of space at speeds in excess of 50 km/h, when passing people cycling or walking.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking to improve road safety, including:

- *implement lower, blanket speed limits (2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14, 2003-LR9, 1999-B44);*
- *traffic calming measures in areas designated for growth in Electoral Areas (2019-B115);*
- *lower speed to 30km/h when driving through a highway accident scene (2019-B117);*
- *manage invasive species that infringe on bike lanes (2013-B66); and*
- *make it an offence to pass stopped emergency vehicles on roadways at speeds greater than 60 km/h and double the fine for those vehicles speeding while passing stopped emergency vehicles on roadways (2007-B102).*

See also resolution C1

Conference decision: _____

EB17 Abandoned Vehicles on Crown Land

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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 designate one Ministry or coordinating body to be responsible for abandoned vehicle complaints on Crown Land, Provincial rights of way, and road dedications.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2020-EB10, which calling for additional provincial funding to support rural RCMP detachments or the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in responding to removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles from rural roads.

The Committee also notes that members endorsed resolution 2019-B57, which requested that the Province review rural parking enforcement regulations, and either grant regional districts the authority to enforce parking regulations or provide additional policing resources to rural RCMP detachments to address illegal parking issues. In response, the Province indicated a willingness to further examine parking and enforcement regulations on provincial roads within regional districts.

Conference decision: _____

EB18 Strengthening Rail Safety in BC

NCLGA Executive

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

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

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

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 consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to improve regulations and safety around the shipment of dangerous goods by rail (2019-B17, 2018-B13, 2015-B13, 2014-B55).

The Committee further notes that members endorsed resolution 2017-B7, seeking a federal requirement for rail companies to provide local governments with a manifest of the dangerous contents of trains passing through their boundaries. Members also endorsed resolution 2014-B126, asking the federal government to phase out the use of sub-standard liquid commodity rail cars and until entirely phased out, restrict the sub-standard cars from carrying dangerous goods.

Conference decision: _____

Taxation

EB19 Vacant Land Property Tax

Lillooet

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2016-B13 which asked the Province to amend the Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation 438/81 to include prescribed classes for vacant land and vacant contaminated land that allows for a higher tax rate and/or flat taxes.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking legislative amendments to authorize municipalities to set different property tax rates for land and improvements, in order to encourage the development and improved maintenance of derelict buildings and vacant land and improve housing affordability (2020-EB44, 2017-B14, 2011-B24, 2008-B18, 2007-B72).

Conference decision: _____

EB20 Provincial Tax Sharing and Local Fuel Tax

Courtenay

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

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

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

- Sales Tax
- Liquor Tax
- Property Transfer Tax

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions asking the Province to share with local governments a portion of:

- *Sales Tax (2020-EB34, 2012-B11).*
- *Liquor Tax (2019-B31, 2014-B60, 2011-B26, 2004-B111)*
- *Property Transfer Tax (2019-B30, 2017-B17, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2004-A8).*

However, the Committee advises that the membership has not considered a resolution asking the Province to create a local fuel tax for local governments as an additional revenue stream.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to share a portion of the Provincial fuel tax to support:

- active transportation infrastructure (2013-B99);
- road rehabilitation (2012-B19);
- fund the growing needs of communities, but cannot continue to increase property taxes (2010-B24);
- transportation initiatives and road infrastructure and rehabilitation (2007-B21);
- road maintenance and transit services (2005-B20, 2003-B65); and
- transportation infrastructure (2003-B60).

Conference decision: _____

Finance

EB21 Flexibility of Grant Programs

Cowichan Valley RD

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed B111 - Grant Funding in 2018, which is similar, identifying limited staff and financial resources to complete grant applications and unnecessary reporting requirements. B111 requested that the provincial and federal governments restructure programs to mirror the federal gas tax fund allocation in order to provide ease of access to year over year incremental funding.

Further, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting various changes to existing grant programs focused on funding formula (reducing local government share), streamlining processes and/or alternative allocation methods, including:

- 2020-EB35 - Doubling the Gas Tax
- 2018-B109 - Amendments to Rural Dividend Fund Access
- 2014-B19 - Federal Matching Grants
- 2013-B19 - Infrastructure Grants for Small Municipalities
- 2012-B13 - Infrastructure Funding Criteria
- 2012-B69 - Local Government Funding
- 2009-B29 - Federal Provincial Infrastructure Program Funding

Conference decision: _____

EB22 COVID-19 Funding Allocation Deadline

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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 provide regional districts the same COVID-19 safe restart grant for local governments allocation and reporting requirements afforded to municipalities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2020-SR7 that asked the Province to work collaboratively with UBCM to identify the health, safety, social and economic challenges facing BC communities and provide corresponding financial support that will aid local governments in the Province's overall COVID-19 recovery effort.

See also resolution NR21

Conference decision: _____

EB23 Funding Support to Manage Post COVID-19 Pandemic Tourism Pemberton

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

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

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

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 fund the provincial ministries responsible for managing parks, crown lands, and recreation sites and to local governments to assist in establishing sustainable tourism policies and programs to ensure that visitor use of lands and natural resources is done in a manner that protects the natural environment in perpetuity.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2020-SR7 that asked the Province to work collaboratively with UBCM to identify the health, safety, social and economic challenges facing BC communities and provide corresponding financial support that will aid local governments in the Province's overall COVID-19 recovery effort. 2020-SR7 highlighted, in part, significant revenue losses as a result of reduced tourism due to the pandemic.

Prior to 2020-SR7, local governments endorsed resolution 2018-B45 that asked the Province to provide additional funding to increase staffing, maintenance and enforcement operations in respect of existing Provincial Recreation Assets; and to investigate the development and addition of new recreation assets to the existing inventory of Provincial Recreation Assets (such that the increased number of visits may be spread over a larger inventory of Provincial Recreation Assets).

And prior to that, resolution 2011-B49 asked the Province to provide appropriate budgets and staff to fully support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks and related facilities and services, year-round where appropriate, thereby supporting the tourism industry and the quality of life of all British Columbians.

Conference decision: _____

EB24 Income Tax Credit/Deduction for Workers in Isolated Areas

Port Hardy

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

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

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

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 a similar resolution from the same sponsor, 2019-B22 Isolation Allowance which asked the provincial and federal governments to provide a tax credit/deduction to all employees living in and around the same communities that those governments recognize with Isolation Allowance.

The membership also endorsed a similar resolution in 2018-B152 asking the federal government to establish an application process for a Rural Living Allowance to residents of rural communities meeting the criteria of a lack of medical services, government services or basic consumer supplies such as groceries, travel barriers and significant economic downturn as determined by the Treasury Board of Canada.

Members have endorsed resolutions related to the increased travel costs facing rural communities to access medical and other services not readily available in smaller more remote communities. Members specifically endorsed 2003-B140 requesting that the Travel Assistance Program funding be extended to include travel costs for rural or remote residents requiring access to physiotherapy services. A similar resolution was endorsed in 2005-B16.

Conference decision: _____

EB25 Development Cost Charges for Local Government Facilities

Lantzville

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

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

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

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 SR2 in 2019 that specifically sought the modernization of development financing that would identify approaches to:

- Capture growth related capital costs, including, but not limited to infrastructure needed to support: emergency services, solid waste, cultural services, transit, recreation, affordable housing and the expansion of sport-related park services;
- Provide local government with the flexibility to ensure that financing growth-related infrastructure services better reflects community circumstances and community objectives; and
- Creates a consistent approach to land value capture and amenity charges that reduces the uncertainty associated with negotiated agreements.

In addition to 2019-SR2, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges (DCC) beyond their current allowable usages to a variety of specific usages including solid waste infrastructure, fire halls and fire suppression equipment and sport related park infrastructure (2020-NR23, 2018-B21, 2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B9, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2010-B23, 2007-B37, 2005-B95).

Conference decision: _____

Environment

EB26 Protection of Waterways from Aquatic Invasive Species

Sicamous

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Endorse, following Resolutions Committee scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.***

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions addressing invasive species, including:

- *Plants (2014-B22, 2013-B66, 2011-B44, 2011-B135, 2010-B29, 2008-B71, 2007-B30, 2007-B31, 2005-B25, 2004-B72, 2003-B81);*
- *Quagga and zebra mussels (2020-RB50, 2017-B27, 2016-B60, 2015-B60, 2014-B21, 2013-B76, 2012-LR2);*
- *Soils free of invasive pests (2106-B113);*

- *Ban on sale of invasive species (2017-B28);*
- *Rat reduction strategy (2017-B108);*
- *Request for an Invasive Species Act which was endorsed by the UBCM Executive (2020-NR57); and*
- *Request for Province to budget for long-term, stable funding for invasive species management (2020-EB49).*

See also resolution EB27

Conference decision: _____

EB27 Invasive Asian Clams

Sicamous

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

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

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

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

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 designate invasive Asian clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) as a Prohibited Aquatic Invasive Species under the Controlled Alien Species Regulation.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions addressing invasive species, including other types of shellfish:

- *Plants (2014-B22, 2013-B66, 2011-B44, 2011-B135, 2010-B29, 2008-B71, 2007-B30, 2007-B31, 2005-B25, 2004-B72, 2003-B81);*
- *Quagga and zebra mussels (2020-RB50, 2017-B27, 2016-B60, 2015-B60, 2014-B21, 2013-B76, 2012-LR2);*
- *Soils free of invasive pests (2106-B113);*
- *Ban on sale of invasive species (2017-B28);*
- *Rat reduction strategy (2017-B108);*
- *Request for an Invasive Species Act which was endorsed by the UBCM Executive (2020-NR57); and*
- *Request for Province to budget for long-term, stable funding for invasive species management (2020-EB49).*

See also resolution EB26

Conference decision: _____

EB28 Watershed Stewardship in British Columbia

Vanderhoof

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

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

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

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 consistently endorsed resolutions seeking authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds (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).

See also resolution EB45

Conference decision: _____

EB29 Drinking Water Protection and Private Managed Forest Land Cumberland

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

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

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

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

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 asking the Province to regulate private land logging in the same manner as crown land and to ensure that local governments are consulted in advance of harvesting to prevent damage to watersheds and other infrastructure (2020-EB48, 2020-EB65, 2019-B38, 2019-B46, 2019-B48, 2019-B49, 2018-B42, 2011-B50, 2010-B26, 2008-B34, 2006-B102, 2005-B27).

Conference decision: _____

EB30 Illegal Dumping Chilliwack

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

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

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

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

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 considered and endorsed an almost identical resolution, 2017-B64, which requested the designation of a single ministry as responsible for regulation of illegal dumping in the province, including enforcement of said regulations and cleanup and removal of dumped waste. And that the Province provide adequate funding to the designated ministry to ensure minimum staffing levels can be maintained in all areas of the province to address the issue of illegal dumping.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed many resolutions that address illegal dumping (2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89).

See also resolutions EB31 and EB32

Conference decision: _____

EB31 Illegal Dumping in Rural Areas

Fraser Valley RD

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

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

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

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership has many endorsed resolutions that address illegal dumping and which call for adequate funding and enforcement (2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B64, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89).

See also resolutions EB30 and EB32

Conference decision: _____

EB32 Illegal Dumping in Electoral Areas

Nanaimo RD

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

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

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

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 report out on the action of the provincial working group, review resources and strategies for addressing illegal dumping and optimize partnerships with local governments to more effectively combat this problem.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that address illegal dumping (2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B64, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89). In particular,

Resolution 2017-B64 called for the Province to create a single ministry to be responsible for the regulation of illegal dumping, including enforcement.

The Committee would note that the whereas clauses do not reference an illegal dumping working group while the enactment clause does.

See also resolutions EB30 and EB31

Conference decision: _____

EB33 Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector Recyclables East Kootenay RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

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

Conference decision: _____

EB34 Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program in BC Kent

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

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

Conference decision: _____

EB35 Help Cities Lead

LMLGA Executive

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions to address most of the requests found in this resolution, including:

- *Home energy labelling (2020-NR52, 2014-B93);*
- *Property assessed clean energy (PACE) enabling legislation (2019-B140);*
- *Regulating GHG emissions for existing buildings (2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25); and*
- *Building energy benchmarking and reporting (2020-EB58, 2019-B142, 2018-B31, 2018-B32, 2017-B62, 2014-B94).*

However, the Committee advises that the membership has rejected resolutions that sought to regulate GHG emissions for new buildings, including 2020-NEB8 and 2019-B152.

See also resolution C10

Conference decision: _____

EB36 Property Tax Assisted Clean Energy (PACE)

Fernie

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

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

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that UCBM ask the Ministry of Environment, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Housing and PACE BC to support BC legislation enabling PACE by third-party administration and confirming the interest of all BC municipalities in having a PACE program when it becomes available in BC.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that UCBM ask the Ministry of Environment, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Housing and PACE BC to support BC legislation enabling PACE by third-party administration. ~~and confirming the interest of all BC municipalities in having a PACE program when it becomes available in BC.~~

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive has endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR37 which called on the Province update the Vancouver Charter and Community Charter to enable BC local or regional governments to establish Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing programs that include accessing third party private investment.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2019-B140 which called on the Province to develop PACE enabling legislation for BC local governments.

The Committee is recommending Endorse with Proposed Amendment. We recommend removing the final section of the enactment clause as it is asking UBCM to confirm the interest of all of its members in a PACE program, which is separate from asking the Province to provide legislation to enable PACE.

Conference decision: _____

EB37 Developing a Vision to End Energy Poverty

Powell River

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

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

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

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 set a clear vision and targets to end energy poverty in BC within the next ten years, taking action on the three key drivers of energy poverty: low incomes, high energy costs, and poor energy efficiency in homes.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that separately address:

- *Low incomes (Poverty reduction strategy: 2016-B47, 2015-B44) and (Income supports for food security: 2019-B69, 2013-B55, 2013-B56).*
- *High energy costs (2019-B73, 2018-B76, 2016-B48, 2015-B40).*
- *Poor energy efficiency in homes (2018-B31, 2018-B32, 2014-B28).*

Conference decision: _____

EB38 BC Circular Economy Strategy

**Nanaimo City,
Victoria**

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

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

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

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

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 previously endorsed resolutions that support the creation of a circular economy. In particular, resolution 2017-B63 which called on the Province to develop a provincial zero waste strategy.

See also resolutions C7 and C8

Conference decision: _____

EB39 Community Climate Action Plans

Comox Valley RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

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

In 2020, UBCM also released the recommendations of the Special Committee on Climate Action which called for funding and capacity building resources to support a low carbon future. The recommendations outline concrete actions that can be taken for buildings, transportation, solid waste, resilience, land use planning, social mobilization and governance.

See also resolution C9

Conference decision: _____

EB40 CleanBC Support for Northern and Rural Communities

Kitimat

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

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

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

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse, following Resolutions Committee scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide greater support of resources, training, and capacity-building for northern, remote, and rural communities as they work towards meeting the CleanBC Plan goals, in particular the aspects of Cleaner Transportation and Better Buildings.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions addressing cleaner transportation with reduced GHG emissions (2020-EB26, 2020-EB27, 2020-EB29, 2020-EB30, 2020-EB59, 202-NR35, 2019-B118, 2019-B142, 2019-B143, 2019-B151, 2016-B68, 2014-B33).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2020-NR73, 2020-EB87, 2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25).

Conference decision: _____

Land Use

EB41 New Provincial Trails Strategy

Revelstoke

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

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

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

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

- Adopt the recommendations from the Provincial Trails Advisory Body.
- Confirm adequate provincial support for the implementation of the trails strategy.

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 adopt the recommendations from the Provincial Trails Advisory Body, and to confirm adequate provincial support for the implementation of the trails strategy.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions calling on the Province to provide appropriate resources (funding, staffing) to support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks, recreational sites and trails and backcountry areas (2019-B50, 2018-B45, 2018-B72, 2011-B49, 2003-B28, 2003-B94, 2001-B84).

Conference decision: _____

EB42 Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in BC

Sicamous

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Endorse, following Resolutions Committee scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to allocate the necessary resources to create the following objective under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation Part 2 Division 1: The objective set by government for recreation is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts to any recreation site, trail or facility that exists on Crown land.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to provide appropriate resources (funding, staffing) to support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks, recreational sites and trails and backcountry areas (2019-B50, 2018-B45, 2018-B72, 2011-B49, 2003-B28, 2003-B94, 2001-B84).

The Committee would note that by setting an objective for recreation under FRPA the intent of the resolution would be to ensure that recreation can be properly considered within planning processes. Recognizing the growing importance of outdoor recreational opportunities for communities and previous policy supporting additional funding and support to maintain parks and trails, this ask would seem to be in line with members' interests.

See also resolution NR42

Conference decision: _____

EB43 Local Control of Land Use Practices

Kootenay Boundary RD

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

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

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

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 resolution 2019-SR1 which called upon the Province to ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation, as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter, are adhered to and implemented when the Province moves forward with future initiatives, including processes and programs affecting the land base.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions that seek better land use planning, that incorporate the voice of local government and consideration of the effects on the environment (2020-EB61, 2019-B36, 2019-B155, 2018-B34, 2017-B65, 2017-B115, 2016-B25).

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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 that seek better land use planning that ensures decision making takes into account the cumulative effects on the environment, such as watersheds (2020-EB61, 2019-B36, 2019-B155, 2018-B34, 2017-B65, 2017-B115, 2016-B25).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting support and/or funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B33, 2018-B37, 2018-B94, 2018-B123, 2016-B56, 2015-B6, 2015-B7, 2015-B97, 2014-B75, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B3, 2012-B4, 2012-B62, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8).

In particular, 2020-NR16, that was endorsed by the UBCM Executive, requested that the federal and provincial governments:

- *implement requirements for incorporating green infrastructure and nature-based solutions in flood management to ensure effective flood mitigation; and,*
- *promote natural assets as a viable emergency planning solution and provide appropriate funding through specific grants and programs.*

Conference decision: _____

Community Economic Development

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

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

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

- support local Watershed Boards and regional partnership initiatives;
- create good, sustainable local jobs in restoration, monitoring, technology and community planning;
- support education and training in the watershed sector;
- build a connection between communities and their watersheds;

- support local tourism and recreation;
- provide sustainable, long-term funding for Indigenous capacity and community resilience, and advance DRIPA through co-governance partnerships with First Nations.

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

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 create a dedicated, sustainable, annual funding source for the Watershed Security Fund that provides \$75 million annually for community-driven watershed security initiatives.

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 (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).

See also resolution EB28

Conference decision: _____

EB46 Amendments to the Aquaculture Act

Campbell River

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

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

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

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 a similar resolution from the same sponsor, 2018-B73, that asked the Province to ensure that all decisions with regards to the management of all fisheries, and protection of the natural environment, are made based on current data, technology, science and traditional knowledge.

The Committee also notes that the members have endorsed a number of resolutions in support of actions for the protection of fish and fish habitat (2013-B28, 2012-B80, 2009-B126, 2005-B38, 1997-B48, 1996-B68).

The Committee would also note that UBCM made a submission to the Aquaculture Policy Directorate in response to the federal government's request for comment on the development of an Aquaculture Act. In addition to providing UBCM member resolutions and policy, the following extracts from the cover letter speak to the role and interests of local government:

"UBCM recognizes the complex, multi-jurisdictional nature of aquaculture. We also recognize the local economic significance of this sector to many coastal communities; and the importance of protecting wild fish species as well.

The attached resolutions speak to the membership's desire to be consulted and engaged in the management of all fisheries. "...

"As the Aquaculture Policy Directorate moves forward to develop a new Aquaculture Act, we would request that any new legislation acknowledge the role of local governments. In BC, local governments are recognized as an order of government that needs to be consulted and engaged. "...

"In fact, local government interest in aquaculture is much broader than siting and licencing operations, communities are interested in how the industry will operate and be regulated as the federal government moves to transition BC's open net pen operations by 2025."

Conference decision: _____

EB47 Ensuring Access to Broadband and Cellular Services in BC

Cariboo RD

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

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

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

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 consistently endorsed resolutions calling for federal and provincial government action to ensure that broadband Internet is available in all communities, especially underserved rural and remote areas (2020-SR6, 2020-EB69, 2020-EB70, 2019-B54, 2018-B48, 2017-B37, 2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2010-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35, 2002-B23).

See also resolution EB48

Conference decision: _____

EB48 Rural Broadband Connectivity

Fraser Valley RD

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

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

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

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

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 provincial and federal governments to consult actively with local governments as part of prioritizing the areas of greatest need when awarding funding for broadband projects. Nor have members considered a resolution that would require Internet service providers to provide property-level data as part of their reporting on Internet service availability to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED).

The Committee is aware that local and Indigenous governments in different areas of BC have noticed discrepancies between the Internet service levels actually received by residents, businesses and organizations in a particular area; and the service level availability for that area, as indicated on the federal government's National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map. In response to these discrepancies, UBCM has partnered with Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) and the provincial government on a study of Internet service speeds in rural and remote BC communities. A report summarizing the findings of the study is anticipated in early fall, 2021.

More generally, the Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for federal and provincial government action to ensure that broadband Internet is available in all communities, especially underserved rural and remote areas (2020-SR6, 2020-EB69, 2020-EB70, 2019-B54, 2018-B48, 2017-B37, 2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2010-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35, 2002-B23).

See also resolution EB47

Conference decision: _____

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

Vancouver

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Endorse, following Resolutions Committee scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to:

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

The BCUC’s mission is to ensure that ratepayers receive safe, reliable and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates from the utilities it regulates, and that shareholders of those utilities are afforded a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair return on their invested capital.

The Committee notes that the sponsor is referencing a BCUC inquiry undertaken to determine if BCUC should provide oversight over municipal and regional energy utilities that are currently not regulated by BCUC. UBCM and affected local governments made representations to the proceedings indicating that the current exemption should be maintained. The UBCM President wrote to the BCUC in October and advised the following:

“Despite the diversity of energy service provision there appears to be consensus amongst our members that a broad interpretation of s. 1 of the UCA, stipulating the exclusion of local governments and affiliates or partners in providing energy services from the definition of public utilities, is consistent with the Province’s legislation governing local governments and its desire to have our members respond to climate change challenges. ”

“In conclusion, UBCM would encourage the Commission to: review the detailed submissions of our members; consider the existing broad legislative powers that have been granted to local governments; recognize the important role that local governments play in delivering energy services to their residents; and in doing so, are taking action to mitigate the impacts of climate change. UBCM supports the broad legislative powers provided to our members, believes that local governments are best positioned to serve the needs of their residents and, through energy service provision, can influence and advance climate action goals.”

The BCUC’s Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities is currently adjourned, so no final decision was made on the current exclusion under Utilities Commission Act.

See also resolution NR27

Conference decision: _____

EB50 BC Hydro Pole Rental Sales East Kootenay RD

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

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

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

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

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 asking the Province and BC Hydro to establish affordable rates for access to utility pole infrastructure, to support accelerated roll-out of broadband connectivity in rural communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for federal and provincial government action to ensure that broadband internet is available in all communities, especially underserved rural and remote areas (2020-SR6, 2019-B54, 2018-B48, 2017-B37, 2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2010-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35, 2002-B23).

Regarding access to infrastructure such as utility poles, the membership has, in previous resolutions, called for service providers to share utility infrastructure—for example, transmission infrastructure in the context of independent power projects (IPPs) (2009-B137, 2008-B38, 2008-B39).

Conference decision: _____

EB51 Wood Fiber Availability for Value Added Manufacturing Facilities Spallumcheen

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions seeking more value added resources development around forestry, logging and milling in BC (2017-B35, 2016-B42, 2015-LR2).

The Committee would also note that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions and policy in support of non-tenured value added wood processors (2017-B34, 2011-B167, 2006-B43, 2005-B32, 2003-B29, 2002 Forest Policy Paper, 2001-B85, 1998-B75, 1997-LR4).

As well, the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to work with local governments and First Nations to improve the community benefits of forest resources (2017-B36, 2016-B32, 2015-B37, 2015-B38, 2015-B63, 2013-B79, 2013-B105, 2012-B33, 2012-B109, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B104, 2011-B105, 2011-B167, 2010-B40, 2010-B104, 2010-B105, 2009-B47, 2009-B128, 2009-B131, 2008-B36, 2008-B37, 2007-B43, 2007-B44).

The Committee would note that on June 1st, the Province released its Modernizing Forest Policy Intentions Paper. One of the recommendations put forward in that Intentions Paper was as follows:

Policy intention #16 – Increase fibre access for higher value domestic manufacturers

- *Work with value-added sector reps to understand how the Province can support competitive value-added businesses*
- *Advance a process to minimize the burning of slash piles*
- *Develop a timber sales program with a focus on the value-added sector*

Conference decision: _____

Regional Districts

EB52 Tree Management in Electoral Areas Nanaimo RD

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

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

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

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 similar resolutions calling on the Province to grant regional districts the authority to enact tree protection bylaws (2019-B58, 2015-B39, 2003-B41).

Conference decision: _____

EB53 Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

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

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

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

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

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop a formal multi-jurisdictional process for working in conjunction with lead agencies and governing bodies to resolve outstanding regulatory enforcement issues, by joint cooperation of the various government agencies.

The Committee can advise however that over the years, local government members have raised the issue of improved consultation and coordination between various governing agencies specifically on issues such as weed control on Crown land (2007-B32); limiting or banning burning on forest lands (2016-B24); and more recently with respect to rural homelessness and Crown land encampments (2019-B183).

Conference decision: _____

Health and Social Development

EB61 Mental Health and Addictions Support During the Pandemic

Kootenay Boundary RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

EB55 Additional Resources for Mental Health

Grand Forks

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

EB56 Opioid Crisis

Capital RD

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

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

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

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 considered a resolution that requests the declaration of a national public health emergency on the overdose crisis; or for legislative and funding frameworks for decriminalization.

However, the membership has endorsed several related resolutions, including 2019-B142 which called for a federally supported comprehensive and culturally safe public health approach to the opioid crisis including policy frameworks governing illegal drugs; and resolution 2020-SR8 which called for ongoing, sustained funding to address the overdose public health emergency.

Also, the membership endorsed resolution 2012-A5 calling for the decriminalization of marijuana; however, there has not been consideration for the decriminalization of opioids, as requested in this resolution.

Opioid Crisis makes a similar request as resolution NR44 from Saanich titled: Declaring the Overdose Crisis a National Public Health Emergency, except that Saanich is requesting that the safe drug supply be provided free of cost. Current UBCM policy does not include providing a safe drug supply for free.

See also resolution NR44

Conference decision: _____

EB57 Streamlined Funding – Overdose Prevention

Chetwynd

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

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

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

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 calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

EB58 Improved Access to Detox and Treatment Centres

Port Alberni

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions making similar requests, including those that:

- *seek more funding for detox and rehabilitation throughout the Province, particularity in rural and remote communities (2019-B61);*
- *seek resources to establish sobering and assessment centres (2014-B70);*
- *seek, in part, more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment beds, to be made available in every local government in BC (2010-B145);*
- *seek more funding for detox centres in more areas of the Province (2007-B51); and*
- *seek more regional detox centres (2006-B8).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (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).

See also resolution EB59

Conference decision: _____

EB59 Detox and Treatment Beds, and Sobering Centres

Kamloops

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions making similar requests, including those that:

- *seek more funding for detox and rehabilitation throughout the Province, particularity in rural and remote communities (2019-B61);*
- *seek resources to establish sobering and assessment centres (2014-B70);*
- *seek, in part, more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment beds, to be made available in every local government in BC (2010-B145);*
- *seek more funding for detox centres in more areas of the Province (2007-B51); and*
- *seek more regional detox centres (2006-B8).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (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).

See also resolution EB58

Conference decision: _____

EB60 Regional Model for Mobile Crisis Response Car Program

White Rock

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The background material provided by the sponsor indicates that the Mobile Crisis Response Car Program referenced in the resolution is the Car 67 model in Surrey which pairs an RCMP officer with a mental health provider to address mental health calls.

The Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2020-SR8 which called for the development of integrated teams of health, police, and other officials on a twenty-four (24) hour basis to manage individuals with mental health issues.

The membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2020-NR62, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

EB61 Emergency Health Services – Adequate Staffing in Communities

Bulkley-Nechako RD

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions to improve and increase ambulance service in BC, including in small, rural communities, including most recently, 2020-EB74 which asked the Province to provide more resources along with a commitment to finding a long-term solution to staff shortages for small rural community ambulance services.

The membership has supported resolutions seeking better and more equitable standby pay for paramedics (2006-B48, 2017-B134); better coordination for pre-hospital health care (2019-SR3); more solutions to ensure medical specialists and services are available in rural BC (2019-B63); and for more advanced care and critical care paramedics in rural ambulance stations (2017-B133).

The Committee would note that the Province has provided \$8 million to the Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund which provides bursaries to advanced care and primary care paramedic students in BC, with a focus on educating paramedics who live and work in rural areas. UBCM chairs the Advisory Committee for this Fund.

Conference decision: _____

EB62 BC Ambulance Rural Service

East Kootenay RD

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

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

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

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 asking the Province to undertake a review of the BC Ambulance Service, specifically in the rural areas, to find a solution and systematic way of managing recruitment and retention of paramedics and delivery of service in rural communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking to improve and increase ambulance service in BC, including in small rural communities.

- *more resources and a commitment to find a long-term solution for staff shortages for small rural community ambulance services (2020-EB74);*
- *better and more equitable standby pay for paramedics (2017-B134, 2006-B48);*
- *better coordination for pre-hospital health care (2019-SR3);*
- *more solutions to ensure medical specialists and services are available in rural BC (2019-B63); and*
- *more advanced care and critical care paramedics in rural ambulance stations (2017-B133).*

The Committee would note that the Province has provided \$8 million to the Emergency Medical Assistants Education Fund which provides bursaries to advanced care and primary care paramedic students in BC, with a focus on educating paramedics who live and work in rural areas. UBCM chairs the Advisory Committee for this Fund.

Conference decision: _____

EB63 Primary Care Network Funding

Oliver

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions supporting the resourcing and strengthening of primary care as part of the health care system (2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162).

Conference decision: _____

EB64 Cost-Sharing Model for Funding Hospital Capital Projects

Nanaimo RD

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government review the cost-sharing model for funding hospital capital projects and consult with regional hospital district boards with a view to reducing the reliance on property tax funding at the local government level, enabling local governments to implement sustainable taxation approaches for a realistic portion of the costs associated with hospital capital projects.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide adequate funding to Regional Health Authorities and to commit to their 60 percent share of health care capital project funding (2017-B39, 2016-B114, 2014-B35, 2011-B58, 2009-B150, 2008-B129, 2007-B184, 2005-B42, 2004-B28, 2002-A2). Several of the resolutions have also requested a review of the historic cost-sharing ratio.

Capital cost sharing for health infrastructure is a long-standing issue for the membership. UBCM worked with the provincial government, health authorities and local government representatives on implementing the recommendations from the 2008 Regional Hospital District Cost Sharing Review.

Conference decision: _____

EB65 Aging in Place

Kaslo

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR68 that called on the Province to, in part, implement a standard fair wage for Early Childhood Educators to address the challenge of a lagging labour force in the child care sector.

The Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions calling for affordable, accessible and quality child care in BC (2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2001-B98).

Conference decision: _____

EB68 Increase Supported Child Development Funding

Saanich

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

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

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

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 increase the Supported Child Development funding.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop and invest in an affordable child care program (2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2001-B98).

Conference decision: _____

EB69 Dental Health

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas dental health is a critical component to health and a key indicator of healthy childhood development, while poor dental health contributes to speech impediments, lower nutritional absorption and growth development, pain, learning inequality, and other health and quality of life issues;

And whereas dental care is not a universally accessible service in British Columbia for all residents of British Columbia, while the provincial government has made statements of their support for this resolution in the past:

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2018-B146 which made the same request to add basic dental care to Medical Services Plan coverage.

The membership also endorsed 2008-B145 which asked the Province to take immediate steps to remove access barriers to dental health care, allocate more funding for basic dental health care insurance for low income individuals and families in the Province, and work with the BC Dental Association to resolve the discrepancy between the BC Dental Fee guide and the actual fees charged by dentists.

Conference decision: _____

EB70 Farmers' Markets as Essential Services During Local Emergencies Cumberland

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that a similar resolution, 2020-NR66, was referred to the UBCM Executive due to a lack of time at the 2020 Convention. The Executive determined that no action was required for 2020-NR66 as farmers' markets were already listed as one of the COVID-19 Essential Services. In this current resolution, there is no reference to the COVID-19, instead it makes reference to other emergency situations.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the Province to ensure food security for British Columbians, including:

- Create programs and partnerships to increase community awareness of the benefits of nutritious and affordable food and support regional initiatives to enhance community food security (2019-B66)
- Create programs to promote and develop local food production on farmland and in greenhouses (2011-B100, 2011-B101, 2010-B47, 2008-A2)
- Protection of ALR land and help increase viability of farming and food production (2014-A3, 2011-B48)
- Limit production of cannabis on ALR lands so it is used for food production (2018-B132)
- Provide funding for community farm markets (2010-B96)
- Develop strategies and policies to ensure that BC is self-sufficient in food production by 2020 (2010-B119)
- Develop a 'Buy Local' program to promote the sale of local, sustainably produced foods (2010-B100, 2007-B175, 2002-B98)
- Allow local and/or mobile small-scale abattoir facilities to operate under less stringent facility regulations to allow meat processed in this manner to be sold locally to the public (2016-B39, 2013-B38, 2010-B49, 2008-A2)
- Change school curriculums to include local food production, food security and school gardens (2009-B144)
- Provide resources to enable all local governments to create and implement solutions for supporting local food resilience and supply through food systems planning (2009-B132)
- Increase funding and support for farmers and the agricultural sector (2009-B89, 2009-B50, 2008-B47, 2000-B101)
- Show support for continued existence of agricultural fairs and exhibitions in BC (2013-B82).

Conference decision: _____

Housing

EB71 Long-term Strategy to Address Homelessness

Terrace

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

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

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

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 consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy as part of a comprehensive plan to address homelessness (2017-B52, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

The Committee also notes that membership has endorsed resolution 2010-B42, calling for expansion of services and funding for day programs and street support workers.

Conference decision: _____

EB72 Enhanced Communications to Address Homelessness Related Issues

Courtenay

Whereas there has been limited communication with local governments regarding provincial COVID-19 response initiatives to ensure the health and safety of individuals experiencing homelessness and local governments play an integral ongoing role in supporting individuals experiencing homelessness through the support of non-profits, emergency response services, pursuing long-term affordable housing options, and formal communication between governments is vital to enhance homelessness response and support initiatives;

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

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

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 the Province to recognize local governments as a key stakeholder in homelessness response and support efforts and be included in related planning processes prior to implementation.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141, 2002-SR1, 2001-A9).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy including plans to address homelessness (2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2017-B52, 2017-B98, 2016-B45).

The Committee further 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 (2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81, 2004-B2, 2004-B30, 2003-LR21, 2002-A21, 2002-B64, 2000-B31).

Conference decision: _____

EB73 Extreme Weather Response Shelters

Oliver

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

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

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

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

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution, 2012-B94 asking the Province to work with local governments and to fund cold weather shelters.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy as part of a comprehensive plan to address homelessness (2017-B52, 2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B45, 2015-B46, 2015-B108, 2015-B109, 2013-B54, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B58, 2007-B109).

The Committee is recommending Endorse with Proposed Amendment. We recommend removing the reference to small communities and inputting local governments to give this resolution a more province-wide focus, where all local governments, not just small communities, can receive funding to open extreme weather shelters.

Conference decision: _____

EB74 Unauthorized Camping Crisis

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

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

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

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

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 resolution 2019-B183, calling on the Province to work with local governments to develop policy to address rural homelessness, noting limitations in the province's response to Crown land encampments.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop a national housing strategy and complementary provincial housing strategy including plans to address homelessness (2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2017-B52, 2017-B98, 2016-B45).

The Committee further 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 (2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81, 2004-B2, 2004-B30, 2003-LR21, 2002-A21, 2002-B64, 2000-B31).

Conference decision: _____

EB75 Housing in Rural British Columbia

Vanderhoof

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

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

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

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

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

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to ~~partner with local governments by~~ **create** funding programs to encourage small scale developers to provide much needed housing in rural BC.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to partner with local governments by creating funding programs to encourage small scale developers to provide much needed housing in rural BC.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (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, 2003-B40, 1994-B85).

The Committee would recommend endorsement with a proposed amendment that aims to:

- make the resolution less focused on rural communities and applicable to communities across BC; and
- clarifies that the request being made of the Province is to create funding programs.

Conference decision: _____

Selected Issues

EB76 Black Lives Matter

Saanich

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

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

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

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions that seek to address different forms of discrimination (2017-B123, 2016-B98, 2016-B103, 2013-B87, 2004-B132).

Conference decision: _____

EB77 Provincial Support for TRC, MMIWG2S and UNDRIP

Victoria

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B150 which, in part, called on the Province of BC and the Government of Canada to work with First Nations and local governments to explore and implement revenue solutions such as federal transfer payments, thereby supporting implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the commitments in UNDRIP. Membership also endorsed resolution 2015-B106 supporting a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on implementing its Calls to Action.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2019-LR4 which called on all local governments to bring the recommendations (Calls for Justice) from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls back to their respective councils or boards for review, prioritization and consideration

of endorsement in collaboration with local Indigenous communities. It also called upon federal, provincial, regional, municipal, and Indigenous governments in partnership with Indigenous Peoples to develop and implement a National Action Plan to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA people.

Finally, membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting funding or supports for local governments for reconciliation, relationship building and engagement with First Nations (2018-B23, 2012-B32, 2009-B143).

Conference decision: _____

Section NEB Resolutions Resolutions Contrary to Existing Policy

Section NEB are the Not Endorse Block of resolutions. Resolutions in the Not Endorse Block are contrary to existing policy, and are recommended as Not Endorse.

NEB Resolutions are:

- resolutions previously considered and not endorsed; or
- resolutions contrary with UBCM policy.

Included in Section NEB are resolutions numbered:

NEB1 – NEB4

After consideration of Section EB resolutions, a spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion to consider Section NEB as a block:

- Shall the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for the resolutions in Section NEB be adopted?

If the motion is approved by delegates, then the Resolutions Committee's recommendations for all Section NEB resolutions will be endorsed as a block.

Pulling a Resolution for Individual Consideration

In advance of Convention, members who wish to pull resolutions from the Not Endorse Block of resolutions for individual consideration (individual consideration because members want to amend the resolution or do not agree with its recommendation) will need to take the following steps:

- Endorse a motion at a Council or Board meeting requesting removal from the Not Endorse Block;
- Send the motion, along with the reasons for wanting to pull the resolution from the Block, to the UBCM Executive to be received **by noon on Friday, September 10***;
- The UBCM Executive will decide which requests are approved;
- Executive approval to pull a resolution will result in an amended Not Endorse Block of resolutions being presented at Convention; and
- Any amendments to the Not Endorse Block will be announced during the resolutions session.

Resolutions pulled from section NEB for individual consideration will be Referred to Executive, and not considered during Convention.

*Requests to pull a resolution from the Not Endorse Block should be submitted via email to:
UBCM Executive, c/o Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst
Email address: jjustason@ubcm.ca

Timing

If the allotted time elapses and debate of Section NEB has not been completed, the resolutions in the NEB block will be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Section NEB

Legislative

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

Port Moody

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to develop a code of conduct, which is informed by a review of elected official experiences and with input from equity seeking groups, that is overseen by the Province, so that all elected officials have access to a consistent, formal set of standards and process for complaint against other elected officials.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered the merits of a provincially mandated Code of Conduct coupled with provincial oversight of a complaint process for such a Code of Conduct.

The Resolutions Committee would note that the Province of BC has worked with UBCM and the Local Government Management Association (through the Working Group on Responsible Conduct, or WGRC) to develop several tools that facilitate the implementation and use of Codes of Conduct.

These resources include a model Code of Conduct and guidance materials that provide a consistent, formal set of standards and considerations that are applicable to all local governments in BC. These general standards of conduct are based upon the foundational principles of integrity, respect, accountability, and leadership and collaboration. Earlier this year, the model Code of Conduct and guide were updated to acknowledge the need for Councils and Boards to consider collective blind spots and systemic barriers when developing a Code of Conduct.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that in the interval since this resolution was submitted to LMLGA for consideration, the WGRC has provided detailed guidance for local governments on how to establish fair, consistent standards and processes for the handling of Code of Conduct complaints. These considerations extend beyond handling complaints to conducting investigations; making decisions; and imposing sanctions. The guide also details considerations for the appointment of a third-party independent investigator to ensure the fairness of the process.

In the view of the Resolutions Committee, it would appear that local governments already have the powers, tools and resources available to them to satisfy the intent of the resolution. The tools and resources that currently exist were developed to integrate within B.C.'s local government system which is based on concepts of autonomy, empowerment, and accountability, and collaboration. Delegates will need to consider the degree to which a Code of Conduct developed and overseen by the province is consistent with these foundational concepts.

Further, delegates should consider the potential for unintended consequences that may result from a Code of Conduct for local government developed and overseen by the Provincial Government. Local governments with experience in implementing and enforcing Codes of Conduct have consistently observed that their effectiveness depends upon the degree of ownership by local elected officials. Ownership is best gained when it has been achieved through a process of discussion, debate and consideration by Councils and Boards informed by guidance resources available. Mandating a single Code of Conduct for all local governments may serve to bypass or diminish this foundational aspect necessary for an effective Code of Conduct.

In light of the resources currently available, including common standards, concepts and principles, for implementing and enforcing Codes of Conduct as well as the potential for a provincially mandated Code of Conduct to diminish

ownership by local governments of their Code of Conduct, the Resolutions Committee recommends that delegates not endorse.

In recognition of the need for additional resources to effectively strengthen responsible conduct by local elected officials, UBCM Executive has sponsored a Special Resolution (SR3) to propose options that align with the core concepts of BC's system for local government.

See also resolutions SR3 and 2020-NR1

Conference decision: _____

NEB2 Acceptance of Regional Growth Strategy

Cowichan Valley RD

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***Not Endorse, following Resolutions Committee Scrutiny the resolution has been reassigned.***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Local Government Act to add a requirement for adjacent municipalities to accept a proposed Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), or amendment thereto, in addition to the board of the adjacent regional district.

Currently the RGS is sent for comment and acceptance to all member municipalities within the RD to which the RGS applies; and all adjacent regional districts. The 'ask' of the sponsor, to amend the LGA to include a requirement that all municipalities within every adjacent regional district to also sign off on the RGS or related amendments, could be an extremely onerous task when you consider the size, complexity and composition of some regional districts. As well, since the RGS is about the interests of the region itself, how far should the scope be extended before it is no longer reflective of the region in question? If this amendment was enacted there would be significant impacts for those larger regional districts like Fraser Valley, where their RGS would now require acceptance from 21 Metro municipalities; as well as those in the Okanagan-Similkameen; Thompson Nicola and Squamish-Lillooet Regional Districts.

The Committee notes that the LGA does not prescribe how adjacent regional districts are to be consulted or engaged so there is an opportunity for the RD to build that into their process. For instance, the RD could clearly express that consultation with additional local governments, such as those municipalities in the adjacent regional district is either encouraged or required during the development of the RGS (under s. 434).

The Committee is concerned about the onerous nature of this request and the impact it will have on both the process and relationships between and within regional districts if this request was enacted.

Conference decision: _____

Community Safety

NEB3 Provincial Changes in Emergency Management

Vernon

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

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

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

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

Not Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to establish a permanent committee for emergency management, and to request that the Province, as part of its final review, direct all emergency program initiatives affecting local governments through this committee. Furthermore, the UBCM membership has not previously considered a request that the Province postpone implementation of the revised Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs guide, and all other proposed emergency program administrative and financing amendments until such times as affected local governments are meaningfully consulted.

The Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee currently exists as a forum for engagement and discussion between the Province and local governments regarding emergency management issues, including the ongoing Emergency Program Act review.

In January 2021, a request was received from several local governments seeking for UBCM to establish a standing committee on emergency management. The UBCM Executive considered this request, responding that UBCM's Community Safety Committee, under its existing mandate, is best suited to address emergency management initiatives affecting local governments. The Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee will continue to address large-scale issues such as the Emergency Program Act review.

With respect to the Financial Assistance for Emergency Response Costs Guide, UBCM was advised on February 5, 2021 that due to stakeholder concerns the Province decided to extend its deadline for First Nations and local government feedback. UBCM staff have also been in discussion with EMBC regarding key local government concerns, including the need for meaningful consultation with local governments, as well as the relevant legislative framework (e.g. Community Charter) outlining such consultation. It is not currently known when updated guidelines will be published.

Conference decision: _____

Assessment

NEB4 Varied Residential Tax Rates

Saanich

Whereas the Province of British Columbia through the BC *Assessment Act* - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation BC Reg. 438/81 specifies that there is one assessment class for all types of residential properties and

the *Community Charter* outlines that a municipal bylaw to establish the property value taxes each year under section 197 (3) specifies there is a single rate of each property class;

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia amend the *BC Assessment Act* and the *Community Charter* to allow the residential class to be split into more flexible residential sub-classes so that a different rates may be applied to each type of residential property to allow for more equitable taxation that better reflects the infrastructure needed to sustain these land uses.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, two similar resolutions 2020-NEB7 and 2019-B35, which sought to have the residential class split.

In 2019, the Resolutions Committee had recommended Endorse for B35, given the policy position set in 2018 with B118. However, the membership chose to Not Endorse 2019-B35, thus changing the policy position on this topic. As such, the Resolutions Committee placed the similar resolution 2020-NEB7 into the Not Endorse Block.

However, the Committee notes that the membership considered and referred resolution 2018-B118 to the UBCM Executive. The UBCM Executive endorsed 2018-B118 with an amendment and the final enactment clause read:

“Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to explore the merits of establishing new property tax sub-classes, or amending the existing residential tax class, as a tool to address housing affordability.”

Conference decision: _____

Section 2020-NR Resolutions Resolutions Proposing New Policy

Section 2020-NR are No Recommendation resolutions. The 2020-NR resolutions consist of re-submitted resolutions from 2020 which had been referred to the UBCM Executive due to a lack of time at the 2020 Convention. There were a small number of referred resolutions where the Executive declined to make a decision. They decided that the topic raised by these resolutions deserved consideration by the full UBCM membership. These resolutions were referred back to the sponsors, who were asked to consider re-submitting them in 2021. Those that were re-submitted have been placed into Section 2020-NR.

Resolutions under 2020 No Recommendation neither align nor contradict existing policy, and are recommended as No Recommendation or No Action Required.

2020-NR Resolutions are:

- 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.

Included in Section 2020-NR are resolutions numbered:

2020-NR1 – 2020-NR3

After consideration of Section NEB resolutions, a spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion to enter all resolutions in Section NR for discussion:

- I move that all Section 2020-NR resolutions be considered for debate.

Discussion will begin in the order the resolutions are printed.

Sponsors do not have to move each resolution individually, but they are invited to speak to their resolution at the appropriate time.

Amendments to 2020-NR resolutions will not be considered.

Timing

If the allotted time elapses and debate of all Section 2020-NR resolutions has not been completed, those not yet considered will be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Section 2020-NR

Legislative

2020-NR1 Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government

Maple Ridge

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolution Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a request to establish a provincially supported Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government (Integrity Commissioner).

In 2016, local governments requested that the province provide enabling legislation so that local governments might establish their own local Integrity Commissioners. In the intervening period, it has become apparent that the existing broad legislative powers and Court decisions uphold the ability of local governments to manage the behaviour of elected officials, including the ability to appoint local Integrity Commissioners. Currently, the City of Surrey and City of Vancouver both have created, or endorsed the creation of, independent offices that function as a local Integrity Commissioner.

The Resolutions Committee notes that many of the functions that might be provided by a provincial Integrity Commissioner for local government are already available. The Working Group on Responsible Conduct (WGRC) has developed a set of integrated resources that provide advice and guidance. These include the principles that support responsible conduct; a model Code of Conduct; as well as guidance on informal and formal processes to respond to potential breaches of conduct. The WGRC has also worked with the Local Government Management Association, UBCM and the Local Government Leadership Academy to provide educational opportunities in relation to Codes of Conduct and responsible conduct by local elected officials, and continues to look for ways to deepen and extend educational opportunities for these purposes.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that it is not necessary to establish either a provincial or local integrity commissioner in order to enforce a Code of Conduct. Based on WGRC research and consultation both with the legal community and local governments with experience in enforcing a Code of Conduct, it is of greater importance for local governments to establish a fair enforcement process that sets out procedures for handling complaints; conducting investigations; making determinations; and imposing sanctions. Integral to maintaining the perception of fairness is the appointment of an independent third party appointed by a local government early on in an investigative process. Detailed guidance regarding the factors that should be considered by a local government to ensure a fair process for handling Code of Conduct complaints has been produced by the WGRC.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that in light of the core concepts that support BC's local government system – concepts of autonomy, empowerment, and accountability, and collaboration – it has been uncommon for UBCM's membership to request the creation of provincial offices to resource processes that are within the powers available to local government. Recent experience with a province wide independent office (the Auditor General for Local Government) has demonstrated the significant practical challenges facing such offices to fulfill their mandate, as well as the potential for unintended consequences as they seek to do so. Delegates may wish to consider the scale of an

office such as a provincial Integrity Commissioner that would be necessary in order to serve local governments in BC in a manner that is timely, effective and cost efficient.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that there would be inherent limitations for a provincial Integrity Commissioner office. Delegates are advised that based on experience in other Provinces and Territories, it would not be permissible for any such office to impose sanctions following a determination in an investigation. Similar to an independent third-party investigator, an Integrity Commissioner at most could propose a sanction, but ultimately a Council or Board whether to impose such a recommendation. Experience in other provinces and territories also indicates that the creation of a provincial Integrity Commissioner would not substantively change the range of sanctions available that are already available to local government when enforcing Codes of Conduct.

In consideration of the resolution, delegates are asked to consider the relative risks and benefits in the creation of a provincial Integrity Commissioner office in light of the inherent limitations of such an office; the risk of unintended consequences; the current availability of a range of resources and educational opportunities to support responsible conduct; and current powers available to local governments to adopt and enforce Codes of Conduct.

In 2020 when this resolution first came forward, the Committee offered no recommendation in the absence of member policy direction. However, over the past year extensive work has been undertaken by the WGRC including research, tools and resources to assist members. And as noted in the above comments, research indicates that a provincial Independent Office of Integrity may not be the best solution for resolving conflicts. As a result, the UBCM Executive has listened and learned from the WGRC and in recognition of the need for further resources to effectively strengthen responsible conduct by local elected officials, UBCM Executive has sponsored a Special Resolution - SR3 for delegate consideration. SR3 is the proposed way forward by the UBCM Executive, so the membership can provide clear policy direction to the Province on this important matter.

See also resolutions SR3 and NEB1

Conference decision: _____

Community Safety

2020-NR2 Request to Amend *Jury Act*

Fort St. John

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

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

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

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 *Jury Act* to disqualify local government elected officials from jury duty.

Currently, Section 3(1) of BC's *Jury Act* disqualifies a Member of Parliament or the BC Legislature from serving as a juror.

Conference decision: _____

Transportation

2020-NR3 Benefits of Public Car Insurance

Burnaby

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

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

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

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 preserve public car insurance.

The Committee would reference resolution 2019-B196, which asked the Province to open the basic auto insurance market to the private sector. Due to time constraints, the resolution was not debated at Convention and was referred to the UBCM Executive. Upon consideration, the UBCM Executive did not endorse resolution 2019-B196.

Additionally, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolution 1998-B56, which in part called on the provincial government to deregulate motor vehicle insurance in BC. However, the Committee would caution that the 1998 resolution is more than two decades old. At the time, the Province expressed concern that private sector providers of vehicle insurance, based in other provinces or countries, could discriminate on the basis of age, gender, and marital status when setting insurance rates.

Conference decision: _____

Section NR Resolutions

Resolutions Proposing New Policy

Section NR are the No Recommendation resolutions. Resolutions under No Recommendation neither align nor contradict existing policy, and are recommended as No Recommendation or No Action Required or Refer to UBCM Executive.

NR Resolutions are:

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

Included in Section NR are resolutions numbered:

NR1 – NR64

After consideration of Section 2020-NR resolutions, a spokesperson from the Resolutions Committee will introduce the following motion to enter all resolutions in Section NR for discussion:

- I move that all Section NR resolutions be considered for debate.

Discussion will begin in the order the resolutions are printed.

Sponsors do not have to move each resolution individually, but they are invited to speak to their resolution at the appropriate time.

Amendments to NR resolutions will not be considered.

Timing

If the allotted time elapses and debate of all Section NR resolutions has not been completed, those not yet considered will be referred to the UBCM Executive for appropriate action, and the sponsors advised of the Executive action.

Section NR

Legislative

NR1 Parental Leave for Elected Officials

Squamish-Lillooet RD

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a similar resolution, 2016-B99, which asked the provincial government to amend the Local Government Act and the Community Charter to guarantee maternity and parental leave for elected officials to be consistent with the Employment Standards Act provisions following the birth or adoption of a child.

Resolution 2016-B99 made an additional request, that the legislation be amended to permit the elected official to return to work on the same terms that were in place at the start of their leave, and that any changes in the elected official's appointments to committees, boards or commissions will not be made as a result of the maternity or parental leave.

In its response to 2016-B99, the Province stated:

“Given its complexity, any consideration of changes to legislation on this topic would first require significant analysis, including a clearer understanding of a range of issues such as: the existing legislative, contract, policy and common law framework around employee leave; whether elected officials can be considered employees under the Employment Standards Act for these purposes; and if so, implications that might have for elected officials’ status for other purposes. Work to explore these issues would need to be undertaken jointly with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training (which has responsibility for the Employment Standards Act). If there is interest, the Ministry is open to further dialogue with UBCM on this topic.”

“Currently, local governments have full authority to grant leave for a wide variety of reasons to elected officials and establish policies for such leave including handling of appointments (such as to boards and committees), and other duties during the leave and upon return. The existing authority affords individual communities full range to consider their unique circumstances in determining policies related to various types of leave.”

Conference decision: _____

Community Safety

NR2 Improved Efficiencies in the Prosecution of Criminal Offences

Prince George

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the BC Prosecution Service to work with all police agencies in British Columbia to improve efficiencies in disclosure and information management practices in order to reduce delays in charges being laid for the prosecution of criminal offences.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to lower the charge approval threshold and address the perceived high volume of court delays (2019-B5, 2018-B91).

Conference decision: _____

NR3 Stronger Sentencing/Monitoring for Prolific/Repeat Offenders

Williams Lake

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

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

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

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions asking the provincial and/or federal government to:

- *ensure prolific offenders are sentenced effectively, and supported by credible programs in communities 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 from residing in the community or the vicinity of the community where they committed their crime(s) following release from prison (2007-A2);
- improve sentencing guidelines, including escalating sentences for chronic offenders, and revise public policy underlying the Criminal Code 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.

UBCM's members also endorsed resolution 2014-B34, requesting that the Province develop a long-term, multi-faceted strategy to help people suffering from concurrent disorders to avoid becoming chronic offenders, by providing integrated health and psychiatric care, criminal justice reform, and access to affordable housing (2014-B34). Several subsequently endorsed resolutions (2020-SR8, 2015-A2) have similarly sought to address the increasing demand on police not through stricter penalties, but by seeking long-term provincial strategies that would provide integrated health and psychiatric care, affordable housing, and additional resources for mental health and addictions services.

UBCM's January 2021 submission to the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act is consistent with recently endorsed resolutions (2020-SR8 and 2015-A2), and recommends that the Province examine preventative and proactive investments in health, addictions and housing, as opposed to reliance on punitive responses, in order to help assist affected individuals and reduce the burden on police.

The UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution requesting "consistent use of electronic monitoring" of prolific offenders that are released on conditions.

See also resolution NR4

Conference decision: _____

NR4 Criminal Justice Reform for Repeat, Convicted Offenders

Lillooet

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

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions asking the provincial and/or federal government to:

- ensure prolific offenders are sentenced effectively, and supported by credible programs in communities 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 from residing in the community or the vicinity of the community where they committed their crime(s) following release from prison (2007-A2);

- *improve sentencing guidelines, including escalating sentences for chronic offenders, and revise public policy underlying the Criminal Code 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.*

UBCM's members also endorsed resolution 2014-B34, requesting that the Province develop a long-term, multi-faceted strategy to help people suffering from concurrent disorders to avoid becoming chronic offenders, by providing integrated health and psychiatric care, criminal justice reform, and access to affordable housing (2014-B34). Several subsequently endorsed resolutions (2020-SR8, 2015-A2) have similarly sought to address the increasing demand on police not through stronger penalties, but by seeking long-term provincial strategies that would provide integrated health and psychiatric care, affordable housing, and additional resources for mental health and addictions services.

UBCM's January 2021 submission to the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act is consistent with recently endorsed resolutions (2020-SR8 and 2015-A2), and recommends that the Province examine preventative and proactive investments in health, addictions and housing, as opposed to reliance on punitive responses, in order to help assist affected individuals and reduce the burden on police.

See also resolution NR3

Conference decision: _____

NR5 Comprehensive Training Model for RCMP Members Prince George

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

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

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

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

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

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking more training centres and resources to increase the capacity of the RCMP to meet demand (2006-B11, 2000-B4, 1999-A11).

The RCMP's website lists 697 detachments in Canada, including 152 in British Columbia alone. Developing a comprehensive training model for RCMP members that is unique to the needs of each detachment and/or associated local government would be a significant undertaking.

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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 endorsed a resolution calling on the provincial government to implement a police funding formula that fairly and equitably distributes RCMP expenses to all governments throughout the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking changes to the RCMP funding model, including but not limited to:

- *2020-NR7: Province review the current model of funding RCMP police services, with the intent to make police services more affordable for contract partners, including local governments;*
- *2020-EB5: Province review the current model of funding police services for local governments reaching 5,000 population with consideration to establishing a graduated annual increase, once the 5,000 population has been reached, in policing costs from the 33 percent Police Tax to 70 percent of policing costs over a five-year period;*
- *2019-A3: Province increase their contribution for the provincial component of RCMP funding to meet the immediate and projected service needs for the communities they serve where a General Duty Service Assessment has identified a short fall;*
- *2016-B75: Current RCMP policing funding model be reviewed with consideration towards an incremental increase based on population growth.*

In discussion with the sponsor, it is understood that the intent of the resolution is to address the gap in policing costs that exists between communities of different sizes; the insufficient number of provincial front line policing resources; and, the overall affordability of policing for all local governments. In seeking for a "funding formula that fairly and equitably distributes RCMP expenses," the sponsor has cited the need to reduce the gap in policing costs paid by municipalities over 15,000, who pay 90 percent of the cost base, and rural and unincorporated areas, who pay the Police Tax, which represents a significantly smaller cost per resident.

Currently, the provincial government is not contractually responsible (through article 11 of the Municipal Police Unit Agreement) for RCMP policing costs in municipalities over 5,000 in population. The resolution, if endorsed, would likely require the MPUA to be amended or re-negotiated to implement a new funding formula.

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the sponsor submitted the same resolution (2020-NR7) last year. It was referred to the UBCM Executive for consideration due to a lack of time at the 2020 Convention. The UBCM Executive endorsed an amended version of NR7 that changed the original intent by calling on the Province to review the current model of funding RCMP police services, with the goal to make police services more affordable for contract partners, including local governments. Given that the intent was altered, the sponsor was advised of the option to re-submit, and has elected to do so.

Alternatively, this resolution is asking the Province to review the current model of funding RCMP police services with consideration given to equitable funding of police services through a provincial police tax based on the assessed value of improvements for the areas served by the detachments. It is also calling for any provincial contribution towards policing to be shared equally with all police taxpayers.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the membership did endorse resolution 2016-B75, which requested that the current RCMP policing funding model be reviewed with consideration towards an incremental increase based on population growth.

The UBCM membership considered but did not endorse resolution 2016-B81, which called for the provincial government to develop an equitable police funding program for all municipalities and regional districts.

Under the BC Police Act, a municipality must assume responsibility for policing services when its population, according to the Canada Census, reaches or surpasses 5,000 people. Municipalities under 5,000 in population and unincorporated areas are required to pay the Police Tax, which acts as a means for the Province to recover up to 50 percent of the estimated cost of providing enforcement services to these areas.

Conference decision: _____

NR8 Invoicing for Required Officer Attendance at Hospitals

White Rock

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

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

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

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 requesting the ability for local governments to invoice Health Authorities for RCMP officers accompanying mental health patients in hospital.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2020-SR8, which asked for a province-wide agreement between police and mental health officials on the management of mental health patients in

emergency wards. A similar request was made as part of UBCM's 2015 Advocacy Days meetings with provincial MLAs.

As well, the membership endorsed resolution 2013-B83 that addressed the time that police spend in hospital guarding mental health clients, and sought to create an efficient process of mental health patient intake, including the provision of secure holding facilities and security personnel trained to guard patients in order to reduce the use of police resources in this capacity.

The Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA) has been mandated to examine "the role of police with respect to complex social issues including mental health and wellness, addictions and harm reduction." This issue was raised as part of UBCM's January 2021 submission to the SCRPA. It was noted that if a police officer, in responding to a mental health call, is required to wait with an affected individual, this prevents the officer from performing other policing duties. UBCM has requested that the Province undertake a comprehensive, cross-departmental and cross-governmental public safety review to ensure necessary resources are available in all service areas (e.g. policing, healthcare, housing), so that police agencies are not being frequently asked to respond to calls for service outside their core areas of expertise.

Conference decision: _____

NR9 Funding for Independent Fire Services

Cariboo RD

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

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

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

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 for specific legal and statutory measures designed to remove any and all legal or financial risk for local governments that provide financial or other supports to independent fire services.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed 2019-B95, requesting 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.

Conference decision: _____

NR10 Agroforest Specific Tenure License

Nelson

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting the Province to develop an Agroforest Specific Tenure License.

The sponsor has clarified that the term "Agroforest Specific Tenure License" is intended to describe agricultural practices (e.g. growing crops) in tenured areas such as woodlots and tree farms, through some form of special use and/or small-area based tenure license (e.g. permit) on Crown land for the purpose of economic activity, wildfire protection, and the utilization of traditional ecological knowledge in managing the forest for culturally relevant food and medicinal species.

The Committee can also advise that in 2005 in response to the Filmon report, members endorsed B125 which endorsed the following element:

"The Ministry of Forests should consider amending Annual Allowable Cut determinations in fire-prone ecosystems to encourage hazard reduction treatments by tenure holders in marginal and uneconomic tree stand areas within the wildland-urban interface." So while the 2005 resolution sought current tenure holders to address the wildfire risk, this resolution is seeking the establishment of a new form of tenure to address the risk while also encouraging co-benefits such as economic activity and traditional ecological practices.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions requesting funding for local wildfire mitigation efforts (2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2018-B97) and improved collaboration for risk reduction activities (2020-EB12, 2019-B13, 2019-B76, 2018-B96, 2018-B99).

Conference decision: _____

NR11 911 Dropped Calls

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Justice to work with the Federal Government of Canada to make available current personal information collected by provincial and national telecommunication carriers to police communications centres and 911 public safety answering points within British Columbia to assist with tracking dropped 911 calls.

The Committee would note that this resolution is requesting that personal information be shared with police communication centres and 911 answering points.

Conference decision: _____

NR12 Updating BC's Wrongful Death Law

Fruitvale, Vancouver

Whereas tragically, hundreds of British Columbians will experience the loss of a loved one each year, and in the event of a wrongful death, many will discover they cannot access legal representation or recourse because Wrongful Death Law in BC is legislated by the *Family Compensation Act* and provisions in the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act* in determining the "worth" of a deceased family member; and currently, access to the courts requires that the

deceased was a breadwinner, and otherwise precludes opportunities for independent investigation, recourse, or accountability that could avail justice, system change, economic or non-economic damages;

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

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

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

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 modernize and reform wrongful death law in British Columbia to ensure access to justice, accountability, and compensation in British Columbia for the surviving family members of those wrongfully killed.

The Honourable David Eby, BC's Attorney General, has acknowledged, as recently as June 2020, the provincial government's desire to examine this issue in greater detail and address concerns within the term of government.

Conference decision: _____

NR13 Dangerous Dog Legislation in British Columbia

Kitimat

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

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

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

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 amend the Community Charter with regards to dangerous dogs to allow for conditional orders by judges, which would provide the courts alternative means of dealing with dangerous dogs if they are deemed to not be an unacceptable risk to the public, and to also allow animal control officers additional powers to seize and re-home dangerous dogs, and to determine destruction when a serious injury and/or death has occurred.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking clarity and better definition of local government authority regarding dangerous dogs (2016-B88, 2012-B2, 2007-B91, 2005-B76). 2016-B88 requested that the Community Charter be amended to include "Hugo's and Charley's Law" amendments providing for the possibility of a Consent Order that would set terms and conditions for release of a dangerous dog, as an alternative to a court proceeding.

The Committee also notes that the membership previously endorsed 2016-B87 which asked the Province to set up a provincial dangerous dog registry to which all local governments can have access; and, 2016-B86 that asked the Province to establish a Pet Owners' Liability Act that deals with aggressive pets.

Conference decision: _____

NR14 Aftermarket Exhaust Systems

West Vancouver

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

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

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

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

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 Regulations to prohibit the use or installation of aftermarket exhaust systems that exceed legal noise limits.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions related to noise issues from the exhaust systems of trucks, motorcycles and motor boats, including:

- *2005-B79 seeking to have truck exhaust systems inspected;*
- *2007-B17 seeking a province-wide ban on modifications to transport truck exhaust systems; and,*
- *2013-B67 seeking for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to require that exhaust noise from motorcycles and motor boats meet Transport Canada's noise level standards.*

While s. 27A and 7.03 of BC's Motor Vehicle Act Regulations contain maximum allowable sound pressure levels for engine and exhaust noise and s. 7A.01 prohibits starting, driving, turning, stopping or accelerating a vehicle "in a manner which causes any loud and unnecessary noise in or from the engine, exhaust system or the braking system, or from the contact of the tires with the roadway," there is no specific ban on aftermarket exhaust systems.

Conference decision: _____

NR15 Off-Site Tasting Rooms

Penticton

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

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

And whereas allowing BC wineries and liquor manufacturers to establish off-site tasting room and retail facilities would attract visitors who are increasingly interested in regional, craft and artisanal products to communities around

the province, creating significant economic development opportunities for smaller rural communities and limiting pressure on the development of agricultural land for non-agricultural uses:

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

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2010-B152, that asked the Province to review the legislation and regulatory structure with respect to alcoholic beverage manufacturing, distribution and sale in British Columbia to ensure fairness and balance among components of the industry - including artisan distillers.

Conference decision: _____

Elections

NR16 Expanding Definitions and Responsibilities of Digital Campaigns Vancouver

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

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

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

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

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 expand the definition of advertising to cover digital political campaigns and tools, and mandate their disclosure of how and when data is being collected and used, and by whom.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2020-SR3 which sought to update election campaign financing rules, that would in part, address election advertising, in order to establish a pre-campaign period

during which time all election advertising must include sponsorship information. On March 3, 2021 the Province introduced amendments that strengthen election advertising by establishing a pre-campaign period to lengthen the time election advertising is regulated from 29 to 89 days; election advertising will now include paid canvassing activities; and the amendments also established third party advertising limits.

Conference decision: _____

Transportation

NR17 Partnerships for Fare-Free Public Transit

Victoria

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the sponsor submitted the same resolution for consideration by the UBCM membership in 2020 (resolution 2020-NR26). Due to the online format of the 2020 UBCM Annual Convention, the resolution was not debated at Convention and was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive. Upon consideration, the UBCM Executive did not endorse resolution 2020-NR26.

The Committee understands that TransLink and BC Transit communities have expressed clear concerns about the financial challenges of keeping transit operating with a reduction in fare revenues. Restart funding in September 2020 provided temporary support to transit systems across BC; nevertheless, concerns remain about the longer term sustainability of a system that is reliant on fare recovery, at a time when ridership has been significantly reduced.

The Committee would acknowledge that members endorsed a related resolution, 2019-B114, which sought free or further subsidized transit passes for British Columbians receiving income or disability assistance. Resolution 2019-B114 targeted fee reductions or removal of fee barriers specifically for those who need it most, and did not propose that fees should be omitted across the board for all users of public transit within a community.

In response to resolution 2019-B114, the provincial government confirmed that people under the age of 65 who receive Persons with Disabilities (PWD) assistance are eligible to choose either a transit pass (paid in full by the BC Bus Pass Program) or a transportation supplement of \$52 per month. The Province further clarified that under the BC Bus Pass Program, low-income seniors can pay a \$45 annual administration fee and may then access a transit pass; however, seniors are not eligible to receive a transportation supplement. The Province also noted that people receiving income assistance or disability assistance may access employment-related transportation supports, through the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, or through WorkBC.

As an alternative way to address barriers to public transit services, the provincial government highlighted its Poverty Reduction Planning and Action Program, under which local governments may apply for funding of short-term projects intended to reduce poverty locally. The Province suggested that a pilot project offering low-income transit passes would likely be eligible for funding.

Conference decision: _____

Taxation

NR18 BC Provincial Sales Tax on Non-Medical PPE

Harrison Hot Springs

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

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

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

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 eliminate the 7 percent Provincial Sales Tax applied to non-medical disposable or reusable Personal Protective Equipment applied to these items at the point of sale.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions that called for the PST to be waived on the purchase of other items, including:

- *fire trucks, fire protection and life-saving equipment and supplies (2019-B20, 2007-B22, 2005-B14, 2003-B14, 2001-B23);*
- *electric bicycles (2019-B44, 2016-B130);*
- *exemption for local government infrastructure (2016-B1);*
- *exemption for local governments in general (2013-B17, 2006-B21, 2005-B12, 2004-B68);*
- *district energy utility providers (2013-B16);*
- *equipment and supplies for search and rescue volunteers (2009-B6);*
- *sales of new or used vehicles with electronic stability control (2009-B160);*
- *fuel efficient vehicles (2007-B132); and*
- *exemption for local governments when they purchase electricity generation machinery and equipment (2003-LR3).*

Conference decision: _____

NR19 5.25 Percent Provincial Collection Fee on Rural Area Property Tax

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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 requesting the Province to reduce the provincial collection fee on rural area property taxes, so that the tax burden on the rural property owners may be reduced.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2003-B66 that asks the Province to allow regional districts to collect taxation from their taxpayers in order to avoid paying the 5.25 percent provincial collection fee. Based on the 2003 resolution it is worth noting the Province's administrative fee has remained at 5.25 percent.

In 2003, the Resolutions Committee had recommended not endorsing B66 as not only would the regional district be collecting the rural area property taxes they would also be required to collect the other taxes (school, MFA, BC Transit, etc) that municipalities presently collect, that is presently collected and administered by the Province on behalf of regional districts.

Conference decision: _____

NR20 Regional District Requisitions to Municipalities

Parksville

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Local Government Act section 386 (1) (c) notwithstanding section 386 (1) (a), in the case of an amount to be recovered where the charge to be recovered is itself based on a volume flow charge, the option is available to impose a fee based on the flows used or consumed by the tax base.

The sponsor has noted that due to the requirement to charge out on an assessment or parcel tax basis, it unfairly charges those with larger assessments versus those that have high volumes of usage and low assessments. The sponsor used sewage as an example where the city pays for the service based on volume to the treatment facility.

Conference decision: _____

Finance

NR21 COVID Safe Restart Grant Inequity for Electoral Areas

Capital RD

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to provide more equitable Safe Restart Grant funding to Regional District Electoral Areas in comparison to the funding provided to local municipalities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2020-SR7 that asked the Province to work collaboratively with UBCM to identify the health, safety, social and economic challenges facing BC communities and provide corresponding financial support that will aid local governments in the Province's overall COVID-19 recovery effort.

The Committee notes that as of March 22, 2021, the provincial government provided an additional \$10 million of Safe Restart Funding to regional districts, in part, as a response to regional districts concerns over the allocation formula. As a result, the Committee is recommending No Action Required.

See also resolution EB22

Conference decision: _____

NR22 Audited Financial Statements for Municipally-Owned Corporations Powell River

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

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

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

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 legislate changes to mandate the preparation of audited financial statements in the articles of incorporation for municipally-owned corporations and the entities for which the municipally-owned corporations hold significant influence or control.

In the background information provided by the sponsor, the Province has advised the sponsor that "(L)ocal governments have the authority to set internal policies around their partnership agreements and if a municipality is concerned with some aspect of the partnership, it could hire an independent auditor to examine the process."

When asked why the sponsor wished to seek a legislative requirement when the ability for the municipality to set their own requirements was possible, the sponsoring community has advised that "the request to require audits for all municipally owned corporations came from members of the public who did not agree with Council's decision to not require audits previously. The members of the public felt it was a poor decision to wave the audit requirement and lobbied council to make changes and require audits on all municipally owned corporations. Since then Council has required all municipal owned corporations to have audits."

The sponsor also advised that local members of the public have continued to lobby council to make improvements to financial reporting controls regarding municipal owned corporations and requested that Council bring this issue forward to UBCM for consideration. The local group wants to ensure all municipal owned corporations in BC are required to have audits.

Conference decision: _____

Assessment

NR23 Fair Taxation from Railway Operations

Pitt Meadows

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

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

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

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 urging the Province to repeal section 5(e) from the Assessment Act - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 in order to create fair taxation from railway operations.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing the taxation of rail properties, including:

- *opposing the imposition of higher taxes on the other taxpayer classes within the regional district in order to reduce railway property taxation levels through the proposed railway tax legislation (1996-LR5); and*
- *supporting a consultation process which includes local government and the railways in the provincial committee reviewing railway assessment and tax policy (1993-A7).*

The Committee acknowledges that these are dated resolutions.

Conference decision: _____

NR24 Review of the BC Assessment Appeal Framework and Process

Coquitlam

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

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

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

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 review the BC Assessment property assessment appeals' framework and process to minimize

the impacts to local governments' finances due to appeal decisions by ensuring decisions are reached in a timely manner and also increasing the transparency of settled appeals.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2007-B119 that asked the Province to take steps to address the backlog of assessment appeals to allow BC Assessment Authority to produce its Final Final Assessment Rolls and ensure that the necessary information is available to local governments in a timely manner.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2000-B106 which asked the Province to review the BC Assessment Act appeal process with a view to expediting appeals and to protecting municipalities from the negative impact of property reassessments after annual taxation bylaws have been adopted.

Conference decision: _____

NR25 Fair Taxation from Industrial Parks

Pitt Meadows

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

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

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

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 urging the Province to repeal section 5(f) of the Assessment Act - Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. Reg. 438/81 to create fair taxation from industrial parks.

Conference decision: _____

NR26 Incentivizing Green Energy Production

Logan Lake

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: ***No Recommendation***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the BC Assessment Authority to create a new classification to recognized low carbon-emitting energy production in BC.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking the production of green energy (or clean energy) research, development and implementation (2013-B42, 2008-B41, 2007-B129).

Conference decision: _____

Environment

NR27 Reform of the BC Utilities Commission

Powell River

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend and modernize the Utilities Commission Act, expanding the scope of the BCUC's mandate and giving it clear direction to consider environmental, equity, resilience, and reconciliation objectives in its decision-making.

The Committee would note that the BCUC is an independent agency of the Province that is responsible for regulating BC's energy utilities, the Insurance Corporation of BC's compulsory automobile insurance rates, intra-provincial pipelines and the reliability of the electrical transmission grid. In March 2020, the BCUC was also named as the Administrator of the Fuel Price Transparency Act.

The BCUC's mission is to ensure that ratepayers receive safe, reliable and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates from the utilities it regulates, and that shareholders of those utilities are afforded a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair return on their invested capital.

The sponsor is asking that the Utilities Commission Act be amended to consider these other objectives as well (environmental, equity, resilience, and reconciliation objectives) in its decision-making.

See also resolution EB49

Conference decision: _____

NR28 Green Energy

Nakusp

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

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

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

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 provide clarity on the issues that are causing delays in the issuance of water licenses.

The Committee would seek clarity from the sponsor regarding the request made by the resolution. Is the sponsor simply looking for an answer from the Province regarding delays in the issuance of water licenses? If so, is a resolution the appropriate way to seek an answer to this question or perhaps the sponsor can communicate directly with the Ministry to seek further information.

Conference decision: _____

NR31 Contaminants Released from Wastewater Treatment Plants

Powell River

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

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

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

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 establish sampling protocols and introduce specific measures for monitoring and reducing levels of contaminants of emerging concern from wastewater treatment plants in order to prevent adverse impacts to human and wildlife health in three receiving environments: air, water and land.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse 2019-B150 from the same sponsor, that called for the creation of standards for microplastics that can pass through wastewater treatment plants that can enter the waterways and be distributed on to land.

Conference decision: _____

NR32 Renewed Vision for Fraser River Estuary

LMLGA Executive

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

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

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

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

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 federal and provincial governments to allocate the necessary resources and appropriately fund and support a renewed Fraser River Estuary Management planning process that will collectively protect the ecosystem of the Estuary through inter-agency collaboration. And where the planning process includes, but is not limited to: First Nations, federal government and provincial governments.

Rather, the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions on the Fraser River pertaining to funding for flood protection and management, as well as dredging. The Resolutions Committee also notes that there is no reference made to the role of local government in the enactment clause calling for inter-agency collaboration.

Conference decision: _____

NR33 Funding for Compliance with Landfill Operation and Closure Legislation

Central Coast RD

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

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

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

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

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2016-B27 that addresses the Landfill Operational Certificates and their resulting higher standards and increasing costs to local governments to operate landfills. The resolution called for provincial funding to assist local governments in their waste management initiatives that address the new standards.

See also resolution NR34

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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

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

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 Ministry of Environment Compliance and the Authorizations Divisions act proactively and reasonably with each other and local government landfill owners to ensure landfill compliance with Operational Certificates without threats of imprisonment or substantial monetary fines.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2016-B27 that addresses the Landfill Operational Certificates and their resulting higher standards and increasing costs to local governments to operate landfills.

See also resolution NR33

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop a plan, including changes to regulations, provincial procurement policy, and economic and industrial policy, to significantly reduce construction and demolition waste.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions addressing the safe handling and disposal of drywall and gypsum, and the asbestos that can be found in those products (2017-B25, 2017-B45, 2017-B97, 2016-B143, 2012-B81).

The membership has also endorsed a similar resolution calling for the creation of an extended producer responsibility program for construction waste, which would address several elements of the enactment clause (2010-B90).

See also resolution C11

Conference decision: _____

NR36 Single-Use Item Regional Regulation

New Westminster

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

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

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

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

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 has endorsed resolution 2020-EB53 which urged the Province to collaborate with the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment to ensure consistent regulations across Canada to reduce single-use products and increase producers' responsibility for end-of-life management of single-use products.

Prior to the 2020 resolution, the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B42 which called on the Province to develop a provincial single-use reduction strategy. That same year, members also endorsed 2019-B148 which calls for local governments to regulate or restrict single-use items.

The Committee also notes the membership endorsed 2018-B126 which called on the Province to engage the packaging industry to develop a provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a provincial Zero Waste Strategy.

Since the membership has supported local, provincial and national approaches to regulate single-use items, the Committee has offered no recommendation.

Conference decision: _____

NR37 Right to Repair Legislation

North Vancouver District

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

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

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

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 draft and enact Right to Repair legislation.

The Committee would recommend that the sponsor provide additional detail in the enactment clause to identify what elements should be included in the new legislation. Without this clarity it is difficult to understand what would be required, how it would be implemented and the implications of the new legislation. As a result of this lack of clarity the Committee has offered no recommendation.

See also resolution C12

Conference decision: _____

NR38 Standard Procedure for Wildlife Rehabilitation

Rosland

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

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

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

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

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 support the work and informed decision-making by Conservation Officers to consider (not require) orphaned and /or injured juvenile wildlife for rehabilitation, by providing up-to-date information on licensed rehabilitation facilities located in the Province. As well as asking the Province to work with licensed wildlife rehabilitators in BC, wildlife biologists, veterinarians, and conservation officers to develop a standardized procedure for the assessment of suitability for rehabilitation, capture, emergency treatment, and transfer to a wildlife rehabilitation facility for orphaned and injured wildlife.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase numbers of conservation officers and resources to support wildlife management and to reduce human-wildlife conflict (2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2012-B72, 2013-B27, 2012-B21, 2010-B25, 2003-B32, 1996-B64, 1996-B27, 1992-B35).

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 further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking more stringent regulation of wildlife trapping, whether by the provincial government or by local governments (2013-B62, 2012-B124, 2011-B171). A common aim of these resolutions has been to prevent injury to humans or domesticated animals from wildlife traps.

Conference decision: _____

NR39 Moratorium on Recreational Wolf Hunting

Oak Bay

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

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

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

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 implement a moratorium on recreational wolf hunting pending the completion of a scientific, data-driven and evidence-based study that includes consultation with Indigenous communities, to re-examine the efficacy of unrestricted wolf harvesting practices and their impacts on bio-diversity, wildlife ecology and sustainability of the wolf population. The Committee also notes that the membership has not endorsed any previous resolutions seeking hunting moratoriums.

Conference decision: _____

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

North Vancouver District

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

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

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

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

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 create a new category of applicable land use sector called "Urban Interface Areas" (in addition to

the existing "Forestry" and "Agriculture"). Nor a request that changes to other applicable legislation be made to allow local governments to enact bylaws regulating rodenticide use in the newly created Urban Interface Areas.

However, the Committee notes that resolution 2020-LR2 was referred to the UBCM Executive who endorsed its call that the Province implement a province-wide ban on the sale, purchase and use of anticoagulant rodenticides, and call for the Minister of Health to initiate a special review of the regulation of anticoagulant rodenticides.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B108 which sought the development and funding of a strategy to reduce and/or control the rat population in BC.

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling for a provincial cosmetic pesticide ban after raising concerns about the impact of pesticides and chemicals on the environment, health and wildlife (2010-B28, 2009-B38, 2008-B81).

Conference decision: _____

NR41 Alternatives to Agricultural Burning

Chilliwack

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop and fund a program for the agriculture sector to support and incentivize the implementation of alternatives to the burning of agricultural vegetative debris.

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

- *venting indexes and efficiency of burns (2020-NR42, 2018-B70);*
- *addressing and mitigating risks associated with wildfire smoke (2019-B94);*
- *further limit or ban burning of wood debris piles on private and crown forest lands within community air sheds (2016-B24);*
- *establish standards for regulating wood burning appliances and outdoor boilers (2008-B72, 2007-B35, 2006-B109, 2005-B28, 2005-B114);*
- *establishment of emission level standards for agricultural boilers (2007-LR4); and*
- *request senior agency support for monitoring and managing local air quality issues (2001-SR3).*

Conference decision: _____

Land Use

NR42 Protection for Established Snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails

Sicamous

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 allocate the necessary resources to establish site level objectives on all new and existing established snowmobile sites under Section 56 of FRPA - objectives listed in the first enactment clause. Nor has the membership considered asking the Province to allocate the necessary resources to establish the following site level objective on all new and existing snowmobile sites that are established under Section 56 of FRPA and that are considered to be high value forest recreation sites and trails, by Recreation Sites and Trails BC or identified as an important recreational area by the FLNR Regional Executive Director - objective noted in the second enactment clause.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to provide appropriate resources (funding, staffing) to support the continued and sustained operation of provincial parks, recreational sites and trails and backcountry areas (2019-B50, 2018-B45, 2018-B72, 2011-B49, 2003-B28, 2003-B94, 2001-B84).

However, due to the very specific ask being put forward and in the absence of current policy to support this ask, the Committee is offering no recommendation.

See also resolution EB42 which is a broader ask around recreational objectives under FRPA whereas this is specific to the snowmobiling sector.

Conference decision: _____

Community Economic Development

NR43 BC Hydro Universal Net Metering for Municipalities

Fort St. John

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

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

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

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

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 enforce the BCUC's June 23, 2020 Decision on BC Hydro's application to amend Net Metering Service under Rate Schedule 1289 and direct BC Hydro to develop and implement virtual net metering.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2006-B124 that asked the Province to direct BC Hydro and other power producers to negotiate agreements with local governments that would allow for the utilization by the local government of self-generated power through the BC Hydro distribution grid.

The membership also endorsed resolution 2006-LR14 which asked the Province to establish legislation that makes it mandatory for BC Hydro to purchase power created by BC local government-supported, green, renewable power projects.

Conference decision: _____

Health and Social Development

NR44 Opioid Crisis

Capital RD

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

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

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

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 considered a resolution that requests the declaration of a national public health emergency on the overdose crisis.

However, the membership has endorsed several resolutions on this issue, including 2019-B142 which called for a federally supported comprehensive and culturally safe public health approach to the opioid crisis including policy frameworks governing illegal drugs; and resolution 2020-SR8 which called for ongoing, sustained funding to address the overdose public health emergency.

Declaring the Overdose Crisis a National Public Health Emergency makes a similar request as resolution EB56 from Capital RD titled: Opioid Crisis, except that Capital RD does not request that the safe drug supply be provided free of cost. Current UBCM policy does not include providing a safe drug supply for free.

See also resolution EB56

Conference decision: _____

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

New Westminster, Victoria

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand access to and funding for allied health professionals, particularly mental health counselling specialties and physical/occupational therapy related specialties, through expansion of team-based care through not-for-profit delivery including community health centres, available to all BC residents regardless of their immigration status and income, throughout the province. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province increase support and funding for Peer Navigators as part of the BC Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2020-SR8, 2020-NR63, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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 urge all the health authorities in the province to grant online access to health records for allied health professionals in BC.

The Committee would note that allied health professionals are defined by Vancouver Coastal Health to include physiotherapists, occupational therapists, medical imaging, psychologist, recreational therapist, respiratory therapist, social worker, speech language pathologist and audiologist, dietitian and perfusionist.

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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

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 put a moratorium on the construction of new long term care facilities that do not offer single rooms, as well as ask that existing long term care facilities be renovated to accommodate patient care in single rooms.

This resolution calls on the Province to enact a moratorium on the construction of new long term care facilities. This could be problematic for local governments who have been waiting many years for a facility, and may already have been approved for one that does not have single patient rooms.

Conference decision: _____

NR48 Paid Sick Leave for Workers

Victoria

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

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

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

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

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 legislate a minimum of ten (10) accessible, universal, and permanent, paid sick days for all workers and additional days during public health outbreaks.

Conference decision: _____

NR49 Internet Access in Health Care

gathet RD

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

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

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

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 ensure reasonable, reliable and accessible high speed internet access for patients confined to health care facilities across the province.

The Committee notes, however, that UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions asking the federal and provincial governments to make broadband internet available in all communities (2020-SR6, 2020-EB69, 2020-EB70, 2019-B54, 2018-B48, 2017-B37, 2013-B61, 2012-B149, 2011-B72, 2010-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35, 2002-B23).

Conference decision: _____

NR50 Clarifying Criteria of MCFD New Spaces Fund for Child Care

Pemberton,
Squamish

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

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

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

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

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 Minister of State for Child Care work with the Ministry of Children and Family Development to define exceptional circumstances within the New Spaces Funding criteria to include consideration of the impacts of a number of factors listed in the enactment clause, to enable the approval of applications that exceed the current \$40,000 per space threshold.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported several resolutions calling for affordable, accessible and quality child care in BC (2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2001-B98).

The Committee also notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR68 as it would support the development of child care centers and address their challenges in attracting and retaining Early Childhood Education staff.

Conference decision: _____

NR51 Organ Donation – Presumed Consent

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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 enact legislation whereby an individual is deemed to consent to the individual's organs and tissues being used for transplantation activities, similar to the Presumed Consent Organ Transplant Act passed by the Province of Nova Scotia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2016-B125 which called on local government elected officials to work with the Kidney Foundation to promote registration of organ donors in their communities.

The Committee would also note that a similar resolution from the same sponsor was considered at the 2021 SILGA Convention, but was not endorsed. The enactment clause of the resolution not endorsed at SILGA read:

“Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia enact provincial legislation whereby an individual is deemed to consent to the individual’s organs and tissues being used for transplantation activities, similar to the Presumed Consent Organ Transplant Act passed by the Province of Nova Scotia.”

Conference decision: _____

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

Powell River

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the sponsor submitted a similar resolution in 2019. Resolution 2019-B204 was referred to the UBCM Executive due to a lack of time. Upon consideration, the Executive did not endorse 2019-B204.

However, given that the resolution was not debated by the full membership, the Committee has provided No Recommendation for the resolution, to allow for member debate on the issue.

Conference decision: _____

Housing

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

Burnaby

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

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

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

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 distribute directly back to each municipality a portion of the revenue collected, up to the amount collected from each municipality, under the Speculation and Vacancy Tax to further affordable housing initiatives within those jurisdictions.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2020-NR69, 2019-B19, 2019-B181, 2018-A3, 2017-B91, 2020-EB33).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed many resolutions that call on the Province to share a portion of the Property Transfer Tax (PTT) with local governments to address affordable housing and homelessness (2019-B30, 2017-B17, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2004-A8).

Conference decision: _____

NR54 **Acquisition of Apartment Buildings for Affordable Housing**

Victoria

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to work with local communities, the not-for-profit sector and other partners on a program of land banking purpose-built rental apartment buildings, to preserve and renew this essential component of the affordable rental housing supply.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking ways to encourage investment in older and new rental housing stock (2018-B56, 2017-B53, 2016-OF1, 2015-B14, 2015-B47, 2015-B48, 2015-B49, 2014-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B143, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-A7, 2007-B40, 2007-B108, 2007-B197, 2006-B118, 2005-B47, 2004-B30, 2000-B77).

Conference decision: _____

NR55 Public Sector Essential Service Personnel Housing

Lillooet

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

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

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

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

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

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 fund public sector essential service personnel housing.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (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, 2003-B40).

Conference decision: _____

NR56 Funding for Regional Housing

Nelson

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to implement a consistent and sustainable funding model for municipalities and regional districts for the implementation of findings of regional housing assessments, so as to increase housing availability across BC in both municipalities and regional districts.

However the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed wide ranging resolutions requesting funding for housing, most recently 2020-EB1, 2020-EB80, 2020-EB82.

Conference decision: _____

NR57 Housing Needs Reports

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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

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 the Local Government Act, Division 22, Section 585.11 to make Housing Needs Reports discretionary in the future, rather than mandatory.

The Committee confirmed with the sponsor that they do not believe that the Housing Needs Report will be of value to all local governments, in particular Regional Districts. As such, they do not want the reports to be a mandatory requirement.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the Local Government Act specifies that when a housing report is complete, a local government is required to receive the report at a council or board meeting, and publish the report online. While local governments are required to consider the needs report in future planning exercises, there are not currently requirements that particular forms of development be undertaken to fulfill needs identified in the report.

Conference decision: _____

NR58 Outcomes of Supportive Housing

Kamloops

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

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

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

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

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

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 on this issue.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking more funding and improved supportive housing, including:

- *requests that the Province invest in a new supportive housing model, along with an integrated approach to housing supports and regional health services (2020-EB80);*
- *requests 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).*

Conference decision: _____

NR59 Residential Tenancy Act – Landlord Protection

Oliver

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

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

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

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 undertake a broad review of landlord protections to increase confidence in entering the rental market to grow the number of rental properties better suited to families.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to better protect the rights of renters (2020-EB85, 2020-NR47, 2017-B126, 2016-B121). UBCM’s housing policy also includes recommendations towards a balanced approach to rental properties that both reflect the rights of renters and create greater certainty for landlords.

Conference decision: _____

NR60 Wildfire Risk Prevention in BC Building Code

Okanagan Similkameen RD

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

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

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

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 the BC Building Code to restrict the use of untreated wood shake roofing to reduce the risk to life and property due to wildfire activity.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking provincial support and funding for carrying out wildfire mitigation activities (2020-EB12, 2020-NR21, 2019-B13, 2019-B76, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2018-B22, 2018-B97, 2018-B100, 2015-B5, 2012-B114, 2008-B59, 2007-B75). The Committee also notes that the 2018 report, Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia by George Abbott and Chief Maureen Chapman recommends shifts to the building of more resilient structures through building code and other changes.

Conference decision: _____

Selected Issues

NR61 Community to Community Forum Grants

Port Hardy

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the same sponsor submitted the same resolution last year: 2020-NR77. Due to a lack of time at Convention, it was referred to the UBCM Executive. The Executive confirmed the recommendation of: No Action Required. Consequently it was returned to the sponsor.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B23 calling for stable, ongoing funding programs with systemic, inclusive, and collaborative approaches to assist with First Nations reconciliation and relationship building efforts, but the present resolution specifically addresses the administration of the C2C Program.

With regards to the C2C program, the Resolutions Committee notes that the program is required to meet the conditions of funding set by the federal government. This includes the restriction that all funded activities must be completed within the fiscal year for which the funding was provided. Consequently, UBCM does not have the ability to adjust program design elements such as those requested in the enactment clause.

However, the program design is also quite flexible, and includes:

- *Applicants have the full fiscal year in which they apply to complete their event. For applicants that apply for the spring deadline, this generally means their event can take place at any time in the following 12 months.*
- *UBCM aims to respond to all applications within 30 days of the deadline.*

- *Applications can be submitted at any time and are generally reviewed by UBCM and the First Nations Summit after three deadlines each year (which is more than many programs that only offer an annual intake).*

Conference decision: _____

NR62 Funding for Small Communities to Attend UBCM

Central Coast RD

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

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

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

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 considered two similar resolutions:

- *2002-B70 was not endorsed; and*
- *2019-B178 was referred back to the sponsor for clarification by the UBCM Executive.*

The latter resolution's enactment was as follows:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM implement a travel cost equalization policy to ensure local government elected officials from low revenue and rural communities have an equal opportunity to attend and participate in annual UBCM conventions as local governments in relatively close proximity to Vancouver, Victoria and Whistler.

The Resolutions Committee noted that while the sponsor's concerns were valid, there are so many questions that would need to be considered before embarking on any further work; such as funding model; what is definition of rural; how would the program be funded, etc. The Committee also noted that without any direction from the membership it is difficult to know if the membership would be supportive of this approach; or what criteria it would wish to apply; or how the fund would be established. As a result the Executive asked that 2019-B178 be referred back to the sponsor for them to consider re-submitting in 2020 to allow the membership to debate the matter. The sponsor did not re-submit in 2020 so the matter was not considered.

However, the Committee would note that in November 2019 UBCM appointed an independent panel on Convention Finance and Sponsorship. The Panel recommended the following Guiding Principles which have since been adopted by the UBCM:

- 1. UBCM shall endeavour to keep annual Convention registration fees as low as possible to encourage and facilitate member attendance.*
- 2. The UBCM Convention shall be delivered on a "cost-recovery" basis.*
- 3. Sponsorship and tradeshow revenues will be sought to assist in offsetting the costs associated with holding a UBCM Convention.*
- 4. UBCM's Executive will delegate vetting, assessing and approving all sponsors and tradeshow participants to Corporate Operations. UBCM's Corporate Operations will take into consideration the diversity of interests and issues within the UBCM membership as it considers the approval of sponsors and tradeshow participants.*
- 5. Unions and corporations will be permitted to sponsor/finance any element of the UBCM Convention.*
- 6. Foreign governments will not be permitted to sponsor/finance any UBCM Convention events such as receptions and other networking opportunities.*
- 7. UBCM's Convention Committee will receive these guiding principles each year.*

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to UBCM Executive***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to have its convention focus on allowing enough time for all resolution debate and voting as a priority over plenary sessions and presentations so that all resolutions can be debated and voted at convention. Nor have the membership considered a request that the UBCM convention schedule resolution debate and voting times to not be concurrent with ministerial meeting schedules so that all delegations bringing resolutions can be present when their resolution reaches the convention floor.

The Committee notes that the requests made by this resolution echo what has been expressed in the UBCM Convention Feedback Surveys following the 2019 and 2020 Conventions.

The Committee is recommending this resolution be Referred to the UBCM Executive, as it is the role of the Executive to set the schedule for the UBCM Convention, not that of the membership.

The recommendation by the Resolutions Committee is consistent with previous practice whereby matters raised that are already under review/consideration by the Executive have been referred to the Executive.

Conference decision: _____

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

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

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

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 UBCM to support the ICAN Cities Appeal by asking the federal government to take decisive steps toward the

global elimination of nuclear weapons; and, to sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2005-B166 that called for UBCM to support a decision by the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to commence negotiations on the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons and nuclear-weapon related materials.

While the Government of Canada has ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, it has not signed on to the TPNW. The TPNW came into force in January 2021, and requires signatories to never develop, test, produce, manufacture or acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices.

Conference decision: _____

Section C

Section C contains resolutions that are similar to others in the same year. Resolutions may also be placed in Section C if they relate to larger UBCM policy initiatives already underway, such as policy papers, working groups, or intergovernmental consultation processes; or if the resolutions are regionally focused or require more work to be understandable.

Resolutions placed in Section C will not be admitted for debate.

Part 1 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to policy papers and/or special sessions at Convention:

[No resolutions have been placed in this section.]

Part 2 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to other resolutions within the Resolutions Book:

C1 – C19

Part 3 of Section C contains resolutions that are referred to Area Associations due to being of a regional nature, or referred to sponsors for fine-tuning:

C20 – C22

Section C2

C1 Safe Passing Distance for All Road Users

Vancouver

Whereas the Province of British Columbia prioritizes safety measures for vulnerable road users including pedestrians and cyclists, and the *Motor Vehicle Act* of British Columbia mandates that cyclists must ride on the right hand side of the road, and not on sidewalks unless expressly permitted by local by-law. Faster motor vehicles sharing roads with inherently slower cyclists often result in close passes, accounting for almost one third of the threatening encounters experienced by people on bicycle and almost fifty per cent of incidents in rural areas. Because relatively few roads in B.C. have bike lanes or shoulders, and many do not even have sidewalks, directing cyclists and pedestrians to share the road with high speed motor vehicle traffic poses a potentially fatal risk and a resulting disincentive for active transportation.;

And whereas Jurisdictions across North America, including the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador have all enacted “safe passing distance” legislation designed to protect vulnerable road users by educating and requiring motor vehicle operators to maintain a minimum safe distance when passing more vulnerable road users. Establishing a clear and reasonable distance for safe passing has created a better understanding and expectation around safely sharing roads, in particular in areas that do not have dedicated or separated cycling infrastructure.:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia amends the *Motor Vehicle Act* to better support safe active transportation by requiring drivers to provide 1 metre of space on roads with posted speeds of 50 km/h or less, and 1.5 metres of space on roads with posted speeds in excess of 50 km/h, when passing people cycling or walking; and clarify the obligation of all motorists to establish reasonable distance when passing a cyclist or a pedestrian, as well as definitive guidance on an appropriate minimum distance when doing so.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB16

C2 Provincial Climate Action Funding After CARIP

Richmond

Whereas the Ministry of Municipal Affairs announced in May 2021, without consultation, the cancellation of the of the Climate Action Rebate Incentive Program (CARIP) without identifying any new funding for the development, implementation or administration of local government climate action programs, undermining the ability of local governments to participate in climate action initiatives;

And whereas 187 local governments in British Columbia have voluntarily signed onto the Climate Action Charter and by doing so have been able to access the Climate Action Rebate Incentive Program;

And whereas under the CleanBC Plan, the Province of British Columbia recently amended the *Climate Change Accountability Act* to include a sectoral GHG emissions reduction target of 59 to 64 percent below 2007 levels by 2030 for buildings and communities, requiring the development and implementation of comprehensive climate action initiatives and regulatory programs by local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to replace CARIP with a new, non-competitive funding program commencing in the 2022 fiscal year that provides equivalent or better funding to all local governments, enabling them to be effective and accountable partners with the Province.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions C3, C4, C5 and C6

C3 Provincial Climate Action Funding After CARIP

Saanich

Whereas the Ministry of Municipal Affairs announced in May 2021, without consultation, the cancellation of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) without identifying any new consistent, non-competitive funding for the development, implementation or administration of local government climate action programs, undermining the ability of local governments to participate in climate action initiatives;

And whereas 187 local governments in British Columbia have voluntarily signed onto the Climate Action Charter and by doing so have been able to access CARIP funding;

And whereas under the CleanBC Plan, the Province of British Columbia recently amended the *Climate Change Accountability Act* to include a sectoral GHG emissions reduction target of 59 to 64 percent below 2007 levels by 2030 for buildings and communities, requiring the development and implementation of comprehensive climate action initiatives and regulatory programs by local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy to replace CARIP with a new, consistent, non-competitive funding program commencing in the 2022 fiscal year, informed by engagement with local governments and that provides them with equivalent or better funding, enabling them to be effective and accountable partners with the Province in achieving Provincial and local government climate goals and targets.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions C2, C4, C5 and C6

C4 CARIP Termination

Langley Township

Whereas the Ministry of Municipal Affairs announced in May 2021, the cancellation of the of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), a program critical to local government climate action, in the absence of consultation, and, without identifying a comparable funding program to support the development, implementation or administration of local government climate action programs;

And whereas Metro Vancouver and many of its member municipalities have committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2050 requiring immediate investment and development of climate action initiatives to meet these adopted targets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to develop an alternative to the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program that provides comparable, non-competitive, annual funding for critical climate action projects, in consultation with municipalities, complete with a transition plan to ensure uninterrupted annual funding is available.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution SR1

See also resolutions C2, C3, C5 and C6

C5 Termination of Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)

Nanaimo RD

Whereas local governments in British Columbia have voluntarily signed onto the Climate Action Charter, a “commitment to working together towards reducing GHG emissions” explicitly intended “to build local government capacity to plan and implement climate change initiatives,” and that by doing so have been able to access the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) to support their efforts to reduce GHGs, address climate impacts, and move forward on achieving their Charter goals;

See also resolution C8

C8 Provincial Circular Economy Strategy

North Vancouver District

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

And whereas the concept of a circular economy provides a vision and framework to design out waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use and regenerate natural systems to help BC communities move towards zero waste:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC develop a provincial circular economy strategy.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB38

See also resolution C7

C9 Request to Advocate for Community Climate Action Planning Funding

Port Moody

Whereas a total of 493 municipalities across Canada adopted Climate Emergency Declarations, and in British Columbia as of early 2019 dozens of municipalities have done so, and the need to develop clear actionable Community Climate Action Plans is urgent;

And whereas it has been demonstrated that collaborative, cooperative planning and financing processes increase the efficiency and maximize the impacts of the investments that all levels of government are making in assisting communities to develop and implement Community Climate Action Plans with bold actions and clearly articulated targets that respond to the increasingly urgent and inequitable needs of adapting to and mitigating climate change impacts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government commit to providing sustained financial support for local community climate action planning that serves to meet the targets set out by the goals of CleanBC and implement responses to climate impacts throughout British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer to Similar Resolution

Refer to resolution EB39

C10 Help Cities Lead

**Courtenay,
North Vancouver District**

Whereas building retrofits help drive deep building-sector emissions reductions, respiratory illness reductions, building operating cost reductions, and job creation, yet local governments are currently constrained with existing legislation;

And whereas Integral Group modelling has shown that when implemented together, these five actions compliment each other:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM prevail upon the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Energy Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLCI), and Attorney-General and Ministry responsible for Housing to move as quickly as possible and in close consultation with local governments to develop and implement the first three measures:

- I. Regulating GHG emissions for new buildings;
- II. Home energy labelling; and
- III. Property assessed clean energy (PACE) enabling legislation;

And be it further resolved that the Province enable local governments to choose, when ready, to opt into the remaining two measures:

- I. Regulating GHG emissions for existing buildings;
- II. Building energy benchmarking and reporting.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution EB35

C11 Province-Wide Strategy to Manage Construction and Demolition Waste Nanaimo City, Nelson

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

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

And whereas recent research in just Metro Vancouver suggests the value of salvageable wood at \$343 million annually, and the addition of other materials and other regions would radically increase this number of value:

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution NR35

C12 Right to Repair Nanaimo City, Nelson, Victoria

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

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

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

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

Refer to resolution NR37

C13 Immediate Protection of All At-Risk Old Growth Forests in BC Lantzville

Whereas ancient high productivity (big tree) old growth ecosystems are globally one of the most valuable climate mitigation and resiliency assets in terms of carbon storage, sequestration, protection against wildfire, storage of water and bank of biodiversity;

And whereas of the 2.7 percent of the original high productivity (big tree) old-growth forests (less than 1 percent of BC's total current forested area), 75 percent are still slated to be eliminated through logging;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to immediately defer logging in all high productivity, rare, oldest, and most intact old-growth forests as recommended by the Old-Growth Strategic Review Panel, until all 14 of the panel's recommendations have been implemented; including such at-risk old-growth forests as the head waters Fairy Creek, the Upper Walbran Valley, Nahmint Valley, Eden Grove, Edinburgh Mountain, Upper Tsitika Valley, East Creek, Klaskish Valley, Nimpkish Lake and the Inland Old-Growth Temperate Rainforest;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to allocate funding to enact deferrals in an economically just manner, in the full spirit of reconciliation and to support the economic transition of affected First Nations and non-first Nation communities from unsustainable old-growth logging for the development of long-term sustainable local economies.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions C14, C15, C16, C17, C18 and C19

C14 Immediate Protection for All At-Risk Old-Growth Forests in BC Comox

Whereas ancient high productivity (big tree) old-growth ecosystems are globally one of the most valuable climate mitigation and resiliency assets in terms of carbon storage, sequestration, protection against wildfire, storage of water and bank of biodiversity;

And whereas of the 2.7 percent of the original high productivity (big tree) old-growth forests (less than 1 percent of BC's total current forested area), 75 percent are still slated to be eliminated through logging:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to immediately defer logging in all high productivity, rare, oldest, and most intact old-growth forests as recommended by the Old-Growth Strategic Review, until all 14 of the panel's recommendations have been implemented; including deferrals in such at-risk old-growth forests as, the headwaters of Fairy Creek, the Upper Walbran Valley, Nahmint Valley, Eden Grove, Edinburgh Mountain, Upper Tsitika Valley, East Creek, Klaskish Valley, Nimpkish Lake and the Inland Old-Growth Temperate Rainforest;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to allocate funding to enact deferrals in an economically just manner, in the full spirit of reconciliation and to support the economic transition of affected First Nations and non-First Nation communities from unsustainable old-growth logging for the development of long-term sustainable local economies.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions C13, C15, C16, C17, C18 and C19

C15 Protection of Old Growth Forests North Vancouver District

Whereas ancient high productivity (big tree) old growth ecosystems are globally one of the most valuable climate mitigation and resiliency assets in terms of carbon storage, sequestration, protection against wildfire, storage of water and bank of biodiversity;

And whereas of the miniscule fraction (2.7 percent) of the original high productivity (big tree) old-growth forests (less than 1 percent of BC's total current forested area), 75 percent are still slated to be eliminated through logging;

And whereas alternatives exist to increase protection of biodiversity and employment, through the immediate transition to sustainable management of second growth forests with expanded value added processing and manufacturing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to immediately defer logging in all high productivity, rare, oldest, and most intact old growth forests as recommended by the Old Growth Strategic Review, until all 14 of the panel's recommendations have been implemented; including deferrals in such at-risk old-growth forests as the head waters of Fairy Creek, the Upper Walbran Valley, Nahmint Valley, Eden Grove, Edinburgh Mountain, Upper Tsitika Valley, East Creek, Klaskish Valley, Nimpkish Lake and the Inland Old-Growth Temperate Rainforest;

And be it further resolved that the District of North Vancouver formally oppose the logging of at-risk old-growth forests;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to allocate funding to enact deferrals in an economically just manner, in the full spirit of reconciliation and to support the economic transition of affected First Nations and non-First Nation communities from unsustainable old growth logging for the development of long term sustainable local economies.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions C13, C14, C16, C17, C18 and C19

C16 Old Growth Logging

Port Moody

Whereas ancient high productivity (big tree) old growth ecosystems are one of the most valuable tourism, First Nations culture, wild salmon enhancing, biodiversity banking, and climate resiliency assets;

And whereas only a miniscule fraction of the planet's original, high productive, ancient forests remain in BC, the vast majority of which is slated to be eliminated through logging; including the headwaters of Fairy Creek, the last unprotected intact old-growth watershed on southern Vancouver Island:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Government of British Columbia immediately defer logging in all at risk old-growth forests, as identified by the independent Old Growth Strategic Review panel until all 14 of the panel's recommendations have been implemented, and support the transition of affected local communities toward more sustainable jobs;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request that the Government of British Columbia allocate funding to support the economic transition of affected communities away from unsustainable old growth logging, in the full spirit of Indigenous reconciliation where applicable, for the development of long-term sustainable local economies and Indigenous protected and conserved areas where applicable.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

*UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Refer to Similar Resolution***

Refer to resolution SR2

See also resolutions C13, C14, C15, C17, C18 and C19

C17 Forestry

Squamish-Lillooet RD

Whereas the provincial government completed a province-wide consultation process that resulted in a report entitled A New Future for Old Forests, A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Growth Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems;

And whereas the recommendations contained therein are long overdue while the remaining old growth forests are diminishing at an alarming rate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the government to act on the recommendations in the report and place a deferral, in consultation with First Nations, on all old growth logging while the planning, consultation and meetings take place.

Section C3

C20 Accelerated South of the Fraser Transit Service Improvements Langley Township

Whereas the Province of BC has identified climate action, including cleaner transportation, and investment in community infrastructure as critical to BC's Economic Recovery Plan;

And whereas Metro Vancouver and many of its member municipalities, including the Township of Langley, have committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2050 requiring an immediate and significant shift away from gas and diesel-powered passenger vehicles yet areas South of Fraser, which will grow by more than 400,000 residents in the next 30 years, are currently underserved by public transportation infrastructure including a lack of frequent, reliable bus service or rapid transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC work with TransLink to accelerate the expansion of transit services South of Fraser, including expediting the construction of planned rapid transit infrastructure and increasing bus service to ensure that residents have access to cleaner transportation modes, and, allow municipalities to meet their emissions reduction targets, including activating the South Fraser Community Inter-Urban rail corridor to Chilliwack and/or other rail corridors that would meet the needs of the growing population.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer Back to Area Association

C21 Emergency Medical Response and Better Pre-hospital Care for Our Residents Port Moody

Whereas career firefighters of many urban centres in the Lower Mainland have done extensive training in emergency medical response protocols. They are trained to administer an enhanced level of emergency medical care to provide relief of pain and trauma experienced by our residents at their time of great need, while waiting together for ambulance services to arrive to ensure that citizens receive the best possible prehospital care;

And whereas in the year 2020, and now into 2021, the challenges faced by urban communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and opioid overdose crisis have increased the need for Lower Mainland governments to maximize their resources to meet the escalating emergency medical needs of citizens. Professional firefighters are trained to respond to the needs of citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic, including safely entering homes to assist our citizens when required, and are well-equipped with all the necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), trained on the proper usage of the PPE, and follow all the guidelines of the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), and the BCEHS. As of the writing of this resolution, the Provincial government has still not changed their position to allow First Responder agencies, such as Fire Rescue, to respond to Orange and Yellow medical emergency calls at the time they are reported to 911:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM stand in solidarity to support Lower Mainland municipalities in their quest to expand the range of emergency medical events to which municipal First Responders are simultaneously called to attend, in order to ensure the highest available level of pre-hospital care for Lower Mainland residents;

And be it further resolved that given their own resources and geography, any urban municipality be able to chose how best to deploy their resources to increase emergency medical response ensuring their residents receive optimal with timely pre-hospital care resulting in better outcomes for residents at their time of need, until such time BC Ambulance Services receives exponentially more resources from the Province of BC and are fully equipped to meet the dire emergency pre-hospital health needs of the citizens of BC.

Submitted Directly to UBCM

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer Back to Area Association

C22 Housing Models for Seniors

Terrace

Whereas seniors in northern and rural BC have limited options for housing; And whereas a range of seniors housing is needed in every community:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM lobby BC Housing to investigate new affordable housing models for seniors in northern communities.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: Refer Back to Area Association